

# BISHOPSTOKE PARISH COUNCIL

## Minutes of the Meeting of Bishopstoke Parish Council commenced at 7.30pm on Tuesday 22 November 2011 at the Methodist Church Hall, Sedgwick Road, Bishopstoke

**Present:** Councillor S Toher (Chairman)  
Councillor S Bateman  
Councillor H McGuinness  
Councillor C McKeone  
Councillor T Mignot  
Councillor I Pemberton  
Councillor V Snook  
Councillor M Thornton  
Councillor R Uren  
Councillor A Winstanley

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

### Public Session

Members of the 12<sup>th</sup> Eastleigh Scouts gave a presentation on their plans to improve their Scout Hut and immediate surrounding area to enhance its access and make it more user-friendly and also explained their desire to become more involved in community projects.

### 127. Apologies for absence

127.1 Apologies had been received from Cllrs Davies-Dear, Hansell, Roling and Shephard.

### 128. Councillors' Questions and Announcements

128.1 Cllr Toher expressed her thanks to those who had supported the Armistice Day Service and all noted how well the Service at the War Memorial had been attended this year.

128.2 Cllr McKeone drew attention to the poor lighting in West Drive, in part due to the overhanging trees, and expressed her concern on behalf of the residents. Councillors noted the longer term plans to improve local street lighting but the Clerk would follow up in the short-term.

**Action: Clerk.**

### 129. Adoption of the Minutes of the Parish Council Meeting held on 25 October 2011

129.1 Proposed Cllr Winstanley, Seconded Cllr Uren, **RESOLVED** unanimously that the minutes of the meeting held on 25 October 2011 be accepted as a true record.

### 130. Matters Arising

130.1 The Clerk informed the meeting that the grant cheque to the Farming and Wildlife Advisory Group had been returned as the organisation had now gone into administration. There were no other matters arising not dealt with elsewhere in these minutes.

### 131. Declarations of Interest

131.1 Cllrs Mignot, Thornton and Winstanley declared personal interests in Item 11 – the EBC draft Local Plan.

### 132. Correspondence

132.1 The Clerk drew Members' attention to correspondence received. No further action was thought necessary.

### 133. Report on Planning Committee Meetings of 25 October and 8 November 2011 - to note Resolutions and to consider any Recommendations

133.1 Minutes of the meetings held on 25 October and 8 November 2011 had been circulated with the agenda papers.

133.2 Proposed Cllr Snook, Seconded Cllr McKeone, **RESOLVED** unanimously that the minutes of the meetings held on 25 October and 8 November 2011 be received and accepted.

### **134. To receive a report on the travel token scheme and determine any changes necessary**

- 134.1 Cllr Toher, as chairman of the travel token working group, introduced discussion on the success of the scheme to date and further thoughts on enhancing eligibility. Five residents had taken advantage of the scheme so far but it had become clear that more would if they could travel with a companion. Those taking part were very grateful for the help given. With the withdrawal of the F route bus service, others found it too demanding to walk to the No 2 service nearest bus stop. Others found the taxi share scheme to be too limiting time-wise and discussion centred on what extensions to the current eligibility criteria could be made.
- .2 Proposed Cllr Toher, Seconded Cllr Uren, **RESOLVED** unanimously with immediate effect: that the current qualifying requirement that applicants do not hold a free bus pass under the County scheme and who are not eligible for vouchers in lieu be deleted; that the scheme and all related documentation be amended to allow an applicant to be accompanied by a companion when £60 per annum of tokens would be allocated; that where an applicant was in receipt of HCC vouchers to top those up to equate to the Parish scheme; and to provide more publicity.

