

BISHOPSTOKE PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of a Meeting of the Finance and General Purposes Committee held in the Methodist Church Hall, Sedgwick Road, Bishopstoke commencing at 7.30pm on 9 November 2010

Present: Cllr Winstanley (Chairman), Cllr McGuinness, Cllr Roling, (Items 5 – 17),
Cllr Toher and Cllr Uren

In Attendance: Mr P J Storey (Clerk to the Parish Council)

Public Session No members of the public were present.

1. Apologies

1.1 Cllr Hansell.

2. To Agree the Minutes of the Meeting on 12 October 2010

2.1 Proposed Cllr Winstanley, Seconded Cllr Toher, **RESOLVED** unanimously that the minutes of the meeting held on 12 October 2010 be accepted as a true record.

3. Matters Arising from the above Minutes

3.1 There were no matters arising not dealt with elsewhere in these minutes.

4. Declarations of Interest

4.1 None declared.

5. RFO's Report and Budget Monitoring

5.1 A budget monitoring report had been circulated with the agenda papers. This was noted.

6. To consider and, if appropriate, make recommendations on the Expenditure Budget and Precept for 2011 - 12

.1 A proposed Expenditure Budget and Precept for 2011 – 12 had been circulated with the agenda papers. Some discussion took place on the figure proposed for maintenance of the additional bus shelters due to be transferred from Eastleigh Borough Council in April 2011 and a figure of £1500 was subsequently agreed together with a 1% increase on this year's Precept. It was noted the proposed Precept would actually result in a small reduction in actual council tax paid because of the increased number of dwellings used in the tax base calculation. As in past years, the precepted income when added to other income streams would generate a small overall surplus to increase reserves to provide for future capital purchases.

6.2 Proposed Cllr Winstanley, Seconded Cllr Toher, **RECOMMENDED** that an Expenditure Budget of £132,230 and a Precept of £127,700 be approved for 2011 – 12.

7. To review the possible transfer with effect from April 2010 from EBC of play areas and open spaces and the associated maintenance costs

7.1 It was timely to look at further asset transfers from EBC to the Parish with effect from April 2011 and later and Cllr Winstanley suggested that Stoke Park Common, Sayers Road play area and open space, Otter Close play area and open space and the Templecombe play area should be earmarked for April 2012 with Glebe Meadow and the Brookfield play area and open space for April 2013. These would be discussed with the LAC Co-ordinator at the next LAC/BPC meeting on 24 November before tabling for approval.

8. To consider and, if appropriate, make recommendations on the applications for Grant Aid from the Friends of Bishopstoke Guiding and the Farming and Wildlife Advisory Group

8.1 Applications for Grant Aid had been received from the Friends of Bishopstoke Guiding for £800 to assist them in meeting the costs of installing steps and a safety rail and from the Farming and Wildlife Advisory Group for £50 to assist in meeting the costs of two conservation advisors who visited local farms to give advice on environmental matters, hedgerow management and protection of river courses.

8.2 Proposed Cllr Toher, Seconded Cllr Roling, **RECOMMENDED** unanimously that £800 be granted to the Friends of Bishopstoke Guiding to assist them in meeting the installation costs of some steps and safety rails and £50 be granted to the Farming and Wildlife Advisory Group to assist them in meeting the costs of providing conservation advisors to the farming community.

9. To consider and, if appropriate, make recommendations on the EBC licensing policy review

9.1 EBC was seeking comment on its review of licensing policy but none was thought appropriate.

10. To review progress on introducing a travel token scheme

10.1 The working party set up to review the potential for a travel token scheme was still amassing information and had nothing to report at this time. It was agreed that Cllr Toher should take the lead on this with the Assistant Clerk acting as secretary and that the matter should be a permanent item on the agenda for the time being.

11. Asset update

11.1 The Clerk reported on the work necessary to bring the allotment and Cemetery records and regulations up to date and confirmed he had earmarked a section of the Cemetery for Muslim burials should that become necessary. He had also completed a check on the stability of all memorials and headstones and had found none needing immediate remedial action. Discussions were in hand to effect transfer of ownership of the bus shelters with effect from 1 April 2011.

12. Parish Website

12.1 Nothing to report.

13. Parish Newsletter

13.1 The next issue of the Newsletter would be in early December and Cllr Winstanley would, as always, welcome items for inclusion

Action: All

14. Clerk's Report

14.1 The Chairman of EDAPTC was seeking views on the PCSO contract before it came up for renegotiation with the Hampshire Police Authority. It was agreed that no amendment was thought necessary, The Clerk would reply accordingly.

Action: Clerk

14.2 The owners of The Mount site had agreed to demolition as a permanent solution to the ongoing problems with the site except for the turret building which would be fenced off.

14.3 HCC had found a buried manhole cover and chamber by the Riverside bus stop which had become blocked giving rise to the flooding problem after heavy rain. They would attend to this and to the missing railings at the Montague Road junction and elsewhere.

14.4 HCC was reviewing the mobile library service and views were given to the Clerk to enable him to reply on-line.

Action: Clerk

15. Date, time and place of next Meeting

15.1 The next meeting will be on Tuesday 14 December 2010 at 7.30pm in the Methodist Church Hall, Sedgwick Road, Bishopstoke.

Action: All

16. Motion for Confidential Business

16.1 Proposed Cllr Winstanley, Seconded Cllr Toher, **RESOLVED** unanimously that, in view of the confidential nature of the business about to be discussed relating to employees' confirmation in post and remuneration, it was advisable in the public interest that the public be excluded and for the record the business be regarded as confidential.

17. Consideration of approval for payment of staff hours of work, mileage and out of pocket expenses for October 2010 (Confidential Business)

17.1 Members noted the report tabled by the RFO and attached to these minutes.

17.2 Proposed Cllr Winstanley, Seconded Cllr Uren, **RESOLVED** that payment be made to the staff, as tabled.

There being no further business, the Chairman closed the Meeting at 9.20pm.

Summary of Recommendations for Consideration by Full Parish Council

- .2 that an Expenditure Budget of £132,230 and a Precept of £127,700 be approved for 2011 – 12
- 8.2 Proposed Cllr Toher, Seconded Cllr Roling, **RECOMMENDED** unanimously that £800 be granted to the Friends of Bishopstoke Guiding to assist them in meeting the installation costs of some steps and safety rails and £50 be granted to the Farming and Wildlife Advisory Group to assist them in meeting the costs of providing conservation advisors to the farming community

Summary of Resolutions Passed to be Noted by the Full Parish Council

- 2.1 that the minutes of the meeting held on 12 October 2010 be accepted as a true record
- 16.1 that, in view of the confidential nature of the business about to be discussed relating to employees' confirmation in post and remuneration, it was advisable in the public interest that the public be excluded and for the record the business be regarded as confidential
- 17.2 that payment be made to the staff, as tabled