

Bishopton Parish Council

Minutes of the Parish Council Meeting held on Wednesday, 21st June 2017 at 7:00pm in Bishopton Village Hall

Present: Cllrs: N. Melaney, M. Moses, J. Robins, C. Headlam & G. Preston.
D. Thorman [Parish Clerk].

1. Apologies for Absence: Cllr. L. MacMahon. Cllrs. Brian Jones, Doris Jones & Steve York of DBC.

2. Declarations of Interest in Items on the Agenda: Cllr. Robins declared a non-fiscal interest item 4.3

3. Previous Minutes: The minutes of the previous meeting were read and approved and were duly signed by the Chairperson as a true record of the 17th May 2017 Annual General meeting.

4. Matters Arising from Previous Minutes:

- 4.1 Traffic Control Equipment – progress report & statistics. The Clerk reported results from the West end during May. 85 percentile speed = 33.2 mph; Max. 50 mph [5:55pm on Tuesday 2nd May]; Av = 26.5 mph; %> = 27-31%; Av speeder = up to 34.1 mph. For the East end in June the 85 percentile speed was 34.3 mph; Max. 70 mph [10:55pm on Thursday 1st June]; Av = 26.4 mph; %> = 29-41%; Av speeder = up to 34.6 mph. It was noted that, despite an assurance, the local police had not contacted the Clerk regarding Speedwatch training and it was agreed that the Clerk should email Ron Hogg on the matter.
- 4.2 Funds held for Young Persons of the Parish – play area - progress report. The Clerk reported a positive response from DBC to the pre-application query document and that he had subsequently submitted an online planning application and had informed the landowner and his agent by submission of the necessary documentation. DBC's deadline for response was 3rd August. It was agreed that the Clerk should seek competitive quotations for preparation works to the playground so that works could commence ASAP after this date. Agreement was reached on the format of an information table at the School Fete and the Clerk was asked to prepare associated documentation.
- 4.3 Village Green annual inspection 2016; Works to footpath 11-17, and garage access to 11, High Street & Condition of footpath Nos. 3 – 7 The Green – progress report. The Clerk reported that Banks had turned down the PC's grant application on the grounds that the works involved were a statutory duty. It was agreed to put this matter in abeyance pending the outcome of a budget re-appraisal.
- 4.4 Parish Neighbourhood Plan – progress report. The Clerk reported his further research regarding establishing the Parish as a 'designated area' and suggested that it would be worthwhile asking neighbouring rural parishes if they wished to be involved. It was agreed that the Clerk should contact each adjoining 'Darlington' parish to seek out their views.
- 4.5 Casual Vacancy – progress report. The Clerk reported that he had received a telephone call from an interested resident and that a written application was anticipated.
- 4.6 Bus Service. The Clerk had written to the new Tees Valley Mayor who had not deigned to reply. He agreed to approach Phil Wilson MP on the matter.
- 4.7 Village Green annual inspection 2017 – progress report. Outstanding items from schedule. Item 6 – trip at manhole No. 6 High Street. This had been confirmed as a Northumbrian Water manhole and they had attended to deal with the matter. The Clerk was contacted the War Memorials Trust to see if they could offer a cleaning service to the Cenotaph but this had proved not to be possible. Concern was expressed that the Cenotaph did not have a good means of fixing wreaths and this was to be included on the next agenda.
- 4.8 Gorann Landfill site – progress report. The Clerk provided limited additional information to DBC regarding the source of the ash backfill used and that buildings on the site had been pushed into the excavations.

- 4.9 'Battles Over' – progress report. The Clerk reported that the church warden had no objection to a beacon being mounted on the church roof. He was asked to inform the Pageant Master of the Council's wish to be involved.
- 4.10 Bishopton Airfield. The Clerk reported that the purchase of a suitable boulder for mounting a plaque could amount to some £450 due to the high costs of delivery and placement. He agreed to consult the association concerned again and to look at alternative mounting arrangements.
- 4.11 Cobby Castle Lane development possible Section 106 Agreement. The Clerk had consulted DBC on this and had been informed that they considered that a time extension of the current bus service into Darlington took precedence. He was asked to inform DBC that the bus service was of such a rudimentary nature as to be very limited advantage to property owners in the development and that a distinct improvement would have been preferable.

5. Planning Applications:

- 5.1 Sundial Farm. No objections had been raised regarding the construction of new agricultural sheds on the site.
- 5.2 Proposed Children's Playground - Cobby Castle. This was the PC's own application [ref. Item 4.2] and the Clerk was asked to record approval.

6. Matters Raised by Councillors & the Clerk: None.

7. Village Green:

- 7.1 Wheelie Bins. It had been noted that a wheelie bin was still being permanently stored outside on of the properties on High Street. It was agreed that defer any action pending the outcome of item 4.3 when the Clerk would speak with the residents concerned.

