

# BISHOPSTOKE PARISH COUNCIL

## Minutes of the Meeting of Bishopstoke Parish Council commenced at 7.30pm on Tuesday 27 November 2012 at the Methodist Church Hall, Sedgwick Road, Bishopstoke

**Present:** Councillor A Winstanley (Chairman)  
Councillor P Brown  
Councillor B Hansell  
Councillor J Harper  
Councillor G Harris  
Councillor M Lyon (paras 144 – 157.1)  
Councillor T Mignot  
Councillor A Roling  
Councillor V Snook (paras 139 – 150.5)  
Councillor C Thomas (paras 139 – 157.1)  
Councillor M Thornton  
Councillor S Toher

**In Attendance:** Mr P J Storey (Clerk to Bishopstoke Parish Council)

### Public Session

Borough Cllr Keith Trenchard gave a presentation on the successful introduction of Community Speedwatch into Eastleigh town together with an equipment demonstration following which it was agreed to bring forward agenda item 15 (Community Speedwatch) for debate.

### 139. Apologies for absence

139.1 Cllrs Cossey and McKeone.

### 140. Councillors' Questions and Announcements

140.1 In response to a question raised by Cllr Harris, Cllr Winstanley confirmed that the decoration of the rear wall of the Memorial Hall was by agreement between the Memorial Hall management committee and youngsters taking part in a Youth Options programme. Cllr Winstanley also thanked all involved with organising and taking part in the Armistice Day Services and welcomed the involvement of uniformed youth groups who had processed down from St Mary's following the Remembrance Service there to re-lay their wreaths at the outdoor memorial by the Memorial hall, and confirmed the next issue of the Parish Newsletter would be delivered in mid-December.

### 141. Adoption of the Minutes of the Parish Council Meeting held on 23 October 2012

141.1 Proposed Cllr Winstanley, Seconded Cllr Thornton, **RESOLVED** with Cllrs Hansell, Harris, Mignot, Snook (all absent) and Toher abstaining that the minutes of the meeting held on 23 October 2012 be accepted as a true record.

### 142. Matters Arising

142.1 There were no matters arising not dealt with elsewhere in these minutes.

### 143. Declarations of Interest

143.1 Cllr Winstanley declared an interest in Payment of Accounts.

*Cllr Lyon arrived at this point*

### 144. Community Speedwatch

144.1 Following Cllr Trenchard's presentation and answers to questions raised, it was again generally agreed that the introduction of the Community Speedwatch initiative would be of benefit to the Bishopstoke area. It was also thought more appropriate to have a static speed monitor rather than a hand-held one as the former was more accurate and would collect data on the speed of all passing vehicles which could be put on the Parish website,

and others, for general education and increased awareness. Emphasis would have to be placed on getting more volunteers to become involved as with more people more data could be obtained to increase the overall effectiveness of the initiative. A suitable monitor was available from Traffic Technology Ltd at around £2,500. The equipment did not require regular calibration and training and running costs would be met by the Police.

- 144.2 Proposed Cllr Winstanley, Seconded Cllr Toher, **RESOLVED** with Cllrs Lyon and Mignot abstaining that the provision of suitable equipment be investigated and subsequently purchased by the Clerk, that a co-ordinating councillor be nominated and that every effort be made by all to publicise the initiative and seek volunteers to operate it.

**Action: All and Clerk**

*Cllr Thomas left at this point*

#### **145. Correspondence**

- 145.1 The Clerk drew Councillors' attention to correspondence received from the Hampshire Pension Fund, the annual report from Citizens Advice, Clerks and Councils Direct magazine, the letter from the neighbour regarding the possible boundary dispute between him and the Jockey Lane allotment site and an invitation to attend the Water and Waste Water Exhibition to be held at the Portsmouth Hilton Hotel on 6 February 2013 between 11.00am and 4.00pm. No further action was thought necessary.

#### **146. Meeting dates for 2013**

- 146.1 Planned dates for meetings in 2013 had been circulated with the agenda papers and were noted.

#### **147. Councillor Dispensations**

- 147.1 The Clerk explained the background to the F&GP Committee recommendation that the Clerk, if appropriate, or the F&GP Committee, or the full Council, be authorised to grant dispensations when necessary to enable councillors to make determinations when all or a majority of councillors present had a disclosable pecuniary interest as required under section 33 of the Localism Act 2011.

- 147.2 Proposed Cllr Toher, Seconded Cllr Roling, **RESOLVED** unanimously that the Clerk, or the F&GP Committee or Full Council, as appropriate, be authorised to grant dispensations to councillors to enable decisions to be made, as necessary.

#### **148. Dispensation for Annual Precept and Expenditure Budget**

- 148.1 Those councillors resident within the Parish had applied formally for a Dispensation which the Clerk had granted to enable the business of determining the Annual Precept and Expenditure Budget to be undertaken given that not to grant would preclude such determination.
- 148.2 Proposed Cllr Winstanley, Seconded Cllr Roling, **RESOLVED** unanimously that the Clerk's decision to grant dispensations to those councillors resident within the Parish to enable the business of determining the Annual Precept and Expenditure Budget for four years from this date be noted.

#### **149. Report on Planning Committee Meeting of 13 November 2012 - to note Resolutions and to consider any Recommendations**

- 149.1 Minutes of the Planning Committee meeting held on 13 November 2012 had been circulated with the agenda papers.
- 149.2 Proposed Cllr Snook, Seconded Cllr Harris, **RESOLVED** with Cllr Mignot abstaining that the minutes of the meetings held on 13 November 2012 be received and accepted.

