



Bishopstoke Parish Council Newsletter

Summer 2022

*The Newsletter from Bishopstoke Parish Council for Bishopstoke residents
with news of the Parish Council, local voluntary organisations and residents*

In This Edition

In this edition we cover the improvements that are coming to the open space area at Blackberry Drive, updates to other play areas, some more details about the carnival this year and the increase to the Council's grant fund to commemorate the Jubilee. There is also information about the Council's Travel Token service, news on an upcoming award scheme we are introducing and the announcement of the Council's Mission Statement and Aims.

Bishopstoke Carnival

The Carnival timetable is coming together with a number of exciting events planned between June and September.

Kicking things off is the Jubilee picnic on Friday 3rd June. Keep an eye out on the noticeboards, website and Facebook for more details on this.

Carnival Pub Quiz nights are back, with two dates in June and another two in July.

August will feature a scavenger hunt on Glebe Meadow based around this year's "Green" theme.

Events will be rounded off with Carnival Sunday on September 11th. All our usual events from Carnival weekend but wrapped up into one big day of fun.

We look forward to seeing you all there.

CARNIVAL DATES

**Friday June 3rd - Blackberry Drive
Jubilee Picnic**

**Quiz nights in June and July
Dates and venues to be confirmed**

**August – Scavenger Hunt
Glebe Meadow**

**September 11th – Carnival
Glebe Meadow & Surrounding Area**

BISHOPSTOKE PARISH COUNCIL

You can call us on 023 80643428 or find us on www.bishopstokepc.org . We're also on Facebook.

The Parish Office is currently closed but appointments can be arranged if needed.

PARISH CLERK: David Wheal 07368 487464 clerk@bishopstokepc.org

ASSISTANT CLERK & RFO: Sophie Thorogood 07444 798083 finance@bishopstokepc.org

CEMETERIES OFFICER: Jen Wilkie 07555 658621 cemeteries@bishopstokepc.org

PROJECTS OFFICER: Cheryl Taylor 07521 735539 projects@bishopstokepc.org

Allotments allotments@bishopstokepc.org

Carnival carnival@bishopstokepc.org

Blackberry Drive

The open space at Blackberry Drive is currently being revamped and improved, using developer contributions and funding from Eastleigh Borough Council.

Over the past few months, the benches from beside the Y-Zone have been moved into the open space to provide a small seating area for families. An improved entrance from the open space to the car park is also being provided.

The BMX track has now been recut and refilled and should provide a much better experience. In the coming months additional improvements and repairs are being made. Benches are being placed around the open space so that there are plenty of rest stops; a new picnic area is being installed near the play area for families to enjoy and there are substantial improvements coming to the play area itself, the most exciting of which is a brand-new centrepiece.



As part of our Jubilee celebrations a series of Jubilee benches is being installed along the footpath that runs from Haig Road, south of

the Strawberry Mead estate and back up to meet the Blackberry Drive open space.

We hope that these will be in place in time for the first Carnival event of the year – a Jubilee picnic on the Blackberry Drive open space.

Otter Close

We are also using developer contributions to add a timber trail to Otter Close play area. Installation is expected to be in late May or early June so the play area will be closed for a few days whilst the work is carried out. It is hoped that this will further enhance the enjoyment provided by this area.



Stoke Common

Stoke Common play area at the top of Church Road is well used and popular, with a zip wire and a timber trail amongst other items. To improve both the look and the safety of the area, Bishopstoke Parish Council is replacing the fencing by the road. A new, hoop top, fence will be installed, with hedges planted along the inner boundary, and a small section of the area will be carved out to provide a bench and a new noticeboard. This follows other work completed recently where the electricity substation has been properly enclosed and one of the benches in the area has been replaced.

Council Updates

Keeping In Touch

Many thanks to all who completed our communications questionnaire. The results will be used to keep you better informed about what the Parish Council is doing. Here are some of our main findings.

It won't surprise you to know that all who took part thought that Bishopstoke was a good (80.4%) or an OK (19.6%) place to live and that most of you were proud to live in Bishopstoke. Nobody thought they were receiving too much information from us – but 45.7% respondents wanted to receive more.

The question on which authority was responsible for what caused you to scratch your heads! Well done to those who knew that your Parish Council is responsible for both hedges around our public spaces and travel tokens. Quite a few of you didn't. That's down to us to keep you better informed. To do this, we'll be making better use of the media you have highlighted.



Do you know what these are?

If you would like an event you are holding, or a club you run to be included in the next newsletter, or on the website, please contact the Clerk. Bishopstoke Parish Council is happy to publicise all community groups and events within Bishopstoke.

www.bishopstokepc.org/whatson

Website

The website now has more information about all of the Council's assets (burial grounds, allotments, play areas and so on) as well as information about who to contact to report any problems. If there is anything you would like to see being added to the website please do get in touch and let us know.

Travel Tokens

New Travel Token allocations are being sent out and if there is anyone who has not yet applied but would like to receive them we would encourage them to get in touch. The only criteria are that you are resident in Bishopstoke, do not have easy access to a car and would have difficulty using the bus.

Either contact the Clerk to get hold of an application form or go online to www.bishopstokepc.org/travel-tokens and click on the "apply online" link.

Grants

In honour of the Queen's Jubilee, the Parish Council has decided to increase the grant funding available for this year to £15,000. This is open to individuals, charities and community groups and can be applied for for a wide range of purposes. Further details about who can apply and how to do it are available on the Council website at www.bishopstokepc.org/grants.

Bishopstoke Parish Council would like to help as many groups as possible this year so please get in touch if you would like to apply.

Other News

Annual Meeting

At the Parish Council Annual Meeting on 10th May Councillor Ray Dean was elected Chair for another year, and Councillor Louise Hillier-Wheal was elected as Vice Chair.

The Councillors also decided which Committees and Working Groups they would be part of for the year. Full details of each Councillor's assignments, along with the ward they represent within Bishopstoke, can be found on the Parish Council website.

Bishopstoke Parish Council Awards

The Parish Council recently decided to introduce an award scheme to recognise some of the amazing work being done by people and groups here in Bishopstoke.

The Communications Working Group were asked to put some thought into it, and their ideas will be presented to the Full Council in July. If you know someone who you think may deserve an award for what they do for Bishopstoke, keep an eye on the website and Facebook for more details on how they can be nominated.

Mission Statement & Aims

The Parish Council recently agreed to set a mission statement, and four key aims, for the term of this Council (until May 2024). It is expected that these aims will be reflected in the decisions that the Council takes going forward.

Mission: To be the voice of the people of Bishopstoke to enhance our village as a great place to live, work and visit.

Aim 1: To improve, and protect, our environment for residents and wildlife.

Aim 2: To promote better health & well-being outcomes for all.

Aim 3: To strengthen a sense of place.

Aim 4: To encourage residents to become more involved in the life of the village.

BISHOPSTOKE PARISH COUNCIL MEETINGS

Meetings of the Parish Council and its Committees are currently taking place at the Bishopstoke Methodist Church on Sedgwick Road. More details about the meetings can be found on our website, www.bishopstokepc.org.

NEXT MEETINGS

Full Council: 12th July, 13th Sept, 8th Nov

Finance: 14th June, 9th Aug, 11th Oct

Planning: All dates above plus 23rd Aug

Assets: 24th May, 26th July, 27th Sept

Human Resources: 28th Jun, 25th Oct