

**September 2025**

### **War Memorial Vandalism and Rededication Service**

Earlier this year we moved the Bishopstoke War Memorial to the site of Old St Mary's and planned a rededication service with the Royal British Legion to coincide with VJ Day on Friday 15<sup>th</sup> August.

Sadly, the night before the service the War Memorial had white paint thrown over it by vandals. It was discovered by local residents on the Friday morning who contacted the Parish Council and put out a call for help on social media. What an amazing response there was! So many of the local community turned out bringing along any cleaning supplies they had to hand that could be used. All of these amazing volunteers worked tirelessly for 3 hours to clean the Memorial so that the rededication service could go ahead in the afternoon. By lunchtime – if you ignored the white patches on the grass – you wouldn't know that it had happened. A local resident, whose son's name is on the War Memorial, was grateful and really touched by the number of people who had turned out to help.

The Rededication Service was able to go ahead as planned and was very well attended. We would like to thank all the amazing people who turned out to help showing the true community spirit of the people of Bishopstoke.

### **Sewall Drive allotments and temporary Parish Office**

The allotments are ready! After a lot of hard work from our Allotments Officer and the contractors we are now ready to open the allotments at Sewall Drive. A layer of large rubble and stones has been removed, a layer of topsoil put down, standpipes installed, and the plots marked out. Everyone on the waiting list has been contacted and have been asked to come along to an Open morning on Saturday 13<sup>th</sup> September to choose their plot. Anyone who can't make it will either be offered another time slot or have their plot chosen for them.

The allotments will officially open on 1<sup>st</sup> October and we hope to have the Parish Office at Sewall Drive open soon afterwards.

### **Christmas Decorations**

This year the Parish Council will be putting up some Christmas decorations around the village for the first time. We have put together a Working Group to look at all the options that are available and will keep you posted. If you have any suggestions for the type of decorations you would like to see or could help in any way, please contact the Parish Clerk [clerk@bishopstokepc.org](mailto:clerk@bishopstokepc.org)

## **Travel Tokens**

Bishopstoke Parish Council provide Travel Tokens to residents of Bishopstoke who do not have access to a car and struggle to access local transport services. The tokens can be used on the One Community Dial-a-Ride service, Bishopstoke and Fair Oak Good Neighbours scheme and some of the local taxi companies. There is no age requirement to apply for Travel Tokens. Please see our website for a full list of providers [www.bishopstokepc.org/travel-tokens](http://www.bishopstokepc.org/travel-tokens).

It is easy to apply; you can go to our website and complete the application form online, download a form to print and fill in at home or contact the Parish Clerk ([clerk@bishopstokepc.org](mailto:clerk@bishopstokepc.org)) for a paper copy and more details on how to apply. The Parish Council will then arrange for two Parish Councillors/Officers to visit you in order to answer any questions you might have, check the details on the form are correct and present you with your Travel Tokens.

## **Audit**

Every year the Parish Council's finances are checked by an internal auditor appointed by the Council, and then an external auditor appointed by a national body. We are pleased to announce that for another year the Council has been issued a clean bill of financial health. The final audit has been published on the Council's website at [www.bishopstokepc.org/audit](http://www.bishopstokepc.org/audit).

## **Parish Council Address**

Please address any post to:  
Bishopstoke Parish Council  
BPC, PO Box 716  
Eastleigh  
SO50 0RQ

**The next meeting of the Parish Council will be on Tuesday 11<sup>th</sup> November at 7.30pm and will take place in Bishopstoke Methodist Church. For further details or information about anything the Parish Council does please visit our website.**

*For further information, please contact the Administration Officer, Emma Earl  
by email: [admin@bishopstokepc.org](mailto:admin@bishopstokepc.org).  
or visit the Parish website at: [www.bishopstokepc.org](http://www.bishopstokepc.org)*