

Bishopton Parish Council

Minutes of the Parish Council Meeting held on Wednesday 11th January 2023 at 7:00pm.

Present: N Melaney (Chairman), Cllr P. Watson, Cllr: G. Preston, Cllr D Latham, L Foggett [Parish Clerk],

437 Apologies for Absence: Cllr S. Harker, Ward Councillor B Jones, Ward Councillor Deborah Laing

438 Public Participation The residents of no 10,8,6 High St in attendance

438.1 The Council agreed to hear agenda item 9.1 at this time.

There was a very useful discussion with the residents of the adjacent houses on the High St.

The chairman explained that the work to the tarmac outside their houses could not be completed until there was consensus about the wall outside no 10 and the width of the tarmac outside the properties.

After some lengthy discussions it was agreed that the Parish Council along with the council's preferred contractor would re-visit the site and determine the work to be carried out.

The residents requested that the tarmac be made wider and that they would pay for the extra work that this would entail.

The chairman reminded the residents that there would have to be a contribution from the resident of no 4 High St as well as the three properties represented.

The clerk would write to the residents of no 10 High St outlining the agreement reached.

439 Vacancies for Parish Councillors

439.1 The 2 vacancies for Parish Councillors continue to be advertised but there are no candidates forthcoming.

440 Declarations of Interest in Items on the Agenda:

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

441 Previous Minutes:

441.1 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 23rd November 2022 meeting. Proposed by Cllr Preston and seconded by Cllr Latham.

442. Matters Arising from Previous Minutes:

442.1 Traffic Monitoring, Community Speedwatch and parking issues.

The clerk reported that the instances of speeding on the two functioning monitors was about the same as in the previous month. Mill lane showed 5% of traffic travelling at more than 33mph.

High St showed only 5% of traffic travelling at more than 35mph.

The clerk reported that the speed monitor at the west end of the village is faulty and needs to be taken down and shipped for repair. Details will be discussed under finance (item 7.5).

There was no report from speedwatch and we are having problems with the number of volunteers available at certain times. We have no speedwatch equipment at present as it had to be returned to the police.

Parking in the village. These will be dealt with under agenda item 9.2 of the agenda.

443 Financial

443.1 Budget monitoring & current financial position

The Clerk presented the financial statement for 2022-2023.

443.2 The precept 2023-24

The clerk has informed Darlington MBC of the Precept agreed at the meeting in November.

443.3 Invoice from M Leighton for leaf clearance -£320 plus VAT

It was agreed to pay this proposed by Cllr Latham and seconded by Cllr Melaney.

443.4 An increase in the clerk's salary further to revision by the NJC of national salary scales from April 2022. It was agreed to defer consideration of this until next meeting

443.5 We have had a quotation for repair of the Traffic monitor on The Green this is £774.48 which only includes carriage at £592 and a simple evaluation for £50. Repair costs and parts and labour will be extra of repair At present the council will explore other areas

443.6 The defibrillator pads are due to expire next month and need to be replaced

The clerk presented a quotation from Wel Medical of £59.95 +VAT. This was agreed by the council proposed by Cllr Latham and seconded by Cllr Preston

443.7 We have received a number of invoices from AWG for the works on the Village Green others will follow. It was agreed that the chairman would check the invoices and any outstanding will be brought to the next meeting.

443.8 The Chairman raised the question of a donation from the Parish Council to the Action group objecting to the many solar farm developments surrounding the village.

The council agreed to making a donation of £500 in principle but the legality and means would be investigated by the clerk and brought to the next meeting.

443.9 Petty Cash Payments

Cllr Latham presented a bill for £30.90 for refreshments at the Christmas Carols on 15th December.

Cllr Preston paid this bill as he indicated that he would at the Parish Council meeting in November.

There are no other petty cash transactions.

444 Planning Applications:

444.1 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.

This planning application has been revised but the council has resubmitted their objection.

444.2. Planning Application 22/00447/FUL Change of use of agricultural fields to glamping site with the siting of 10 no. bell tents with individual shower and toilet sheds, mobile kitchenettes, seating, extended access track , on-site parking provision, drainage and associated works Land West Of Outhouse Farm Bishopton Lodge Glamping Redmarshall Road BISHOPTON.

The council lodged an objection to the planning application mainly on the grounds of highway problems and drainage.

444.3 The Chairman reported on the solar farm developments, and the activities of the action group.

445 Village Green

445.1 Village Green work undertaken by resident.

See item 438.1 above in.

445.2 Village Green trees survey update

The clerk has again received no further communication from the DBC Arborist. We will try and contact him again. We will continue to try to obtain prices from independent arborists/tree surgeons. We have had a quotation of 20 days at £680 per day being a total of £13600 +VAT. We will try and contact other tree surgeons.

445.3 Damage to the Village Green and repair quotations

A meeting will be sought between the chairman and AWG to discuss outstanding works. At the same time the matter discussed in item 438.1 above.

446 Matters Raised by Councillors & the Clerk:

446.1 Traffic incidents in Bishopton.

Cllr Watson suggested that it was a good idea to collect data about accidents and traffic incidents as evidence of the danger of the roads.

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

The chairman has now obtained a further quote for works on the bus shelter and this will be discussed again at the next meeting.

446.3 Matters that require follow up – road signs and other issues :-

Dangerous Parking on Junction of Church View with High Street due to visitors to Talbot PH. Safety concerns raised. The Chairman will query resident access behind the proposed yellow lines.

Driveway being blocked by parked cars visiting Talbot PH (request for white line marking driveway)

High Volume of HGVs passing through village.

Request for investigation if village has a weight restriction for HGV's?

We are waiting for response from DBC about all these matters.

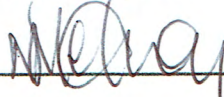
The council agreed that they make representation to the highways dept and police representatives again about the above matters.



447 Date of Next Meeting:

Next Meeting will be discussed but it is unlikely that we will meeting December and therefore the next meeting will be at 7:00pm on Wednesday 8th February 2023 in the Village Hall.

The meeting closed at 9:20 pm.

Signed: Chairperson:  Date 8/2/23.