

BISHOPSTOKE PARISH COUNCIL

PRESS RELEASE – October 2011

Grants to community projects and local organisations

Councillors were very pleased to offer financial assistance of £200 to the H.O.P.E. Job Club which has been established to provide assistance to 16 to 24 year olds in preparing themselves for employment; £200 to the Hamble Valley and Eastleigh Heritage Guides towards the costs of producing a souvenir booklet marking the centenary of the Titanic disaster; and £50 to the Farming and Wildlife Advisory Group who provide advice and assistance on environmental matters to farmers.

Armistice Day

The Parish will be marking Armistice Day with a service on Friday 11 November 2011 to be held at the War Memorial starting at 10.45am with the two minute Silence at 11.00am. All are welcome to join in this short open air service followed by light refreshments in the Memorial Hall.

Bus shelters

The legal transfer of ownership of all but three of the bus shelters in the Parish from the Borough Council to the Parish Council has been completed and Councillors have now started on a project to erect bus shelters at those bus stops on a bus routes without a shelter at the moment. The first two new shelters will appear on Stoke Park Road near to Colchester Avenue with others following in the years to come. This is in response to local demand and the Council is pleased to be able to use some of its reserves to finance these additional improvements to the street scene. Of interest, the remaining three shelters, those carrying advertising, are owned and maintained by a commercial company.

Polling Station review

The Borough Council's review of polling stations has caused concern to some elderly residents who will now have to travel further to vote and Councillors have reflected these concerns to the Borough Council in the hope that some of the planned changes to polling stations will be amended.

St Mary's Church maintenance works

The maintenance of the St Mary's Churchyard is vested in the Parish Council now the Churchyard is closed and repair work has been carried out on part of the front brick wall together with some serious tidying up of the side area adjacent to the Stoke Park Road backway. This has exposed the headstones which have been laid alongside the iron fence together and a variety of broken stones which were once presumably part of the original burial ground before it was levelled. These will be kept in the form of a rockery out of respect. Other improvements, to the Cemetery and Churchyards such as the on-going tree works, will be undertaken as soon as funds permit.

The next meeting of the Parish Council will be on Tuesday 22 November 2011 at 7.30pm in the Methodist Church Hall, Sedgwick Road, Bishopstoke.

All meetings of the Parish Council and its Committees are open to the public and full meetings of the Parish Council normally take place on the fourth Tuesday of each month except August and December when no meetings are held.

*For further information, please contact the Parish Clerk: Peter Storey OBE
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or visit the Parish website at: www.bishopstokepc.hampshire.org.uk*