Bishopton Parish Council

Minutes of Meeting held on Wednesday 16th. March 2011 at 7.00pm in Bishopton Village Hall.

Present: Cllrs MacMahon (Chair), Moses, Ridley, Baines
Cllr B Jones of Darlington Borough Council.
R M Smith - Parish Clerk

Apologies for Absence received from:- CllrsWood, Fieldhouse

1.Visitors Mrs J Robins

2. Declarations of interest in items on the agenda
None.

3. Previous Minutes
The minutes of the previous meeting were read and signed by the Chairperson as a true record of the 16th February 2011 meeting.

4. Matters arising from previous minutes

4.1 Tree felling and Tree Preservation Order
Clerk to follow up with Cllr Wood.

4.2 Grit Bins
No contact from DBC as yet re possible locations.

4.3 Traffic Control Equipment
Cllr B Jones awaiting contact by A Casey of DBC for further info.

4.4 Parking outside Bishopton School
Following meetings between Cllr Jones, N Parker (Headmaster) and Nick Butler of DBC, Nick is exploring the following options with the school:-
(a)Developing a parents parking pledge/charter, (b)Developing a voluntary one-way system, (c)Developing a walking train – with possible links to the village pub, (d) Reinstating school keep-clear markings to ensure parking enforcement can take place.

4.5 Spring tidy and litterpick.
Arrangements are ongoing with DBC and Durham CC for equipment ready for our 10th April 2011 village spring tidy and litterpick. Flyers have been produced by Cllr L McMahon and will be distributed a week before the event.

4.6 Redundant Bus Shelters
Cllr L McMahon to contact StreetScene regarding state of bus shelters following complaint by residents. Removal of litter and leaves, repair of roof and repainting to be requested.

4.7 Sheds behind Town Farm Close.
No developments, Cllr B Jones will follow up for next meeting.

4.8 May elections for councillors
For any resident wishing to become a parish councillor, submission forms will be available from the clerk on 25/3/2011 for return to the clerk by 3/4/2011.

4.9 Parish Clerk replacement
Clerk instructed to request letters of application from interested parties.

5. Planning applications

5.1 Blue Bell Signage
An application was received for a sign to be erected outside the Blue Bell on village green land (App ref. 11/00139/ADV), relevant map VG57. BPC lodged an objection on the grounds that no permanent fixture was allowed on village green. It was also noted that the size of the sign was incompatible with the village milieu.

6. Matters raised by Councillors

6.1 DBC Local Sustainable Transport Fund
As no-one from BPC could attend the meeting, we were only given two days notice, BPC will rely on Sadberge PC to represent BPC's interests.

6.2 Annual Parish Meeting
It was agreed that 7.0pm on 13/4/2011 was the preferred time and date for the Annual Parish meeting, and that topics should include Wind Farms, the New Village Green Policy Document, Neighbourhood Watch and a possible Village Summer Walk. Cllr L McMahon will produce a flyer for distribution with the Village Spring Clean and Litterpick flyer to encourage residents to attend the Annual Parish Meeting, and Cllr M Moses will obtain leaflets about the Neighbourhood Watch.

6.3 Damage to War Memorial fence post.
Arrangements to be made by Cllr L McMahon to obtain replacement post from Cllr P Wood together with metal insertion tool so that repairs can be effected during planned work party.

6.4 Letter of complaint against BPC by resident Mr. H. Bence
The letter was considered at the meeting and certain matters are to be submitted to DBC where the actions in question were their responsibility. The clerk was instructed to acknowledge the letter. Cllr B Jones offered his help to Cllrs Ridley & MacMahon who would draft a reply on behalf of BPC.

7. Village Green

7.1 Letter from Manor Farm House resident
Cllr L McMahon provided a draft letter in reply, which was agreed by BPC and delivered by the clerk.

7.2 Damage caused by bad weather
Reported damage to be repaired during work party on 10/4/2011

8. Wind Farm proposals

8.1 Lambs Hill
This development has been approved by Stockton BC.

9. New Residents

None.

10. Financial

In the absence of the treasurer, financial reporting was postponed. New signatories for the BPC chequebook will be arranged after the BPC elections in May 2011.

11. Correspondence

Letters received and sent were detailed by the clerk.

12. Date of Next meeting

Village Hall at 7.00pm on 20th April, 2011..

Meeting closed 8.31pm.

Signed: Chair _____ Date _____