

Bishopton Parish Council

Minutes of the Parish Council Meeting held on Wednesday 10th January 2024 at 7:00 pm.

570. Attendance

Present: Cllrs: G. Preston (Chair), D Latham, P. Watson, N. Melaney (Zoom)

In Attendance: Ward Councillors Deborah Laing, Colin Pease and Yvonne Renton. S. Rose
[Parish Clerk & Minutes]

571. Chair's Welcome

Cllr. Preston welcomed everyone to the meeting including Cllr. Melaney on Zoom.

572. Public Participation

No members of the public were present.

573. Vacancies for Parish Councillors: No nominees were proposed for vacancies

574. Declarations of Interest in Items on the Agenda:

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

575. Previous Minutes:

The minutes of the previous meeting were read and approved and were duly signed by the Cllr. Preston as a true record of the meeting of 13th December 2023. Proposed by Cllr. Latham and seconded by Cllr. Melaney.

576. Matters Arising from Previous Minutes:

576.1 Presentation by JBM to the previous meeting: The PowerPoint presentation received had been the one used in Great Stainton and the Bishopton one has been requested (subsequently received and circulated on 19/01/2024)

576.2 Byers Gill Solar Farm: Darlington BC have prepared an Impact Report which should be circulated. Planning application will be sent to Secretary of State when an interest can be registered within three month window and the Planning Inspector will respond to each. Parish Council continues to support the Steering Group and respond when asked.

577. Finance

577.1 2023/24 Budget monitoring & current financial position: Finance summary and budget update accepted as reconciled figures and accurate balances;

577.2 Petty Cash Payments: Expense requests by Parish Clerk for travel (£40) and Stationary (£50) approved Cllr. Preston proposed and seconded by Cllr. Latham;

577.3 Banking arrangements: Clerk reported that signatory change had still not been completed. Neither has the online banking services and statements.

578. Planning Applications - full list not discussed but one new application noted

578.1 No. 23/01212/TFC Felling of tree South West end of The Green NO OBJECTION

579. Matters Raised by Councillors & the Clerk:

- 579.1** Complaint: received by Councillors – complaints about pub licensing hours and disruption caused. It was stressed by Borough Councillors that complaints must be logged with the Council including Licensing Officers
- 579.2** Traffic Incidents: many complaints of illegal parking and poor response from DBC officers – this to form main discussion with Graham Hall;
- 579.3** White Lines Report: Cllr. Philip Watson has nearly completed his report to be sent to Cabinet Member and Highways Officer
- 579.4** Highways: concerns about reflectors and weight signs missing in Mill Lane;
- 579.5** Website: Clerk to receive training in using and developing the website;
- 579.6** Traffic: full report to next meeting following further training for Clerk;
- 579.7** Speedwatch and Parking signs: These have been received and Councillors need to agree where they will be located;
- 579.8** Invitation to Graham Hall, Head of Enforcement at Darlington Borough Council: Clerk will make arrangements and hope he can attend next Parish Council meeting on 14th February;
- 579.9** Christmas arrangements: All felt the celebrations went very well with more attending than in previous years. Special thanks to Peter Wood & Peter Robson plus a number of volunteers for undertaking the setting up and removal of the Christmas Tree. Thanks were also recorded for Cllr. Debbie Latham and her team in providing refreshments;
- 579.10** Newsletter: It was agreed to produce 3 newsletters each year – next edition in April 2024
- 579.11** Welcome Pack: Clerk asked to find pack previously distributed to all new residents in the village and reinstate this.

580. Village Green – issues to be discussed at next meeting

- 580.1** Tree removal from The Green: DBC Councillor Pease offered his apologies for not following correct procedures. Clerk asked to contact Street Scene with costs of remediation (approx. £400).

581. Date of Next Meeting: 7:00pm on Wednesday 14th February 2024 in the Village Hall.

N.B. This date may be subject to change due to Councillor availability – details published on the Bishopton Parish Council website.

The meeting closed at 8.25 pm.

Signed: _____

Chairman Councillor Norman Melaney

Date: 14.02.2024