

Bishopton Parish Council

Minutes of Meeting held on Wednesday 21st December 2011 at 7.00pm in Bishopton Village Hall.

Present: Cllrs: L. MacMahon (Chair), G. Baines, I Robins.
Cllr. B. Jones (Darlington Borough Council). D. Thorman – Parish Clerk.

Apologies for Absence Cllrs: J. Robson, J Robins, M. Moses

1. Visitors

None

2. Declarations of interest in items on the agenda

None

3. Previous Minutes

The minutes of the previous meeting were read and approved. They were duly signed by the Chairperson as a true record of the 16th November 2011 meeting.

4. Matters Arising from Previous Minutes

4.1 Traffic Control Equipment

The Clerk had sent a further email to Andrew Casey of DBC but without response. Cllr. Jones agreed to discuss the matter with Mr. SD. Winstanley of DBC.

4.2 Parking o/s Bishopton School

It was agreed that this matter would be reviewed in February 2012.

4.3 Manor Farm Entrance

Mr. R. Merret of DBC had confirmed that his Council could take no further action on this matter. It was agreed to inspect the area as part of the review of the Village planned for April 2012 with a view to taking remedial action if necessary.

4.4 Queens Jubilee

No reply had been received from the School Head Teacher. Cllr. Baines reported that the Village Hall Committee considered that an evening event held on a Bank Holiday would not be well supported and they had opted to hold a 'Royal Disco' on the weekend prior to the Jubilee. It was agreed that a meeting of interested parties should be arranged for late January / February to include representatives of: the Village Hall Committee; the School; the Church; the Brownies / Rainbows; the Pubs; the Women's institute, and the Keep Fit & Zumba Groups. In view of the concern regarding possible lack of interest it was agreed to do a leaflet drop early in the New Year, pointing out the intention of organising an afternoon event on the School Playing Field and inviting email /phone responses regarding the level of support, type of activities, and wish to participate in organising etc. Cllr MacMahon agreed to prepare the flyer.

4.5 Condition of Area in front of the Talbot PH and other Pothole Problems.

DBC has carried out Slurry Seal works to the footpaths around the church.

Cllr. Baines and the Clerk had carried out emergency temporary repairs to the most severe potholes in the macadam surfaced areas of the Village Green. The Clerk had invited quotations from 5 companies for the repairing all the 18 No. potholed areas but had received only 2 quotations; the first from AWG for £980.00 and the second from New County for £1899.62. However it was considered that the temporary work carried out should last for a reasonable time. On this basis the Clerk was asked to invite further quotations for the reconstruction of the entire defective area in the vicinity of the Talbot.

It was agreed that the April review of the Village should be used to formulate a maintenance programme for the Green access roads and paths.

- 4.6 Condition Survey of Trees on Village Green.
Phil Haynes of DBC had confirmed that he would carry out this work in May 2012.
- 4.7 Arboricultural Work to Lime Tree o/s No 9 The Green
The Clerk submitted annotated photographs to DBC covering the work required and it was evident from recent communications with nearby residents that they were progressing the matter.
- 4.8 Overhanging Shrubs on Village Green
It was agreed that the letter from Cllr MacMahon on this matter should be deferred until the next meeting.
In view of there being no response to the previous letter, the Clerk was asked to write to the residents pointing out the need to do the work before the next nesting season and suggesting that the PC is willing to do it for them under their supervision if they so wish.
- 4.9 Hedge Obstruction
Carl Reay of DBC had written to confirm that the matter was being progressed. Cllr. Baines noted that some work on the corner had been carried out.
- 4.10 Replacement Tree at Cenotaph
A response was still awaited from Phil Haynes of DBC. The Clerk was asked to send a reminder.
- 4.11 Parish Council Standing Orders - Progress
Matter deferred to next meeting in view of Cllr. Moses' absence.
- 4.12 Street Lighting behind Talbot
It was agreed that the provision of lighting was likely to be beyond the financial means of the PC.
- 4.13 Village S.O.S. Event
Matter deferred to next meeting in view of Cllr. Moses' absence.

5. Planning Applications

None

6. Matters Raised by Councillors

- 6.1 Seasonal Greetings to BPC Residents
The Clerk was asked to prepare something for the Notice Board and to include the item on the November meeting agenda in future.
- 6.2 Possible Withdrawal of Supported Bus Services & Removal of Parish Grant by DBC
Cllr. Jones noted that the bus service proposal would be put to Cabinet on 22nd February 2012 and, if agreed this would go to the full Council in March meaning that the Village would have no bus service to Darlington from the middle of the year. He noted that he was to meet on 5th January to discuss Impact Assessments for this proposal and that to cease paying the Parish Grants from April 2013. The Clerk was asked to prepare a leaflet for display in the bus shelter to obtain feedback on the bus proposals.
The whole of Parish Grant is donated to the Village Hall Committee and Cllr. Baines indicated that the loss of the sum involved would be a significant problem. With this in mind he agreed to attend the Impact Assessment meeting on 5th January.

Cllr. B. Jones left the meeting at 7:55pm.

7. Village Green

No new business.

8. Wind Farm Proposals

- 8.1 Update on Proposals
The Planners had asked for more information from the Developers of the Newbiggin site. Foxton had run out of time.

- 8.2 The Isles
No further movement.

9. New Residents

No's 12 & 14 Town Farm Close and No.1 Cobby Castle Lane. Welcome packs to be distributed.

