

## **Bishopton Parish Council**

### **Minutes of the Parish Council Meeting held on Wednesday 8th November 2023 at 7:00 pm.**

**544. Present:** Cllrs: G. Preston (Chair of Meeting), D Latham, P. Watson

**Present on Zoom & Phone:** Cllr. N. Melaney

**In Attendance:** S. Rose [Parish Clerk], Ward Councillor Deborah Laing

**545. Apologies for Absence:** Ward Councillors Colin Pease and Yvonne Renton

**546. Chair's Welcome**

The Chair of the meeting, Cllr. Preston, welcomed everyone and explained that Cllr. Melaney had asked him to chair the meeting as he was away and would join on Zoom.

**547. Public Participation**

No members of the public were present.

**548. Vacancies for Parish Councillors**

A number of names were discussed and it is hoped that the full complement of 7 Councillors can be achieved.

**549. Declarations of Interest in Items on the Agenda:**

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

**550. 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 11<sup>th</sup> October 2023. Proposed by Cllr. Watson and seconded by Cllr. Watson.

**551. Matters Arising from Previous Minutes:**

**551.1 Community Speedwatch:** There was no report from Speedwatch due to lack of equipment and a lack of volunteers;

**551.2 Traffic Monitoring:** No report made due to Clerk needing further training

**551.3 Parking in the village:**

**551.4** Yellow lines now showing following clear up of leaves;

**551.5** Signs and large stones in Mill Lane still an issue being addressed by Darlington Borough Council

**551.6 Major Incident – overturned car:** following a car overturning and attributed to lack of white lines it was agreed to contact Paul Ibbotson at Darlington Borough Council to address the issue;

**551.7 Overhanging Tree on footpath:** it was agreed to formally contact the house address the issues.

**552. Finance**

**552.1 2023/24 Budget monitoring & current financial position:**

The clerk gave a verbal update indicating there had been no movement of funds whilst he was taking over banking arrangements;

**552.2** Signatories on account: it was agreed that bank signatories would be Cllrs. N. Melaney, G. Preston and P. Watson as well as Clerk S. Rose. Proposed By Cllr. Latham and Seconded by Cllr. Watson

**552.3 Petty Cash Payments:** none to report

**553. Planning Applications:**

**553.1 Planning Application 21/01086/FUL**

**553.2** 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. Awaiting decision. This planning application has been revised but the council has resubmitted their objection. The Council will consider making a representation to the planning committee when the application is considered.

**553.3 Planning Application 22/00447/FUL**

**553.4** 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. still awaiting decision

**553.5 Planning Application 23/00372/FUL**

**553.6** Creation of ponds for great crested newts at Glebe Farm, Mill Lane. The Council supports this application.

**553.7 Solar farms planning especially Byers Gill (JBM)**

**553.8** Nothing substantive to report in relation to Parish Council business.

**554. Matters Raised by Councillors & the Clerk:**

**554.1** The issue of the outdoor pods at The Talbot and their planning status was raised in relation to future licensing conditions. The Clerk was asked to write to the DBC Licensing Officer Colin Dobson;

**554.2** Remembrance Day: Cllr. Melaney has made the arrangements for ceremony on 12<sup>th</sup> November at the War memorial;

**554.3 Tidy Up:** 12 people took part on 5<sup>th</sup> November good atmosphere and new people taking part. Left The Green much tidier – Mark Leighton booked to complete clear up of leaves and trim trees.

**554.4 Christmas arrangements and costs:** All arrangements in hand. PAT testing complete. Tree delivered on 30<sup>th</sup> November. Date needs to be set to raise tree and decorate.

**554.5 Precept:** Clerk advised that precept level has to be agreed by January 2024 – will be discussed in the future;

**554.6 Defibrillator:** Clerk has been shown how to check defibrillator and will take this on as a part of his duties;

**554.7 Fireworks Incident:** A private fireworks display caused stress to local animals, especially horses and had been reported to the Enforcement Team at DBC. A formal investigation is taking place.

**555. Village Green**

**555.1 28 High Street Tree root damage:** The council will continue to liaise with the residents to achieve a solution to this with new quotes being sought;

**555.2 Tree removal from The Green:** Not authorised by Parish Council – DBC acted on request by Borough Cllr. Pease so assume they will bear the cost of the action. Discussion around what to replace the tree with resulted in Cllr. Melaney agreeing to take responsibility for this.;

**556. Date of Next Meeting:** 7:00pm on Wednesday 13<sup>th</sup> December 2023 in the Village Hall.

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

The meeting closed at 8.59 pm.

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

Chairman Councillor Norman Melaney

Date: 13.12.2023