

BISHOPSTONE PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of the Parish Council Meeting held at 7:30 p.m. on Monday 1st December 2014 at Hinton Parva Village Hall

Those Present: Ian Thompson (Chair), Karin Thompson (Clerk), Nigel Crisp, Val Brodin, Stuart McGuigan, Andy Greenhalgh, Julian Cooke, Tom Green.

The Chair explained that as Thames Water and members of the public were in attendance, he would deal with this item before starting the formal meeting. Denise Kinsella and Geoff Brown attended to represent Thames Water. Residents Jackie Anderson and Gwen Parker were also present.

The following was discussed and agreed with Thames Water:

Great progress has been achieved since last month with Thames Water committing to add a new length of sewer to existing network. This new length will be 9" in diameter and will link the Forty directly to the pumping station (~130m). The work is guaranteed to be complete by 31st March 2015.

Start date, contractor name, and a project plan are unknown.

No discussion with the contractor has so far taken place.

Approval to engage with eight20 has not yet been obtained despite the commitment given last month.

Actions:

Completed

Richard Aylard to accelerate deployment schedule - completed

Thames Water to supply list of reported (to Environment Agency) sewage escapes - completed

2 most recent escapes reported to EA: Nov 13 and Feb 14.

Carried forward

- **Thames Water** to engage with eight20 to commence on-going investigative work.
- **Thames Water** to supply pipe size modelling calculations that include surface water drainage.
- **Thames Water** to supply number of properties paying / not paying for surface water drainage.

New Actions

- **Thames Water** to advise how completion date can be brought forward to February.
- **Thames Water** to advise on start date for works and project plan
- **Bishopstone PC and Swindon Borough Council** to fast-track road closure requests when submitted by TW

Next update 5th Jan

The Chair gave his thanks to Denise and Geoff for attending.

The formal meeting commenced at 7.50 p.m.

1. **Approved Apologies**
Ian Thomas, Douglas Stevens

Signed:

Date:

2. Declaration of Interests

Cllr Ian Thompson (Chair) declared a new non-prejudicial interest as the nominated representative of the Parish Council on the Bishopstone Village Hall Management Committee, and would also be taking over the role of treasurer. He reported that he had attended the most recent meeting of the Hall Committee when it had been identified that current income for the Hall was insufficient to cover recurring outgoings, raising issues about future sustainability.

3. Minutes of Last Meeting

The Chair asked for a proposition that the minutes of the November meeting be accepted as a true record. The proposition was put forward by Cllr Brodin, seconded by Cllr Greenhalgh and unanimously agreed by those present. The minutes were then signed by the Chair.

4. Matters Arising

Outstanding issues from the November meeting:

- Thames Water to supply list of reported (to DEFRA) sewage escapes: complete (see above)
- Disposal of Documents: outstanding
- Cllr. Crisp to supply first draft precept/budget for December meeting: complete, see below
- Island allotment gate notice to be removed: complete

5. Public Question Time

Phil Ainley, teacher-governor from Bishopstone School and school representative on the Bishopstone Village Hall Management Committee was in attendance to respond to issues relating to Bishopstone Village Hall raised under Public Question Time at previous meetings of the PC. In view of concerns about future sustainability of the Hall, and questions raised about the school's use of the Hall, he extended an invitation on behalf of governors to the PC to send a representative to a meeting of the school governing body early in the New Year. Cllr. Green agreed to attend on behalf of the PC.

Phil told the PC that a large number of the public had attended the recent meeting of the Hall Committee and agreed that the practicalities of sustainability referred to by Cllr Thompson were important. He advised that a further meeting of the Hall Committee was scheduled for 19th January and stated his view that a wider representation of villagers at this meeting would be welcome. Phil asked that the PC consider encouraging parishioners to attend this meeting in order to contribute to a planned discussion about future community use of the Hall. He suggested that there was a need for a community hub within the village, and the Hall Committee meeting provided an opportunity to consider ways of broadening its appeal. Phil was advised to draft an item for inclusion in December's Village Newsletter.

Action: Cllr Green to attend the meeting of the School's Governing Body

After discussion, Cllr Greenhalgh proposed that the agenda should in future be re-ordered so that "Public Question Time" could be taken after "Declaration of Interests", enabling any visitors or members of the public attending to be heard earlier in the meeting. This proposal was unanimously agreed subject to there being no over-riding protocol.

Action: Clerk to progress

6. Planning

S/PRIOR/14/1955ASM – Prior approval notification for the change of use from Agricultural building to 1 residential dwelling (class C3) – Upper Farm, Hinton Parva Lane, Hinton Parva. Councillors had no objections.

S/14/1911HC – Construction of new vehicular access- Land at White Hill, Hinton Parva. Councillors had no objections.

PENDING DETERMINATION

- **S/PRIOR/14/1707** – Prior Approval Notification for the change of use from Agricultural Building dwelling house (class C3) – Home Farm, Hinton Parva Lane, Hinton Parva Swindon. Noted that this had now been approved subject to conditions.
- **S/14/1824HC** – Erection of a single storey rear and first floor extensions and a dormer window – Badgerswood, Hatchet Hill, Hinton Parva. Noted.
- **S/14/1814HC** – Erection of single storey rear extension, extension of pitched roof, replacement double garage & associated works – Church View, Church Lane, Bishopstone. Noted.

