

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 14 December 2010

Present: Cllr Winstanley (Chairman), Cllr Hansell, Cllr McGuinness, Cllr Roling, Cllr Toher and Cllr Uren

In Attendance: Mr P J Storey (Clerk to the Parish Council)
Mrs C Taylor (Assistant Clerk)

Public Session: No members of the public were present.

1. Apologies

1.1 None.

2. To Agree the Minutes of the Meeting on 9 November 2010

2.1 Proposed Cllr Toher, Seconded Cllr Uren, **RESOLVED** unanimously that the minutes of the meeting held on 9 November 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 Cllr Toher declared an interest in Item 6 – Age Concern Grant Aid application.

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 applications for Grant Aid from Age Concern Bishopstoke, the Hampshire County Youth Band Association, Friends of Bishopstoke Guiding and the Fair Oak and Horton Heath Street Pastors Group

6.1 Age Concern Bishopstoke had applied for £1000 to assist in meeting entertainment costs for the next year. Cllr Toher presented additional information on the activities of the Group and the benefit it provided to the elderly of the Parish.

Cllr Toher then left the room

6.2 There was then considerable discussion and a review of the spend to date under the Grant Aid budget heading and the likely claims in the remainder of the financial year.

6.3 Proposed Cllr Roling, Seconded Cllr Hansell **RECOMMENDED** with three votes for, one against and one abstention that a grant of £800 be made to Age Concern Bishopstoke to assist them in meeting the costs of providing entertainment for the next year.

Cllr Toher returned

6.4 The Hampshire County Youth Band Association had requested £100 to help fund the costs of providing sheet music, uniform, travel and instrument purchase.

6.5 Proposed Cllr Toher, Seconded Cllr Hansell, **RECOMMENDED** that £100 be granted to the Hampshire County Youth Band Association to meet miscellaneous costs.

- 6.6 At our suggestion, a further application for Grant Aid had been submitted from the Friends of Bishopstoke Guiding for £1567 to erect a fence around the Guide Hut grounds and £1506 for new doors. Photographic evidence provided clearly illustrated the need for these works and exceptionally Members thought it appropriate to consider both requests with, if approved, the costs shared between the current financial year and the next.
- 6.7 Proposed Cllr Toher, Seconded Cllr Uren **RECOMMENDED** that £3070 be granted to the Friends of Bishopstoke Guiding to enable them to erect a security fence around the Guide Hut grounds and replace the Hut doors.
- 6.8 Bishopstoke, Fair Oak and Horton Heath Street Pastors had requested a grant of £500 to assist them in meeting the training costs of new Street Pastors and providing new uniforms together with providing help in meeting general administrative running costs.
- 6.9 Proposed Cllr Toher, Seconded Cllr Hansell **RECOMMENDED** that £500 be granted to the Bishopstoke, Fair Oak and Horton Heath Street Pastors and that this be charged to the Community Projects budget.

7. To make recommendations on contributing towards the costs of tree planting at Brookfield

- 7.1 The Local Area Committee was developing plans to enhance the Brookfield open space with more trees and had invited the Parish Council to join with them as partners in planning and financing the project. The total cost would be in the region of £17,000. Members supported the concept although the timespan was unclear at this time and the Clerk would follow this up.

Action: Clerk

8. To determine meeting dates for 2011

- 8.1 The Clerk tabled the meeting dates for 2011 which were noted.

9. To consider the potential for greater delegation of Borough Services

- 9.1 The Borough Council had written inviting input into the new planning policies for the Borough and expressing the wish that an informal meeting be arranged between the Parish Council and Borough officers to discuss the way ahead. It was thought appropriate to invite the Borough to the February full Parish Council meeting.

Action: Clerk

10. To review progress on introducing the travel token scheme

- 10.1 The sub committee reviewing the practicalities of a travel token scheme had met and was engaging with local private hire companies to determine their willingness to assist. Sample travel tokens had been obtained and it was anticipated that a full report and recommendations would be made early in the new year. The token scheme would not apply to those holding free bus passes or those eligible under the County scheme for a disabled person pass as they can opt for vouchers in lieu.

11. Asset Update

- 11.1 Discussions were in hand with the Borough on the transfer of responsibility for the bus shelters with effect from 1 April 2011.

Action: Clerk

12. Parish Website

- 12.1 Nothing to report.

13. Parish Newsletter

13.1 The Winter edition of the Newsletter had been delivered. The next issue would be in late February next year.

14. Clerk's Report

14.1 The Co-operative Bank plc was now offering internet banking to its business customers and the Clerk recommended that application be made.

14.2 Proposed Cllr Uren, Seconded Cllr Toher, **RESOLVED** with one abstention to apply for an internet banking facility.

14.3 The draft council tax leaflet text tabled by the Clerk to accompany the invoices to be sent out by the Borough to all Bishopstoke residents was approved with minor amendment.

15. Date, time and place of next meeting

15.1 The next meeting will be on Tuesday 11 January 2011 at 7.30pm in the Methodist Church Hall, Sedgwick Road, Bishopstoke

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 November 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

- .3 that a grant of £800 be made to Age Concern Bishopstoke to assist them in meeting the costs of providing entertainment for the next year.
- 6.5 that £100 be granted to the Hampshire County Youth Band Association to meet miscellaneous costs.
- 6.7 that £3070 be granted to the Friends of Bishopstoke Guiding to enable them to erect a security fence around the Guide Hut grounds and replace the Hut doors.
- 6.9 that £500 be granted to the Bishopstoke, Fair Oak and Horton Heath Street Pastors and that this be charged to the Community Projects budget.

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

- 2.1 that the minutes of the meeting held on 9 November 2010 be accepted as a true record.
- 14.2 that application be made for an internet banking facility.
- 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