

Bishopton Parish Council

Minutes of the Parish Council Meeting held on Wednesday, 15th September 2021 at 7:00pm in Bishopton Village Hall

Present: Cllrs: L. MacMahon, J. Robins, D Latham, G. Preston, M. Moses , N Melaney (Chairman), S Harker, Councillor B Jones of DBC & L Foggett [Parish Clerk].

287 Apologies for Absence: There were none

288 Public Participation

There have been no notifications from the public.

289 Declarations of Interest in Items on the Agenda:

Cllr Robins expressed an interest in the Playground Association

Cllr Harker expressed an interest in the Playground Association

Cllr Preston expressed an interest in anything to do with Mill Lane.

290 Previous Minutes:

290.1 The minutes-of the previous meeting were read and approved and were duly signed by the Chairperson as a true record of the meeting of 28th July 2021 meeting. There was one amendment in item 285.3 should read 'Leighton' and not 'Latham'.

The minutes proposed by Cllr MacMahon and seconded by Cllr Robins.

291. Matters Arising from Previous Minutes:

291.1 AGM Matters carried forward from the last meeting

Review of Outstanding documents and Policies

The updated Standing Orders and Financial Regulations, were approved and these will be added to the Parish Council website.

The Clerk has circulated the child protection policy and this was approved and will be added to the Parish Council website. The risk assessments for the playground will be assessed when there is more equipment installed.

Cllr Melaney re-iterated that he would be responsible for inspection of equipment in the playground.

291.2 Traffic Monitoring

The traffic on Mill Lane is still showing drivers keeping below 30-35 mph.

Most drivers are travelling between 30 and 40 miles an hour and there are a number of people travelling through the village at 50-60 miles an hour in the early hours of the morning and one or two during the day. The company who provided the traffic monitors will be contacted about calibration.

The speedwatch team are carrying out speedwatch sessions over the next few weeks.

We have had more volunteers come forward to join the team. There was some discussion about signage in the village about speedwatch.



291.3 Playground progress.

Sovereign have replaced the slide. We are in discussion with Banks who are under the impression that they have funded all the playground development. Cllr Melaney has produced figures to show that the Parish Council and The Playground Association have made considerable contributions through development and donations showing the money has not all been provide by grants. Banks are now amenable to us applying for further grant funding.

Cllr Melaney is still pursuing funding from the National Lottery.

292 Planning Applications:

292.1 Planning Application 21/00952/TFC – trimming of sycamore trees behind no 3 High St
The council did not object to this application

292.2 Planning Application 21/00603/FUL – new driveway/entrance at Sundial Farm

The Parish Council has lodged an objection to this new entrance on safety ground do to the speed of traffic on the road outside the gateway/entrance we also objected to the removal of mature hedging. There has been no decision on this application yet.

293 Matters Raised by Councillors & the Clerk:

293.1 The Bus Shelter – further reports on quotes for work.

We have quotes for the work -a total quote from AWG for all the outstanding work of £6900. Further to this and other quotes that we have received we feel that we cannot go ahead with repair/refurbishment unless the ownership of the Bus Shelter is transferred from DBC to the Parish Council. The clerk will contact T the Transport Manager at Darlington to ask about this.

293.2 Matters that require follow up

Further to reports from the last meeting "The clerk reported contact with DBC Highways dept (Paul Ibbertson) regarding signs in the village and the speed limits at the end of Mill Lane, the waste bin at the west end of the village" we still have had no replies from Highways or Environment at DBC.

There were some reports about the productive work that the new PROW officer at DBC is doing. Cllr Melaney reported on the update on the public footpath on the road to Little Stainton Cllr Melaney advised the council that the Footpaths Officer had been liaising with the land owner and the Parish Council were asked to inspect the improvements within 14 days. (Cllr MacMahon and Cllr Robins agreed to do this).

Cllr Robins also raised a concern raised to her about a bridle path which had been ploughed and asked if this could be mentioned to the Footpath Officer. Cllr Melaney agreed to further contact the PROW officer.

293.3 Website/Picture memory box

A Facebook group has been created to enable Cllr Robins to ask residents to join and for collecting photographs and documents about the village. It is titled Bishopton Memories. The clerk and Cllr. MacMahon have added pictures to the group.



293.4 Parking Issues

It was agreed that the clerk would write to the households where there were parking problems.

293.5 Christmas Planning

Cllr Robins stated that she does not wish to be involved or participate in any Christmas preparations in the village

The clerk has been in contact with the vicar about a carol service this year and has made contact with Fishburn Brass Band. The Parish Council determined that the Christmas 'Carols around the Christmas Tree' will take place on Wednesday 22nd December at 6:30 pm. We will try and get Mulled wine and mince pies provided.

Cllr Melaney reported that he has had discussions with Banks to see if they will provide funding for Christmas, as they did in 2019. The Christmas tree has been ordered.

293.6 Local Bus Services

The Parish Council have been contacted by the Tees Combined Authority about bus services. It was agreed that the Council would reply to this survey and the clerk would publicise the survey of facebook.

294 Village Green

294.1 Village Green trees survey update

The clerk has again received no further communication from the DBC Arborist . The clerk will contact the executive of the council and the head of the environment department about the lack of response from the Council arborist.

294.2 Planters and new planters and benches on the Village Green. – progress report

The new benches have been sited, the four seater bench is sited at the end of the church if it is able to fit it on the base. Many thanks to the band of volunteers who made this happen- Julian Hewison, Karen Hewison, Paul Brown, David Filby , Glynn Bass, Norman Melaney and Les Foggett

One of the old benches will be refurbished and will be sited where the old bus shelter used to be at the west end of the village.

With regard to concrete plinths for two of the benches on the Village Green – Cllr Melaney will circulate quotations for the work to councillors with a hope that this work can be completed in the next 2-3 weeks.

Cllr Melaney will also circulate quotations for other work on the Village Green.

294.3 Update on damage to the Village Green

We will contact the residents of The Green about ongoing work and reinstatement of the Village Green (some of the work on which has been on-going since July 2020)



295 Financial

295.1 2021/22 budget monitoring & current financial position

The clerk referred to the new spreadsheet for 2021-22 and the income and expenditure.

295.2 It was agreed to pay an invoice from E&M Leighton £54.00 for strimming the village green proposed by Cllr Harker and seconded by Cllr McMahon.

295.3 Invoice from YoungsRPS for the rent of the playground of £250 was agreed proposed by Cllr Preston and seconded by Cllr Latham.

295.4 The salary of the clerk was presented for July – September. This was agreed proposed by Cllr MacMahon and seconded by Cllr Harker.

295.5 Petty Cash Payments

There are two petty cash payments outstanding. £37.24 for clerks travel expenses and a further £9.00 to Cllr Latham for plants for the Village Green

296 Date of Next Meeting:

The meeting closed at 8:50 pm.

Next Meeting 7:00pm on Wednesday 13th October 2021 in the Village Hall.

Signed: Chairperson: _____



Date _____

13/10/21