10. Financial

- 10.1 Invoice from One.Com for Website.
An invoice for £20.16 had been received, paid for by the Clerk and added to his expenses which were to be submitted at the next meeting.
- 10.2 Cheque from Northern Power Grid to cover Village Green Wayleaves.
A cheque for £72.45 had been received and banked.
- 10.3 Payment for Christmas Tree.
An invoice from F & K Fabi for £120 had been received by Cllr. MacMahon. It was agreed to pay this. [Proposed by Cllr. Baines and seconded by Cllr. I. Robins].
- 10.4 Parish Council Precepts and Grants for 2012-13
A letter and form had been received from DBC. It was agreed that the precept should remain at £4370 and the Clerk was asked to complete and return the form.
- 10.5 Invoice from Staples for Filing Equipment
An invoice for £21.17 had been paid for by the Clerk and added to his expenses.
- 10.6 Invoices from Doves for Bagged Macadam
Invoices of £57.60 and £11.52 had been received. It was agreed to pay these. [Proposed by Cllr. Baines and seconded by Cllr. I. Robins].
- 10.7 Donation to Salvation Army
A donation of £100 was agreed. [Proposed by Cllr. Baines and seconded by Cllr. I. Robins].
- 10.8 Current Financial Position
There was £5687.53 in the Current Account and £5370.52 in the Reserve Account [sum held for Bishopton Youth].

11 Correspondence

INCOMING

1. Parish Matters Publication – Autumn 2011
2. War Memorials Trust Publication – November 2011
3. Letter from Stockton BC re Sustainable Design Guide Supplementary Planning Document etc. - 08.11.11
4. Letter from DBC re Parish Council Precepts and Grants for 2012-13 - 10.11.11
5. Letter from Cllr. L. MacMahon re comments made at Previous meeting - 19.11.11
6. Letter from MD2 re Localism Bill etc. – 17.11.11
7. Letter from Punch Taverns re Condition of Tarmac Area in front of The Talbot PH - 21.11.11
8. Letter from Stockton BC re Windfarm west of Stillington – 25.11.11
9. Letter from Northern Powergrid re Company Renaming and Payment of Wayleaves – undated
10. Letter from DBC re Visibility & safety at Junction of C34a and C46 West of Bishopton – 22.11.11
11. Letter from NALC/CPRE with Booklet [Planning Explained] -12.12.11
12. The LINK News – December 2011
13. Email from CALC re AGM and next Meeting on 30.11.11 – 16.12.11
14. Email from Cllr B. Jones re cabinet Meeting on Parish Grants – 16.12.11
15. Email from CALC re Policy Consultation on Council Tax Reform – 21.11.11
16. Email from CALC re Policy Briefing on Localism Act – 21.11.11
17. Email from CALC re NALC E-Bulletin – 25.11.11
18. Email from Cllr. B. Jones re Meeting of DAPCPM – 28.11.11
19. Email from Cllr. B. Jones re Bishopton School Parking Problems – 30.11.11

20. Email from Cllr. B. Jones re Speeding in Village – 01.12.11
21. Email from Carl Raey of DBC re Dangerous Tree – 02.12.11
22. Email from Carl Raey of DBC re Land Ownership of Field at West end of Village – 06.12.11
23. Email from Lynne Wood of DBC re Notice of Casual Vacancy – 02.12.11
24. Email from MRC Roads declining to price Patching Works – 05.12.11
25. Email from AWG Construction with price for Patching Works – 07.12.11
26. Email from New County Road Surfacing with price for Patching Works – 09.12.11
27. TVRCC 'Rural News' – Winter 2011
28. Letter from DOVE confirming Account Opened – 12.12.11
29. Email from CALC re NALC E-Bulletin – 09.12.11
30. Email from Cllr. B. Jones re Withdrawal of Parish Grant – 20.12.11
31. Email from CALC re NALC E-Bulletin – Simple Guide to the Localism Bill – 21.12.11
32. Email from CALC re NALC E-Bulletin – Model Employment Contracts – 21.12.11

OUTGOING

1. Letter to Roy Merrett of DBC re Reinstatement of Village Green o/s manor Farm Development – 20.11.11
2. Letter to Mr. & Mrs. Knight re Traffic Issues in Village – 24.11.11
3. Letter to ex Cllr. R. Fieldhouse re resignation – 24.11.11
4. Letter to Mr. B. Sharp re Condition of Macadam Surfaced area o/s The Talbot – 24.11.11
5. Letter to Mr. B. Sharp re Condition of Macadam Surfaced area o/s The Talbot – 30.11.11
6. Email to Andrew Casey of DBC re Traffic Control Equipment - 20.11.11
7. Email to Carl Raey of DBC re Dangerous Tree – 30.11.11
8. Email to Linda Todd of DBC re Resignation of Councillor – 28.11.11
9. Email to Lynne Wood of DBC re Notice of Casual Vacancy – 06.12.11
10. Email to Dave McGaughey of DBC re Works to Lime Tree o/s No. 9 The Green – 05.12.11
11. Emails to 5 Companies re Prices for Patching Works to Macadam Surfaced Areas of Village Green 05.12.11

12. Matters dealt with during the month

- 12.1 Removal of Leaves from Village Green
Removed by DBC following a request from Cllr. MacMahon.
- 12.2 Removal of Fly Tipping from Lay-By
Removed by DBC following a request from Cllr. MacMahon.

13. Date of next meeting

- 13.1 18th January 2012 at 7:00pm in the Village Hall.
Cllr. Baines offered his apologies in advance for this meeting

The meeting closed at 8:20 pm

Signed: Chairperson: _____ Date _____