**Action: Cllr Toher/Assistant Clerk**

### **135. Report on Finance and General Purposes Committee Meeting of 8 November 2011 - to note Resolutions and to determine any Recommendations**

- 135.1 Minutes of the meeting held on 8 November 2011 had been circulated with the agenda papers.
- 135.2 Proposed Cllr Winstanley, Seconded Cllr McGuinness, **RESOLVED** unanimously that the resolutions of the meeting held on 8 November 2011 be received and accepted.
- .3 A draft budget for 2012-13 and Precept had been tabled with the agenda papers. Following the earlier discussion on amendments to the travel token scheme, it was thought appropriate to increase the budgeted expenditure for this scheme to £1,500 in the next financial year. Discussion also took place on the increase in grounds maintenance costs when the four play areas/open spaces were transferred from the Borough to the Parish Council and what increases in Precept might be appropriate to cover these costs, bearing in mind that there would be a reduction in the Borough's Council tax charge as a result of the transfer. In the end, an increase of £2,300 in Precept was thought reasonable as a contribution towards these the setting up costs of the new Cemetery and allotments as mentioned in the draft EBC Local Plan. This increase would more than off-set by the reduction in the Borough's charge for open space maintenance.
- 135.4 Proposed Cllr Winstanley, Seconded Cllr Toher **RESOLVED** unanimously that the following recommendations, amended where appropriate, be approved:
- that a Precept of £130,000 and an Expenditure Budget of £148,670 be approved for 2012-13
  - that no changes be made to the present Burial Board charges for 2012-13
  - that no changes be made to the present allotment rents for 2012-13
  - that £1,000 be granted to the 12<sup>th</sup> Eastleigh Scouts to enable them to enhance their scout hut and surrounding area

### **136. To receive the RFO's report and approve payment of accounts**

- 136.1 The payments schedule had been circulated with the agenda papers.
- 136.2 Proposed Cllr Winstanley, Seconded Cllr Snook, **RESOLVED** unanimously that payments be authorised as per the schedule.

### **137. To consider preliminary comments on the EBC Local Plan**

- 137.1 Councillors expressed their thanks to EBC for the consultation display organised for local residents in the Bishopstoke Community Association Centre which had been well attended and received. They also noted that the draft Plan included provision for the needed new Cemetery and allotments and that the Planning Committee had no detailed comments to make on the draft proposals. However, in view of the Plan's importance, it was agreed that the F&GP Committee should have a final review and respond accordingly.

**Action: Clerk**

### **138. To receive reports from Members on External Meetings attended**

- 138.1 Cllr Winstanley reported she had attended a Carnival Group meeting at which planning had started for the 100th Carnival next year and which would likely be held over two days and include a Carnival Court event. She had

also attended an EBC/LAC meeting, the HALC AGM, the Remembrance Sunday Service in Bishopstoke, the South East Employers budgetary meeting and a BCA meeting at which planning was in hand for a Christmas Carol Service to be held in the car park at 6.00pm on 10 December.

- 138.2 Cllr Toher had attended an EBC/BPC liaison meeting, a Memorial Hall management committee meeting and Armistice and Remembrance Day Services in Bishopstoke and Eastleigh.

**139. Clerk's Monthly Report**

- 139.1 The Clerk reported that a quantity of asbestos had been dumped in the allotment skip by persons unknown and it had been arranged for this to be separated out and removed by a qualified contractor before the skip company would remove the garden waste. Other asbestos tipping had taken place elsewhere in the locality.
- 139.2 Permission had been granted for remedial work to be undertaken on a Beech Tree in St Mary's Churchyard which had serious weaknesses in its lower limbs and which, when completed, would also reduce the quantity of detritus falling on neighbouring properties and gardens.
- 139.3 The Clerk also reported that the Neighbourhood Safety Team had been reduced by one officer but he had obtained an assurance from the Area Commander that this reduction would not impact on cover provided by the dedicated Bishopstoke PCSO. However, he would continue to monitor this.
- 139.4 HALC was organising a conference on Localism at the Havant Civic Centre on Thursday 1 March 2012 and Cllrs Toher and Winstanley indicated an interest in attending.

**140. To consider content of the Press Release for November 2011**

- 140.1 It was agreed that reference would be made to the Precept and Expenditure Budget for 2012-13, the grant to the Scouts and changes in the travel token scheme.

**Action: Clerk**

**141. Date, Time and Place of Next Meeting**

- 141.1 The next meeting of the Parish Council will be on Tuesday 24 January 2012 at 7.30pm in the Methodist Church Hall, Sedgwick Road, Bishopstoke.

*There being no further business, the Chairman closed the Meeting at 9.00pm*