#### **150. Report on Finance and General Purposes Committee Meeting of 13 November 2012 – to note Resolutions and to determine any Recommendations**

- 150.1 Minutes of the meeting held on 13 November 2012 had been circulated with the agenda papers. Cllr Winstanley advised that the Core Skills training which had been postponed would be rearranged for a suitable date in early 2013.
- 150.2 Proposed Cllr Thornton, Seconded Cllr Toher, **RESOLVED** unanimously that the resolutions of the meeting held on 13 November 2012 be received and accepted.

- 150.3 Proposed Cllr Thornton, Seconded Cllr Toher, **RESOLVED** unanimously that the recommendation to vire from reserves £22,250 to Shears Mill, £500 to Insurance and £2,709 to Election Expenses, and the recommendation that two councillors and the assistant clerk administer a Facebook page on behalf of the Parish Council and that they liaise with the Webmaster as necessary, be approved.
- 150.4 Proposed Cllr Thornton, Seconded Cllr Toher, **RESOLVED** with Cllr Roling abstaining that the recommended changes to the Travel Token Scheme be approved.
- 150.5 The recommendation to join with Fair Oak and Horton Heath Parish Council in sharing their Community Speedwatch equipment was set aside in view of the earlier decision at para 144.2.

*Cllr Snook left the meeting at this point*

**151. Precept and Expenditure Budget for 2013 – 14**

- 151.1 The Clerk explained the uncertainty surrounding the tax base used to calculate the rate of council tax in view of the Government's intention to make further relevant announcements next month and as a consequence it was advisable 'to be mindful' to determine precepts and expenditure budgets at this time. The F&GP Committee had determined figures based upon the current understanding and had recommended approval subject to any last minute need to amend following the December announcement. All noted that at the moment the amount precepted for current services would remain the same for next year although the actual Precept would increase by £6,000 in recognition of the transfer of responsibilities for Glebe Meadow from the Borough Council with a corresponding decrease in their Special Expenses account.
- 151.2 Proposed Cllr Toher, Seconded Cllr Winstanley, **RESOLVED** with Cllr Harris abstaining that Bishopstoke Parish Council be mindful to set a Precept of £136,000 and an Expenditure Budget of £160,200 for 2013 – 14 and to confirm when final information on the tax base methodology became available from Central Government.

**152. Burial Board fees and Allotment Tenants' charges for 2013 -14**

- 152.1 In recognition of the continuing financial difficulties encountered by many across the Parish, the F&GP Committee had recommended that there be no increase in fees or charges levied.
- 152.2 Proposed Cllr Toher, Seconded Cllr Thornton, **RESOLVED** unanimously that there be no increase in the Burial Board's fees or charges levied on allotment tenants for 2013 – 14.

**153. To receive the RFO's report and approve payment of accounts**

- 153.1 A Payments Schedule had been circulated with the agenda papers.
- 153.2 Proposed Cllr Hansell, Seconded Cllr Thornton, **RESOLVED** with Cllr Winstanley abstaining that payments be authorised as per the schedule.

**154. To receive reports from Councillors on External Meetings attended**

- 154.1 Cllr Roling commented that she still had funds left in her county councillor devolved budget should any qualifying organisation wish to claim assistance.
- 154.2 Cllr Toher explained further on the Memorial Hall wall painting which brightened the rear wall of the Hall facing Glebe Meadow.
- 154.3 Cllr Harris reported on the recent Southampton Airport Stakeholders Conference held at Bitterne Park School which included a student presentation on their new accommodation entitled 'Destination Lounge Project'. He also reported that the BCA had entered into an agreement with the developers of The Mount site to use rooms at the BCA to house a permanent marketing display and other related information whilst the build project was under way. There would be a craft fayre and ale festival at the BCA on 1 December and a Carol Service on 8 December 2012.
- 154.4 Cllr Winstanley confirmed that HALC had now successfully relocated to the Eastleigh Civic Centre and that there would be some staff changes in January 2013, and that she had attended their AGM.

**155. Clerk's Monthly Report**

- 155.1 Local Action Group. The Clerk had attended the recent monthly meeting of the Local Action Group at which those with some responsibility for safety and security within the local community pooled information and initiatives for the common good. Funding for the STAR project (Start Tackling Alcohol Responsibly) was below target and it was likely that a bid for contributions would be made to parishes. The Clerk had requested the Neighbourhood Policing Team to keep a close watch on the Shears Mill complex now it would soon be accessible to the public.
- 155.2 Parish Office. The Memorial Hall management committee had agreed the siting of the new parish office on land adjacent to the Hall and the Clerk was now liaising in detail with the planners and the building supplier with a view to having the office operational in the Spring.
- 155.3 Shears Mill. Bad weather had seriously delayed completion of the external groundworks but the building was complete and information boards were being prepared by EBC. The Hampshire Mills Group were planning their renovation work on the internal turbines. No further action was planned on the underwater blades and the generation of electricity for the time being.

**156. To consider content of the Press Release for November 2012**

- 156.1 It was agreed that reference should be made to the revised travel token scheme, the introduction of Community Speedwatch and progress at Shears Mill.

**Action: Clerk**

**157. Date, Time and Place of Next Meeting**

- 157.1 The next meeting of the Parish Council will be on Tuesday 22 January 2013 at 7.30pm in the Methodist Church Hall, Sedgwick Road, Bishopstoke.

*There being no further business, the Chairman closed the Meeting at 9.50pm.*