

BISHOPSTOKE PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of the Meeting of Bishopstoke Parish Council commenced at 7.30pm on Tuesday 26 January 2016 in the Parish Office, Riverside, Bishopstoke

Present: Councillor A Winstanley
Councillor G Harris
Councillor P Brown
Councillor C McKeone
Councillor M Lyon
Councillor T Mignot
Councillor V Parkinson-MacLachlan
Councillor M Thornton
Councillor C Thomas

In Attendance: Mr D Hillier-Wheal (Clerk to Bishopstoke Parish Council)
Mrs C Taylor (Assistant Clerk to Bishopstoke Parish Council)
Mr P Storey (Immediate Past Clerk to Bishopstoke Parish Council)

Public Session

Councillor Winstanley thanked Mr Storey for 11 years of exemplary service to Bishopstoke Parish Council and, on the occasion of his retirement from this role, presented him with a bottle of scotch and an engraved glass.

Mr Storey accepted the councillors' thanks and gifts, promising to raise a glass on each future meeting date until such time as the Bishopstoke Neighbourhood Plan is adopted, at which point he would finish what remained "in one draught". Mr Storey spoke of his pride that Bishopstoke Parish Council had, in the past 11 years, achieved Quality Parish Council status - something only around 750 out of some 10,000 Parish Councils had managed. The scrapping of this initiative by government was to be deplored, but was not uncommon. Mr Storey expressed the hope that the Community Speedwatch scheme, and the Assets of Community Value would not go the same way, as they are both worthwhile initiatives that could benefit the local community.

Mr Storey committed to seeing through the Bishopstoke Neighbourhood Plan, as this was something of potentially great value to the community, especially in helping to guide future planning decisions within the Parish

Finally, Mr Storey thanked Councillor Winstanley personally, and extended that thanks to the whole of the Parish Council, for the good working relationship, the support received over the years, and the kind words and sentiments expressed by the Chair. In closing, the new Clerk and the Assistant Clerk were both wished all the luck for the future.

Councillor Winstanley welcomed everyone to the first meeting in 2016 of the Bishopstoke Parish Council, and noted that this year will mark the 20th anniversary of the Council.

1. Apologies for absence

1.1 Cllrs Snook, Toher, Harper, Roling and Cossey.

2. Councillors' Questions and Announcements

2.1 Cllr Harris reported that on the 18th December 2015, the Bishopstoke Community Association had voted to accept the Hampshire County Council offer and were going to take the running of the building on in their own right. The Parish Council expressed their support to the BCA in their continuing role to service the needs of the local community.

3. Adoption of the Minutes of the Parish Council Meeting held on 1 December 2015

3.1 Proposed Cllr Winstanley, Seconded Cllr Parkinson-MacLachlan, **RESOLVED** with Cllrs Harris, Thomas and Thornton abstaining (absent) that the minutes of the meeting held on 1 December 2015 be accepted as a true record.

4. Matters Arising

4.1 Public Session The Council wished to know what amount of unadopted roads would be in the Breach Lane development. Cllr Winstanley reported that it was believed it would only be the cul-de-sacs at the end of the main roads, and that a management company would be formed to take responsibility for those roads.

4.2 Para 130.1 The Council wished to express its thanks to Cllrs McKeone and Toher for the work they have put in to the newsletter, and for their continuing efforts in this regard.

4.3 Para 132.1 The Clerk reported that grants are available to help with the provision of a community defibrillator and further investigation into that, along with the best place to locate it, was being undertaken.

Action: Clerk

4.4 Para 134 Cllr Winstanley reported that the decision on the Cemex / Breach Lane development will be a delegated one.

4.5 Para 143.4 The Clerk reported that the emergency and resilience plan continues to be updated.

5. Declarations of Interest and Requests for Dispensation

5.1 None made.

6. Correspondence

6.1 None tabled.

7. Report on Planning Committee Meetings of 1 December 2015, 15 December 2015 and 12 January 2016 – to note Resolutions and to determine Recommendations

7.1 Minutes of the Planning Committee meetings held on 1 December 2015, 15 December 2015 and 12 January 2016 had been circulated with the agenda papers.

7.2 Cllr Lyon reported that he had, in fact, been present at the meetings held in December 2015.

7.3 Proposed Cllr McKeone, Seconded Cllr Parkinson-MacLachlan, **RESOLVED** unanimously that, subject to the amendment of Cllr Lyon's attendance, the minutes of the meetings held on 1 December 2015, 15 December 2015 and 12 January 2016 be received and accepted.

8. Report on Finance and General Purposes Committee Meeting of 15 December 2015 and 12 January 2016 – to note Resolutions and to determine Recommendations

8.1 Minutes of the F&GP Committee meeting held on 15 December 2015 and 12 January 2016 had been circulated with the agenda papers.

8.2 Proposed Cllr Winstanley, Seconded Cllr Thornton, **RESOLVED** unanimously that the resolutions of the meetings held on 15 December 2015 and 12 January 2016 be received and accepted.