GRANTED

See S/PRIORC/14/1707 above.

REFUSAL

No refusal schedules had been received.

5. Reports from Sub CommitteesPrecept

Cllr Crisp reported that he had received notification from SBC about next year's Council Tax Support Grant as well as an improved position for the Parish tax base, on the basis of which it was feasible to work towards a standstill precept whilst maintaining the council tax at the 2013/14 level. As the budget requirements are largely unchanged and reserves are sound, Cllrs unanimously agreed this approach. A related question was when the current contract for churchyard maintenance expired.

Action: Chair to find out when the current contract for churchyard maintenance expires. Cllr Crisp to present the final precept recommendation for approval at the January meeting.

7. Carried Forward List: Main PointsSewage – Thames Water Report

As above

Eastern Villages Expansion

Cllrs Green and Thompson had attended a meeting on 17/11/14 at the SBC offices. Little concrete to report although the meeting had provided reassurance that officers were applying pressure to achieve an integrated approach. This recognised a need for a master-plan that pooled developers' responsibility for infrastructure costs etc. Further meetings were planned to ensure that Cllrs were kept informed about progress. In discussion, Cllrs expressed concern about the knock-on impact of any developments in the area on traffic flows through the villages. Although there was little that the PC could achieve in isolation, Cllrs agreed the need to maintain close scrutiny of emerging plans and provide support to the Vale of White Horse villages as appropriate.

Defibrillator

A date for training has been arranged for December 13th in Bishopstone Village Hall.

Community Transport

Nothing to report. Remove from future agendas

Football Pitch Revival

Awaiting further information

Village Information Board

This had now been installed in Bishopstone. Cllr Greenhalgh raised a need to cut back the brambles along the edge of the pond to improve the visibility of the new board. Cllr Cooke agreed to investigate further. Traffic-management stakes along the edge of the track also needed to be replaced.

Action: Clerk to liaise with SBC about replacement of the stakes

True Heart

No further update.

Action: the Clerk is to keep this item on the next agenda.

Work to the Dingle

Signed:

Date:

No further update.

Action: the Clerk is to keep this item on the next agenda.

Article 4 Direction

This item was agreed in principle by SBC Planning Committee on 11th November 2014, but further public consultation is now required. No information about the form this would take.

Action: the Clerk is to keep this item on the next agenda.

Rural Broadband

Awaiting the outcome of SBC's tendering process.

Action: the Clerk is to keep this item on the next agenda.

90 Bus Service

No new issues had been raised with Cllrs. Option to invite the new owner to a future meeting once he had had time to establish himself in the business.

Village Clean Up

March spring-clean target agreed

Action: the Clerk to include this item on the February agenda.

Community Speedwatch

Points for the proposed speed points were identified: two for each village. In Bishopstone, these would be at the eastern and western ends; in Hinton, one between the village hall and the speed warning sign, the other in the vicinity of the Water Garden. Cllrs agreed that this was the start of a process, but would provide valuable data to inform ongoing planning for managing traffic flows.

Action: Chair to advise SBC about the general areas identified which would be subject to officers' recommendation about precise locations (complete)

Passing places in New Road

Cllr McGuigan raised a need to consider the introduction of formal passing places on New Road which is a single track road. Given increasing volumes of traffic, the current situation is unsatisfactory.

Action: Chair to discuss with Clerk the best way of progressing this with SBC

8. Accounts to be Paid

The cheques shown in Appendix 1 to the agenda were presented for approval.

The Clerk's salary and timesheet had been sent to the Chair of the Finance Sub-Committee and Councillors for checking before the agenda had been issued. The expenses were unanimously agreed by those present with the addition of one late item, a subscription of £103 to The Society of Local Council Clerks.

9. Correspondence

The Chair asked whether anyone wished to see any items of correspondence; none did.

10. Parishioners Feedback/Complaints

Car Parking around the Triangle, Hinton

Cllr Cook had received a complaint about the impact of an increasing number of residents' and tradespersons' cars/vans being parked at the junction of Church Row and Tucker's Lane, Hinton. Cllrs acknowledged that these were being parked legitimately on the public highway.

Complaint re Dogs Wandering

The two Labradors resident on the Icknield Way were continuing to roam around Bishopstone.

Action: Cllrs to report further incidents to the Clerk to inform a report to the PCSO.

Cllr Green to prepare a draft letter for the Clerk to progress (complete).

Development of Outbuilding, Hinton Parva

Work on the building was still proceeding and the owners had made clear to neighbours their intention to create a dwelling. The promised SBC planning enforcement site visit had not yet

taken place. Cllr Thompson agreed to follow up with SBC if there has been no further action by 5th December, and to keep Cllrs informed.

Action: Chair to monitor and contact SBC if required

The meeting closed at 9.20 pm.

11. Date of Next Meeting

The next meeting will take place on Monday 5th January 2015, at Bishopstone Village Hall at 19:30 pm.

Action: Apologies to the Clerk before the meeting.

Signed:

Date: