

## **Bishopton Parish Council**

### **Minutes of the Parish Council Meeting held on Wednesday, 15<sup>th</sup> April 2020 at 7:00pm in Bishopton Village Hall**

This meeting was held remotely, under the provisions of The Local Authorities and Police and Crime Panels (Coronavirus) (Flexibility of Local Authority Police and Crime Panel Meetings) (England and Wales) Regulations 2020.

**Present:** Cllrs: N Melaney (Chair), M.Moses, J. Robins, D Latham, G. Preston, L MacMahon, and L Foggett [Parish Clerk].

**Apologies for Absence:** Cllr S. Harker

#### **116 Public Participation**

116.1 With Covid 19 and the 'lockdown' there was no public participation

#### **117 Declarations of Interest in Items on the Agenda:**

Cllr Preston expressed an interest in activity on Mill Lane.

#### **118 Previous Minutes:**

The minutes were approved and were duly signed by the Chairperson as a true record of the PC meeting of 18<sup>th</sup> March.

It was noted that the Parish Council will send condolences to Mrs Wilson on the death of her husband Brian who was a Parish Councillor. Also, condolences will be sent to Mrs Smith on the death of her husband Mike who was clerk to the Parish Council in the past.

#### **119 Matters Arising from Previous Minutes:**

119.1 Traffic Monitoring and Community Speedwatch

With Covid 19 and the 'lockdown' there was nothing to report.

119.2 Playground - progress report.

Cllr Melaney reported that the grant applications to Banks had been approved to the sum of £5000.

Adam Wallace has cut the grass again.

The grant application for Lambs Hill will be submitted again.

119.3 The Calendar/Diary for 2020

There were no further additions to the calendar. Under the Covid-19 restrictions there will be no Annual Parish meeting, nor will there be an AGM until further notice. Cllr Melaney will remain as Chairman and Cllr Preston as Vice Chair.

#### **120 Planning Applications:**

120.1 The Clerk reported no decisions on 19/01133/FUL- a ground and first floor extension to Plum Tree Cottage, Downland Farm. Councillors reviewed this and returned a verdict of no comment.

120.2 The Clerk reported no decisions on 20/01191/OUT- a proposal for nine houses on Cobby Castle Lane. The Council did object most strongly to the planning application

- 120.3 The Clerk reported no decisions on 20/00030/OUT- a proposal for temporary dwelling and new access road at May Tree Farm. The Council objected to the planning application
- 120.4 The Council return a verdict of no comment on 20/00095/FUL a proposal for a stable block at Downlands Farm Mill Lane- providing the stables were for personal use.
- 120.5 The Council return a verdict of no comment on 20/00217/TFC Notification to carry out tree works in a designated Conservation Area - Felling of 6 No. trees and reduce height of 1 No. Cedar tree up to 15% at 45 The Green.

### **121 Matters Raised by Councillors & the Clerk:**

- 121.1 Defibrillator  
The grant request for the funding has been granted. The sum being £1700. A cheque for £170 needs to be paid within 28 days and acceptance of the grant offer. The location of the unit will be discussed further in the future. There are two possibilities, Outside the Village Hall or outside the Talbot.
- 121.2 The Village Fete 2020 and VE Day Celebrations and meetings between the PC, The Village Hall Association & Playground Association  
This was held in abeyance until next year  
A notice will be put on the Website and the Bishopton Buddies Facebook site
- 121.3 The Litter Pick  
A notice will be put on the Website and the Bishopton Buddies Facebook site thanking residents for picking litter in the absence of the litter pick and as the litter bins are sealed by DBC. Cllr Melaney and Cllr Harker have been arranging litter pick equipment for volunteers.
- Cllr Preston raised the damaged sign on Mill Lane. DBC highways dept will be informed.
- Cllr Preston also raised the question of large vehicles and access on Mill Lane. He produced some visible evidence. The police have been informed.
- In the current climate, where there are a lot of pedestrians, dog walkers and cyclist using Mill Lane it is very dangerous.
- Letters and evidence will be sent to Darlington Borough Council and a letter to the Tees Valley Mayor and our local MP will be composed.
- The council agreed that the question of Mill Lane will be added as an agenda item to future meetings.
- 121.4 Operation London Bridge  
Noted
- 121.5 Broadband connection to village Hall  
The Clerk will try and gain prices for Broadband Connection and report back. Cllr Melaney also reported on proposed changes to the village Hall in the future.

### 121.6 Accounting and Audit

The clerk has received final bank statements from the Bank on 1<sup>st</sup> April ready for the internal audit. This will be carried out this month as soon as the clerk receives the AGAR forms.

There have been no transactions since the last meeting in March.

The Borough Council have announced that funds are available for bids for hardship and support during the lockdown period.

## 122 Village Green

### 122.1 Village Green Trees survey update

There has been no further progress as no site visits or work is being carried out. It is too late now to prune trees before the autumn.

### 122.2 Tubs and Planting on the Village Green

We have now ascertained the cost of replacement tubs for the Village Green. The Clerk has prepared a grant application for the tubs. There has been no decision on this application.

## 123 Financial

### 123.1 2019/20 budget monitoring & current financial position

See item 121.6 above.

### 123.2 Payment for Video Conferencing Software.

The Council agreed to pay a license for video conferencing so that we can hold virtual meetings by video and/or telephone. The cost is £143.88. This was paid proposed by Cllr. Robins and seconded by Cllr. Latham.

### 123.3 Organisation of payments from Petty cash

The council agreed to pay for the printing costs for the playground plans and proposals for equipment.

## 124 Correspondence

It was decided to add only a brief summary of correspondence as detailed lists of email etc. are available if required.

### INCOMING

Details of Covid/19

Funding reports from Banks on applications

Directions on virtual meetings and software

Funding reports from Banks on applications

NALC newsletter

Cleveland Local Councils Association newsletters

### OUTGOING

Details of Covid/19

Papers for April meeting



Planning application 20/00217/TFC trees at 45 High St.  
Park seats and benches


**125 Matters Dealt with since last meeting**

125.1 We will be using video conferencing until further notice.

**126. Date of Next Meeting:**

The meeting closed at 8.40 pm.

Next Meeting 7:00 pm on Wednesday 20<sup>th</sup> May 2020 .

Signed: Chairperson: \_\_\_\_\_  Date 20/05/20