8.3 Proposed Cllr Winstanley, Seconded Cllr Thornton, **RESOLVED** unanimously that the recommendation to note the review of the local council tax support scheme, be approved.

8.4 Proposed Cllr Winstanley, Seconded Cllr Thornton, **RESOLVED** unanimously that the recommendation to take final votes on future precepts only after receipt of the tax base date from Eastleigh Borough Council, be approved.

8.5 Proposed Cllr Winstanley, Seconded Cllr Thornton, **RESOLVED** unanimously that the recommendation that the external auditing be left in the hands of the Sector Led Body known as Smaller Authorities' Audit Appointments Ltd, be approved.

8.6 Proposed Cllr Winstanley, Seconded Cllr Thornton, **RESOLVED** unanimously that the recommendation that, subject to acceptable guidelines being produced, the principle of providing a debit card for the use of the Clerk and Assistant Clerk, be approved.

8.7 The recommendations to discuss the precept, and the format and layout of the Community meeting being held on 2 February 2016, were agenda items at this meeting.

9. To receive the RFO's Report and approve the Statements of Account for November 2015 and December 2015

9.1 The Statements of Account for November 2015 and December 2015 had been circulated with the agenda papers.

9.2 The RFO reported that in order to proceed with adding the Clerk to the authorised bank signatories, signatures still needed to be collected from Cllrs Winstanley, Lyon, Toher and Roling.

Action: RFO

9.3 The Council enquired as to whether there would be an increase in the PCSO contribution next year. The RFO reported that there had been an increase last year and as it was a one year contract this time then it was entirely possible there would be a further increase next year.

9.4 Proposed Cllr Winstanley, Seconded Cllr Parkinson-MacLachlan, **RESOLVED** unanimously that the statements of account for November 2015 and December 2015 be noted.

10. Precept and Expenditure Budget 2016 -17 - Briefing

10.1 A briefing note from the Clerk had been circulated with the agenda papers.

10.2 The Clerk reported that a timeline of the progression of discussion of the precept had been established. The Finance and General Purposes committee meeting on 10 November 2015 had discussed and recommended an increase in combined precept and top up grant of 1.9% to a total of £149,530. Following that meeting we had received a spreadsheet from Eastleigh Borough Council detailing the new tax base, and their method of calculating precepts based on Council Tax Band D. A briefing note was then circulated by the Assistant Clerk explaining that using this spreadsheet and using the Council's figure of a 1.9% increase on Council Tax Band D would give a final combined top up and precept of £153,407. Full Council then voted unanimously at the meeting on 15 December 2015 to approve the figure of £153,407 for the coming year. As this timeline is clear and procedurally correct there were no special circumstances allowing the suspension of the Standing Order preventing a decision being revisited within 6 months. Therefore the decision to approve a 1.9% increase on Council Tax Band D, giving a combined precept and top up of £153,407, stands.

11. Community Meeting on Tuesday 2 February 2016 – Format and Layout

11.1 An offer was made by Peter Storey to chair the meeting as an impartial non-resident of Bishopstoke. This offer was accepted by the Council.

11.2 It was agreed that only one person at a time should speak, and that a time limit (to be agreed) should be applied to each person so that everyone who wishes to speak can be heard.

11.3 It was agreed that Mr Storey would give an introduction explaining the purpose of the meeting – for residents to express their views on all the options contained with the Local Plan, so that the

Parish Councillors can then take note of those opinions when they formulate the Parish Council response to the consultation.

11.4 It was agreed that as many copies of the Issues and Options booklet as possible would be provided for residents to look through, and that there would be sufficient consultation response forms.

Action: Clerk

11.5 It was thought preferable if possible to have the boards used by the Eastleigh Borough Council roadshow in the Hall. Cllr Winstanley offered to ask for them to be made available.

Action: Cllr Winstanley

11.6 It was hoped that someone from Planning Policy would then attend the subsequent Finance and General Purposes meeting to answer any technical questions the Council might have. Cllr Winstanley offered to extend that invitation.

Action Cllr Winstanley

11.7 It was also hoped that Tim Laughton from County Council Highways would also be able to be present at the F & GP meeting.

Action: Clerk

11.8 In the introduction, mention will be made of the importance of filling in and sending back a consultation form – without it, no one's voice can be heard. Also, residents will be asked to note that technical reasons for or against specific options will carry more weight than number of protests.

11.9 Finally, the hope was expressed that the meeting will be conducted in an orderly fashion, to allow full discussion of all the potential options as Eastleigh Borough Council seeks to fulfil its obligation to put in place a Local Plan

12. Neighbourhood Plan

12.1 The Clerk reported that this item had been tabled at the request of Cllr Toher to discuss the possible inclusion of the Neighbourhood Plan at the Community meeting on 2 February 2015, and to report on a separate meeting specifically for the Plan.

