

## **Bishopton Parish Council**

### **Minutes of the Parish Council Meeting held on Tuesday 19<sup>th</sup> April 2022 at 7:00pm.**

**Present:** Cllrs: D Latham, G. Preston, N Melaney (Chairman), S Harker ,L Foggett [Parish Clerk].

**358 Apologies for Absence:** Ward Councillor B Jones, Ward Councillor Deborah Laing

#### **359 Public Participation**

359.1 The clerk reported that Mr Brian Cockerline who addressed the Parish Council at the last two meetings was yet to come to any agreement with the landowner and will inform the Parish Council of the outcome at a later date.

#### **360 Vacancies for Parish Councillors**

The 3 vacancies for Parish Councillors and advertisements for replacements have been published. We have, as yet, had no interest.

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

Cllr Harker expressed an interest in the Playground Association

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

#### **362 Previous Minutes:**

362.1 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 15<sup>th</sup> March 2022 meeting. Proposed by Cllr Preston and seconded by Cllr Latham.

#### **363. Matters Arising from Previous Minutes:**

363.1 Traffic Monitoring, Community Speedwatch and parking issues.

The clerk reported that the instances of speeding in the evenings was still much less than in previous months and that this again due to the great number of parked cars in the village, especially around the Talbot inn.

The speedwatch team have not been active throughout March, this mainly due to the weather and dark mornings and afternoons. The police are looking at further alternative areas for the speedwatch.

We have had quotations for signs regarding Speedwatch, these warning signs will be at each end of the village and one half way through the village, probably near the church, and we will ask for the revised quotations and pursue this once we have the revised quotations..

Parking in the village. There are still issues of vehicles parking haphazardly on the village green especially around the Talbot inn. The clerk again pointed out that anyone concerned should use the Time Stamp Camera app available for smart phones and to send these pictures to enforcement at DBC and/or the police.



### 363.2 Playground progress.

Cllr Melaney reiterated that the prices have risen considerably as have labour costs in line with current inflation and shortage of materials, installation costs have doubled. He will pursue these, we will submit a grant application once we have firm figures.

## 364 Financial

### 364.1 2021/22 budget monitoring & current financial position

The Council referred to the final spreadsheet for 2021-22 and the income and expenditure. The Clerk presented a draft opening financial statement for 2022-2023, this will be confirmed once the audit is complete.

### 364.2 2021/22 AGAR

The spreadsheet and papers and bank statements and asset register are all with the internal auditor – Mr Peter Wood and we should have his report in full for the Parish AGM in May. The AGAR papers may then be signed and the requisite papers sent to the external auditor.

### 364.3 Zoom Subscription

The council agreed to renew the subscription to enable all members to be at the meeting if only virtually. The amount is £143.88 and is due on 1<sup>st</sup> May. This was agreed proposed by Cllr Harker and seconded by Cllr Preston.

### 364.4 Insurance renewal

We have been contacted by Zurich Insurance and the clerk will furnish them with a list of all new playground equipment before the policy is due on 1<sup>st</sup> June.

### 364.5 Petty Cash Payments

Cllr Melaney asked for £164.36 to be reimbursed for a number of items including a noticeboard, paint for benches and cutting discs and some stationary. This agreed proposed by Cllr Latham and seconded by Cllr Harker.

## 365 Planning Applications:

365.1 Planning Application 21/01086/FUL - Change of use of land for the siting of 24 no. holiday lodges together with new access track and other associated infrastructure works on land NE of Bishopton Lake.

The council raised a strong objection to the application. The Council will consider making a representation to the planning committee when the application is considered.

365.2 Planning Application 21/01292/FUL Change of use from open space (paddock) to domestic use and the erection of 3 no. outbuildings. Construction of balcony to rear of main dwelling and erection of 1.8m high fence and gate to side of garden 33 High Street BISHOPTON  
The council objected to this on the grounds that it is outside the development limits of Darlington Borough Council. DBC passed the application with a delegated decision



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

**366.1 The Parish Annual meeting and AGM**

The Parish Annual meeting will be held before the Parish Council AGM, both meetings will take place in May. The date is yet to be decided.

**366.2. The Bus Shelter – further reports on quotes for work.**

The ownership of the Bus Shelter is now transferred from DBC to the Parish Council. We can now go ahead and get new quotes for the work.

**366.3 WFI in the Village Hall for use by the Parish Council**

Following use of Wifi demonstrated at the last meeting the clerk outlined the costs of BT or a Mobile operator providing the service network. This will be pursued and brought to the next meeting of the Village Hall management committee.

**366.4 Matters that require follow up**

We still no news on the 40mph buffer zones on the roads approaching the village, more signage warning motorists of horses in the village, and 'gates' installed at the 30mph signs on the approach to The Green at one end of the village and High St at the other end. The signs warning about horses still have not been installed.

**366.5 The Queen's Platinum Jubilee 2<sup>nd</sup>-5<sup>th</sup> June 2022**

There have been a number of meetings of a working party for the proposed activities. The Chair will apply to DBC for the requisite road closures.

### **367 Village Green**

**367.1 Village Green trees survey update**

The clerk has again received no further communication from the DBC Arborist. The Chair will again ask Cllr Jones regarding this.

**367.2 Damage to the Village Green and repair quotations**

There was some debate about the path next to the post box. DBC have insisted that they have not adopted it, yet it is clearly referenced in the Village Green policy (map VG57) as being the responsibility of DBC. Cllr Jones will see if this can be resolved.

The Chairman will arrange a meeting with AWG in the next month and the jobs on the village green will have to split all the work as the residents have yet to reply to the Parish Council.

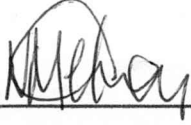


**368 Date of Next Meeting:**

Next Meeting is the Parish AGM on 7:00pm on Tuesday 17<sup>th</sup> May 2022 in the Village Hall.  
N.B. This date may have to change if councillors are away – to be determined.

The meeting closed at 8.51 pm.

Signed: Chairperson: \_\_\_\_\_



Date 24/05/22