

Bishopstoke News: a local nature reserve for Bishopstoke?

The idea of a new nature reserve near Bishopstoke came a little closer this week. It is proposed that the land presently occupied by a former dairy farm on land north of Bishopstoke would be ideal for the purpose.

At its November meeting, Bishopstoke Parish Council agreed to support the Bishopstoke, Fair Oak & Horton Heath Local Area Committee proposal for the land recently acquired by the Borough Council in the north of Bishopstoke to be used to create a nature reserve.

The Parish Council agreed that having such a peaceful, beautiful and environmentally friendly place on our doorstep would be a wonderful thing for Bishopstoke and its residents.

A draft consultation document is being written and a link to this will be published on Bishopstoke Parish Council's website www.bishopstokepc.org. Input from residents about the nature of the site would be warmly welcome. The consultation is expected to run for three months.

More details on Bishopstoke's Sports Day and Carnival

Bishopstoke Parish Council is holding its first ever Bishopstoke Sports Day on Saturday 3rd June at the open space on Blackberry Drive. There will be a variety of local sports clubs and groups giving demonstrations, and old-style sports day events such as the sack race and three-legged race, and a tug of war competition will also be on the programme.

Bishopstoke Carnival 2023 will take place on Sunday 17th September on Glebe Meadow and Bishy Beach. The day will start with the river float competition and the duck races before the stalls, rides and entertainment take over on the Meadow.

The small group running these events would really appreciate any extra help. Whether you can just spare a few hours on either day, or whether you are happy to come to the planning meetings and add your ideas, your support would be welcome. Please contact carnival@bishopstokepc.org if you think you can help.

A Bishopstoke Parish Council Grant for Highbridge Conservation Group

Bishopstoke Parish Council is pleased to announce a grant of almost £1,000 to the Highbridge Conservation Group for their work towards restoring the water meadows and Site of Special Scientific Interest at Highbridge and maintaining and encouraging the dormouse population in woods on Bishopstoke Lane.

New Parish Councillor

The Parish Council welcomed Geoff Harris to its ranks at the latest meeting following his election as a Bishopstoke Parish Councillor for the Whalesmead Ward. Geoff has previously been a Parish Councillor and is already working with the Carnival group to bring Carnival 2023 to life.

Do you know a potential Bishopstoke Champion?

The Parish Council is launching a Bishopstoke Champion Award. The Council is looking for a person, or a group of people, deserving the title of Bishopstoke Champion. That could be a person who has championed a worthy cause, someone who has worked hard to make life easy for an individual who finds the going tough, or maybe a group who have done their best to make Bishopstoke a better place to live and work. Keep an eye on the Parish Council website and noticeboards for more information and a nomination form.

**The next meeting of the Parish Council will be on Tuesday 10th January at 7.30pm.
For details of where the meeting will take place and any other information please visit the Parish website.**

*For further information, please contact the Parish Clerk: David Wheal
by email: clerk@bishopstokepc.org
or visit the Parish website at: www.bishopstokepc.org*