

**Minutes of a Meeting of the Assets Committee  
held at Bishopstoke Methodist Church  
commencing at 7:45pm on 28 March 2023**

**Present:** Cllrs Tidridge (Chair), Francis, Harris, Hillier-Wheal and D McKeone

**In Attendance:** Mr D Wheal (Clerk to Bishopstoke Parish Council)  
Cllr Daly (Bishopstoke Parish Councillor)  
Mr T Postle (Green Smile)

**Public Attendance:** 2 members of the public were present.

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**Public Session**

Cllr Tidridge, as Chair, welcomed everyone to the meeting and introduced the Councillors and Officers present, before asking if any member of the public wished to speak.

The two members of the public had come to the meeting to ask the Council to allow them to keep their allotment. The residents informed the Committee of the various reasons why they had not been able to work their plot during the previous year and why they felt they had been poorly treated by the Clerk. They also informed the Committee that they would be making a complaint about the situation.

Cllr Tidridge thanked them for coming to talk to the Committee and went on to explain that the Committee would not be able to respond during the meeting as it is limited to discussing what is on the agenda, but once the complaint has been received the Council will follow its Complaints Procedure fully.

**50 Apologies for Absence**

50.1 Apologies were noted from Cllrs R Dean and Winstanley.

**51 To adopt as a true record, and sign, the Minutes of the Assets Committee meeting held on 24 January 2023**

51.1 The Minutes of the above meeting had been circulated prior to the meeting.

51.2 Cllr Francis asked whether the Committee should have been given sight of the letter on asset transfers prior to it being sent. The Clerk explained that this had not been part of the minuted action but would be something that could be done in the future. Cllr Francis also noted that the Council website had begun to be populated with material related to Glebe Meadow and asked whether the scoping document for the new Memorial Hall could be posted, along with the outline plan for the Meadow as a whole. The Clerk indicated that these documents were being discussed at the Glebe Meadow Working Group meeting planned for 4<sup>th</sup> April and the site would be updated after that.

51.3 Cllr Daly asked whether the graffiti in Sayers Road play area had been dealt with. The Clerk informed the Committee that as part of the maintenance contract with Vitaplay there is an inspection visit every quarter, during which graffiti is routinely removed. However, it is not unusual for there to be new graffiti shortly after a space has been cleaned and this is an ongoing problem.

51.4 Proposed Cllr D McKeone, Seconded Cllr Francis, **RESOLVED** unanimously that the minutes of the Assets Committee meeting held on 24 January 2023 be adopted as a true record.

## **52 Declarations of Interest and Requests for Dispensations**

52.1 There were none declared or requested.

## **53 To decide the timeframe for the new skate park and play area at Glebe Meadow**

53.1 A memo detailing the reasons for bringing the new skate park and play area forward had been included with the supporting documents for this meeting.

53.2 Cllr Tidridge noted that an additional reason for wanting to have all the elements of the new Glebe Meadow happening at the same time had been to ensure that they all work together rather than as separate distinct areas. Cllr Hillier-Wheal asked whether these new plans would impact on the Carnival. The Clerk indicated that any work, whether to the skate park, the play area, or indeed the demolition of the Hall, would be scheduled so as to avoid any impact on school holidays or the Carnival. Cllr D McKeone asked whether the sensory garden was being relocated. Cllr Tidridge noted that the Glebe Meadow working group was aware that the sensory garden was not particularly effective and there is a tentative plan to move it to an area of Bishopstoke Cemetery that is unable to be used for interments.

53.3 Cllr Francis asked whether the path network would go in at the same time as the new areas. Cllrs agreed that it would be appropriate to obtain quotes for the paths at the same time as planning the new areas, but that paths should be added after they are installed, not before.

53.4 Cllr McKeone asked whether the time was now right to request a pedestrian crossing from Glebe Meadow to Old St Mary's. The Committee agreed this would be a good idea and the Clerk was requested to make contact with Hampshire County Council / Hampshire Highways to see if this could be done.

**Action: Clerk**

53.5 Proposed Cllr Hillier-Wheal, Seconded Cllr Harris, **RESOLVED** unanimously to approve going forward with obtaining plans for the new skate park, play area and paths.

**Action: Clerk**

## **54 To consider amending the rules for interments**

54.1 A memo explaining the two proposals for consideration had been included with the supporting papers for this meeting.

54.2 Cllrs did not agree with the idea that Parish Councillors should automatically qualify for single fees, no matter where they live.

54.3 Proposed Cllr Tidridge, Seconded Cllr Francis, **RESOLVED** unanimously to lower the time needed to have lived in Bishopstoke to qualify for single fees regardless of time spent elsewhere from 50 years to 30 years.

**Action: Clerk**

## **55 To consider a strategy for new and replacement bins and dog bins across Bishopstoke**

55.1 A request from the Clerk for Councillors to help catalogue all bins across the Parish and a description of how that information would be used to create long term plans for additional bins and bin replacements had been included with the supporting papers for this meeting.

55.2 Cllr D McKeone informed the Committee that he had received a request for dog bins to be placed at the entrance to Stoke Park Farm and also at the junction between Nelson Road and Stoke Park Road. Additionally Cllr McKeone noted that there may be an excess of bins in Glebe Meadow and wondered if some of them could be relocated.

55.3 The Clerk noted that once all bins were catalogued there would be a page on the Parish website showing the location of each bin, no matter who owns the bin, and problems with a particular bin could be reported simply by clicking on it. Cllrs requested maps of the areas they were being asked to cover as quickly as possible, along with details of the information being asked for. The Clerk was also asked to contact StreetScene to see if they have a list of the locations of all the bins they empty.

**Action: Clerk**

55.4 Proposed Cllr D McKeone, Seconded Cllr Harris, **RESOLVED** unanimously that Cllrs be asked to take part in the bin mapping project, that all new bins be dual waste, and that the full map be used to create a priority bin list and develop funding requirements.

**Action: Clerk**

## **56 To receive the Clerk's report, including all areas delegated to the Committee**

56.1 The Clerk's report was included with the document pack for this meeting and was noted.

56.2 In addition to the written report the Clerk informed the Committee of a positive meeting with Sarah King at the Borough Council which had laid the groundwork for restarting the Memorial Hall rebuild project. It is anticipated that there will be a meeting with the Borough Council in the near future to begin moving forward with the project, and that one or two members of the Glebe Meadow Working Group would be invited to attend.

56.3 The Clerk also noted that there is an increasing amount of problematic behaviour in the local play areas. This includes dogs being taken into the play areas regularly, e-scooters being used in play areas, ball games being played where it is not permitted, underage drinking, smoking & vaping as well as drug use. This has particularly been noted in Sayers Road play area. The Clerk reported an incident where he had been shouted at and sworn at by one parent, he was then confronted by another who informed him that her child and his friends wanted to play football and there was nothing that could be done to stop them. The Clerk noted that he had reported this incident to the police. The Clerk requested that the Committee discuss what rules should be in place at play areas, and how to go about enforcing them. The Committee agreed to discuss this at their next meeting in May. The Clerk was also asked to contact the Street Pastors and see if they are able to patrol more regularly.

**Action: Clerk**

## **57 Date, time, place and agenda items for next meeting**

57.1 The next meeting of the Assets Committee will take place at 7:30pm on Tuesday 23<sup>rd</sup> May 2023 at the Bishopstoke Methodist Church. Items for the agenda should be with the Clerk, including any supporting papers, by May 15<sup>th</sup>.

*There being no further business, the Chair closed the meeting at 8:29pm*

Chair's Signature: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_

Clerk's Signature: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_