

BISHOPTON PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of the meeting of Bishopton Parish Council from Thursday 20th November 2025 in Bishopton Village Hall



MINUTES

1. Present: Parish Councillors Norman Melaney (Chair); Geoff Preston; Stephen Wall; Debbie Latham; Graham Fisher
In attendance: DBC Councillor Deborah Laing; Steve Rose (Clerk)
2. Items of Public Participation requested: time allocation of 3 minutes is usually allowed for presentations. None received
3. Declarations of Interest in Items on the Agenda
 - 3.1. Cllr Preston – issues relating to Mill Lane
 - 3.2. Cllr Wall – issues relating to contracting works to Village Green
 - 3.3. Cllr Melaney – issues relating to Bishopton Village Hall
4. Minutes of the Parish Council Meeting of 15th October 2025: Approved
5. Actions and Matters Arising not included in agenda
 - 5.1. Playground maintenance – report on progress was given by Cllr Melaney: thanks to his efforts, funding had been approved to repair the swings. He had also managed to get the toddler swing reinstalled at no cost with thanks to AWG. Original contractors, Sovereign, will be coming to complete the rest of the repairs in early 2026 subject to contracts being agreed.
 - 5.2. Playground account – transfer of funds completed – many thanks to Les Foggett and Councillor Melaney. £4,400 is now in the current account.
 - 5.3. Speedwatch and Public Meeting – Sue Melaney met Stephen Bell liaison officer for rural village. Past DBC Councillor Brian Jones has the necessary equipment. Plenty of interest has been shown with 9 of 12 needed having been identified. Public meeting to be arranged in February
 - 5.4. Remembrance Sunday – went well and thanks to all involved including Phoenix Fisher, Doug McMahon, Cllr. Geoff, Alan Pilkington and the knitters under the coordination of Sam Pilkington and the WI. It was suggested that more poppies are.
 - 5.5. Clerk training on Village Green Policy being organised with Planning Aid
 - 5.6. 29 The Green – the Clerk will speak to the occupants
 - 5.7. West House signs – put up thanks to DBC Councillor Deborah Laing now although noted they had been knocked down again
6. Finance
 - 6.1. Finance 2025-26: accounts circulated. £421 outstanding from East & West Newbiggin has still not been paid and has been requested immediately
 - 6.2. Payments: Approved for payment: £110 – S Wall (strimming); £128 N Melaney (Village Hall Xmas and keys) – Proposed by GP and seconded by DL
 - 6.3. Petty Cash payments: none
 - 6.4. Precept 2026/27 – discussed to rise to £11,400 which is a little over 3% to cover increase of salary, energy and insurance – to be formally approved at the next meeting.
7. Current Planning Applications all Awaiting Decision:
 - 7.1. **25/00889/FUL:** Change of Use of car park to outdoor seating area including 5. No pods (Retrospective) (Amended description) – Clerk to write formal letter and circulate to Parish Councillors.



8. Crime – burglaries and anti-social behaviour in the village has caused concerns. PCSO Thomas Caygill to be invited to the next meeting
9. Christmas
 - Tree –being delivered on Thurs 27 Nov. – Clerk to ascertain time to accommodate fork lift;
 - Clerk making final arrangements with Brass Band carols on 17th December at 6.30pm;
 - Councillor Latham has refreshment in hand;
 - Chocolates bought by Parish Council for Panto on 21st December
10. Newsletter to include
 - Precept
 - PCSO meeting – make clear to report all crime and ASB to police first
 - Christmas
 - Speedwatch: public meeting to be organised and recruitment volunteers
 - CPR training
 - Remembrance – WI Poppies
 - History piece.
11. Any other matters raised by residents to Clerk or Councillors
 - 11.1. L. McMahon – response from Matt Vickers MP
 - 11.2. Speeding in village – Louise Mitchell, 1 Anesty Court – discussed with development of Speedwatch
12. Village Green Management
 - 12.1. Barrels – have become waterlogged – Councillor Wall will drill them to release water
13. Any other business - None
14. Date of next meeting: Wednesday 10th December 7:00pm in Bishopton Parish Hall