8. Wind Farm Proposals:

- 8.1 Lambs Hill Liaison Committee. There had been no meeting although a Funding committee meeting had taken place [ref. Item, 4.3].
- 8.2 Moor House Liaison Committee. Cllr. Melaney reported that the full Liaison Committee will also form the Funding Committee. He noted that work was ahead of schedule with completion now targeted for the end of the year.

9. New Residents: None.

10. Financial:

- 10.1 2016/17 Budget Monitoring & Current Financial Position. The Clerk handed out copies of his report indicating a current account balance of £8569.80 with the payments listed below accounted for.
- 10.2 Payment for flowers for tubs. Payment of £42.80 to Cllr. L. MacMahon was proposed by Cllr. Robins, seconded by Cllr. Headlam and agreed by the meeting.
- 10.3 Payment to DBC for Planning Application. In view of the need for progress payment of £192.50 [which represents a PC discount of 50%] had been made and this was approved.
- 10.4 Transparency Fund Application. The Clerk had submitted a grant application for £2522.60 covering provision and maintenance of a broadband supply to the Village Hall; provision of a new computer, scanner and software, and staff costs involved.
- 10.5 Donation to Village Hall Association. The usual donation of £1150.00 was proposed by Cllr. Moses, seconded by Cllr. Preston and agreed by the meeting.

11. Correspondence:

INCOMING

1. Email & letter from Lisa Hutchinson of DBC re pre-application response – 18.05.17
2. Email from Stephen Ragg of CDCCTP re training courses – 22.05.17
3. Email from Stephen Ragg of CDCCTP Transparency Fund 17-18 Go-Live – 30.05.17
4. Email from Planning Portal re planning application for children's playground – 06.06.17
5. Email from Stephen Ragg of CDCCTP re Village Hall event – 06.06.17

6. Email from Helen Crute of DAPC re next meeting – 10.06.17
7. Email from Stephen Ragg of CDCCTP re training courses – 13.06.17
8. Letter from Diane Hall of DBC re planning application for children's playground – 13.06.17
9. Letter from Diane Hall of DBC re notification of planning application – 13.06.17
10. Letter from Diane Hall of DBC re planning application for children's playground – 14.06.17
11. Email from Stephen Ragg of CDALC re Transparency Fund Drop In event – 15.06.17
12. Email from James Eaglesham of Banks re grant application – 15.06.17
13. Email to Mark Riddle & James Ivil of DBC re VG grass cutting – 19.06.17

OUTGOING

1. Letter to Zurich Municipal re insurance premium payment – 18.05.17
2. Email to DBC Planning re application response – 25.05.17
3. Letter to DBC re planning application for children's playground – 06.06.17
4. Letter to Mr D. Brown re planning application for children's playground – 06.06.17

EMAIL CHAINS

1. 15 emails from / to CLCA re various matters – 17.05.17 to 21.06.17
 2. 2 emails to / from Martin Clarkson of DBC re connection for Christmas lights on new street lights – 18.05.17 & 29.05.17
 3. 2 emails from / to residents re VG works programme – 18.05.17 to 19.05.17
 4. 2 emails to / from Kenneth Bannerman of Airfields of Britain Conservation Trust (ABCT) re Bishopton Airfield, possible commemorative plaque – 21.05.17 & 22.05.17
 5. 11 emails to / from Lisa Hutchinson of DBC re planning application for children's play area – 23.05.17 to 14.06.17
 6. 1 emails to / from Dunhouse Quarry re supply of stone plinth – 29.05.17 & 31.05.17
 7. 3 emails to / from Mark Leighton re VG strimming – 30.01.17
 8. 2 emails to / from Steve Brannan of DBC re MH cover in VG & Cobby Castle Lane – 05.06.17
 9. 2 emails to Northumbrian Water re manhole in VG – 05.06.17 & 07.06.17
 10. 3 emails to / from Joanne Barker of YoungsRPS re planning application for children's playground – 05.06.17 to 06.06.17
 11. 2 emails to / from James Eaglesham of Banks re grant application – 07.06.17
 12. 3 emails from / to David Jackson of Darlington BC re Gorann Landfill site – 16.06.17 & 21.06.17
- 11.1 Charter for Trees, Woods & People. The Clerk had received copies of a seasonal newspaper which it was agreed to leave in the Village Hall for residents. A 'Tree Charter', had also been received for residents to sign and the Clerk agreed to request that this be located in the Village Hall.
- 11.2 Merchant Navy Day. A letter on this had been received and was noted.
- 11.3 CDCCTP Training Courses. Details of these had been circulated to all Councillors.
- 11.4 Email re DAPC AGM. It was noted that this was on the same day as the next PC meeting and the Clerk was asked to request that such clashes be avoided in future.

12. Matters Dealt with During the Month: None.

13. Date of Next Meeting: 7:00pm on Wednesday 19th July 2017 in the Village Hall.

The meeting closed at 8:45pm.

Signed: Chairperson: _____ Date _____