12.2 It was confirmed that the proposed meeting for the Neighbourhood Plan was now Friday 11th March at 7:30 pm in the Bishopstoke Memorial Hall.

12.3 It was agreed that discussion of the Neighbourhood Plan could form part of the meeting on February 2nd.

13. Electoral Review – to comment on EBC's proposal

13.1 The documentation detailing and supporting the EBC proposal had been circulated with the agenda papers

13.2 Proposed Cllr Thomas, Seconded Cllr McKeone, **RESOLVED** with Cllrs Winstanley (chair of boundary committee) and Lyon abstaining, that the Parish Council's response is that this is believed to be a sensible tidying up of wards.

Action: Clerk

14. To receive reports from County, Borough and Parish Councillors

14.1 Cllr Harris reported he had attended a meeting of the Bishopstoke Memorial Hall, and that the repair of the Memorial Hall doors had now been completed.

14.2 Cllr Parkinson-MacLachlan reported on the changing Sunday School arrangements in the Bishopstoke area. Following 6 years of co-working the Anglican and Methodist churches would now each be providing their own youth worship, and they wish each other well. Cllr Parkinson-MacLachlan also reported that she, along with other Parish and Borough Cllrs, had attended the Issues

and Options Roadshow at the Bishopstoke Community Association. It was very well attended with some enthusiastic expression of views. The time available had proved useful in explaining to residents both the need for an overall plan, and the potential benefits and weaknesses of each potential option, especially the idea that just because a general area could be included as potentially being built on in the future, that did not mean that a specific part of that area would definitely be part of a planning application. Thanks were expressed to the Borough Council for providing the Roadshow and to the BCA for providing a location for it.

14.3 Cllr Thomas reported that he had attended the John Darling Mall meeting, and was disappointed at the tone and content of that meeting. Cllr Thomas also reported that he had had a number of letters either ignored or not read properly by the Communities and Local Government Dept, the Health Dept. and the Chancellor of the Exchequer. However, a meeting will soon be held with County Cllr Fairchild, and Cllr Thomas will report back on this at a future meeting of the Parish Council

Action: Cllr Thomas

14.4 Cllr Mignot reported on continuing complaints regarding the Old Anchor Surgery, with residents reportedly waiting up to 5 weeks for an appointment and 5 days for a prescription to arrive at the chemist. An official complaint is being made. Cllr Mignot requested this be an item on the February Finance and General Purposes agenda, for which he would gather more information.

Action: Cllr Mignot

14.5 Cllr Lyon reported on attending various meetings including the Building Land and Procurement Panel, the John Darling Mall consultation, the County Council boundary changes meeting and the Children and Young People Committee. He was pleased to report a number of instances of cross-party cooperation, including making sure that the risk of relying on developer contributions for up to 50% of the Capital Programme by examined.

14.6 Cllr Thornton reported on attending the First Wessex Community meeting, where the focus had been on trying to tackle the hidden deprivation that exists within Bishopstoke. Cllr Thornton also commented on problems with local healthcare, and identified a lack of people willing to become GPs, and then Partners, as a significant part of the issue.

14.7 Cllr Brown reported on the latest Twynham's meeting, where damp and the dilapidated condition of conservatories were identified as problems. However, it was reported that currently the finance to tackle these issues is not available.

15. Clerk's Monthly Report

15.1 The Clerk reported that currently Bishopstoke is being covered by only 2 PCSOs, part funded by Bishopstoke Parish Council and Fair Oak Parish Council. This is down from the previous number of four, with some of the patrolling now reportedly being carried out by Specials.

15.2 The Brookfield hedges have now been trimmed to allow them to thicken and hopefully act as a barrier to passage. At the last Community Safety meeting it was reported that several youths had been barred from YZone, but were not respecting this, which had led to a number of calls to the Police. The bus-stop where Blackberry Drive joins the main road had now had all three of its curved Perspex roof panels smashed and repairs were being undertaken.

15.3 Also at the Community Safety meeting the Police reported on a successful drugs raid on a property in Sayers Road, and on another break in at the Coop on Spring Lane. This break in was attributed to thieves from outside the area.

16. January 2016 press release

16.1 It was agreed that mention would be made of the Community Meeting, the Neighbourhood Plan meeting, and the retirement of the previous Clerk, Mr Storey. A photograph of the presentation would be provided for both the press release and the next newsletter. It was also agreed that the Parish Facebook page would be used to alert residents to potential traffic problems from the beginning of

February for a period of 3 months due to roadworks on the Winchester Road leading out of Fair Oak, and to alert residents to the forthcoming Carnival meeting.

Action: Clerk

17. Date, Time and Place of Next Meeting

17.1 The next meeting of the Parish Council would be on Tuesday 23 February 2016 at 7.30pm in the Parish Office, Riverside, Bishopstoke.

There being no further business, the Chairman closed the Meeting at 9.15pm.