

## BISHOPTON PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of the meeting of Bishopton Parish Council  
Which took place at 7.00pm on Wednesday 14<sup>th</sup> January 2026 in Bishopton Village Hall



### MINUTES

1. Present: Parish Councillors Norman Melaney (Chairman), Stephen Wall, Geoff Preston, Debbie Latham, Graham Fisher  
In attendance: DBC Councillor Deborah Laing, Steve Rose (Parish 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 10<sup>th</sup> December 2025 - Approved
5. Actions and Matters Arising not included in agenda
  - 5.1. Newsletter – there were no negative and many positive comments received from latest newsletter. It was agreed to publish the next at Easter.
  - 5.2. Christmas – feedback received was positive. Some requests that carols should always be in the Village Hall not just when weather is bad. This to be considered for 2026. The Parish Council recorded thanks to everyone involved in organisation especially Debbie and Peter Latham who organised the Village Hall, refreshments and clearing up.
  - 5.3. Playground maintenance – completion report: the Parish Council recorded a vote of thanks for Norman Melaney’s management of the maintenance work that has now been successfully completed. It was agreed that he should look into obtaining an annual inspection and maintenance contract with Sovereign at a cost of around £500.
  - 5.4. Speedwatch: the equipment is with past DBC Councillor Brian Jones. Sue Melaney has developed interest amongst volunteers in the village and is very positive to be able to re-introduce Speedwatch in Bishopton.
  - 5.5. Public Meeting about speeding, parking and crime: 4<sup>th</sup> March at 7pm. PCSO Tom Caygill has been approached to attend.
  - 5.6. Clerk training on Village Green Policy – advice from Planning Aid indicates that, whilst Parish Council has obligation to maintain the Village Green, there is no clear policy on how this should be funded. Planning Aid advise that this is a local policy and the responsibility of the Parish Council to implement and manage.
6. Finance
  - 6.1. Precept 2026-27: £11,400 confirmed be paid by 1/4/26
  - 6.2. Finance 2025-26: Received £527.72 Openreach byways
  - 6.3. Payments: Cost of Speedwatch training - £100; Speedwatch - £200 Proposed GP/ Seconded SW
  - 6.4. Petty Cash payments: none to report
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.  
STILL AWAITING DECISION – no date set



8. Website: three quotes have been sought. Details will be circulated and decisions made at the next meeting.
9. Road safety crime and parking meeting proposal – see matters arising
10. Any other matters raised by residents to Clerk or Councillors
  - 10.1. Hunting: a complaint has been received that the Boxing Day Hunt was allowed to use The Green. Reported that around 300 attended to watch and that there was no illegal activity.
  - 10.2. Parking on Village Green – the Clerk has been asked to contact residents who are still not leaving access.
11. Village Green Management
  - 11.1. Tree by school was identified by a Treeline survey that is was rotten. DBC were going to remove it but stopped when they were advised that the tree was on the Village Green and not their responsibility. DBC Cllr. Laing to speak to Estates and report back
  - 11.2. Protective stones/rocks have been removed from No. 26 High Street – Norman Melaney to report at next meeting
  - 11.3. Invasive species: three cornered lily growing back. A quote from Ashcourt will be sought. Clerk to advise new vicarage as they may have some in their land.
12. Any other business
  - 12.1. Gritting in Mill Lane did not take place – DBC Cllr. Laing to ask Highways
13. Date of next meeting: Wednesday 11<sup>th</sup> February 2026 at 7:00pm in Bishopton Parish Hall