# BISHOPSTONE PARISH COUNCIL

**Minutes of the Parish Council Meeting**

**held at 7:30 p.m.**

**on Monday 3 January 2020**

**at Bishopstone Village Hall**

**Those Present:** Lesley Drewett (Clerk), Ian Thomas (Vice Chair), Nigel Crisp, Stuart McGuigan, Tom Green.

1. **Public Question Time**

No members of the public were in attendance.

1. **Approved Apologies**

Val Brodin (Chair), Andy Greenhalgh, Julian Cooke, Douglas Stevens, Gill May, Cllr Gary Sumner.

The Vice Chair took the meeting in the Chair’s absence.

1. **Declarations of Interest**

There were no declarations of interest.

1. **Minutes of Last Meeting**

The Chair asked for a proposal that the January meeting be accepted as a true record. The proposal was made by Cllr McGuigan and unanimously agreed. The minutes were then signed by the Chair.

1. **Matters Arising**

All actions from the previous meeting had been completed except:

 Report from Ward Councillor

The Ashbury Clerk had confirmed that they have not entered into a private arrangement to have connection to fibre.

Lengthman Works

*Cllr Sumner reported in his briefing note that he had chased Zoe Moore (Highways) as Paul Page is highways drainage and different officers were dealing with the overgrown trees. He asked that as it had been some time could Cllrs confirm that the situation still exists.*  Cllr Thomas confirmed that the situation does still exist and is as bad and worsening outside of Finch Cottage.

**Action: The Clerk is to notify Cllr Sumner of the position. (Complete)**

Churchyard Maintenance

Cllr Stevens had notified the Clerk that he now had the 3 quotes from those asked to tender and will present them at the PCC meeting next Monday for their decision. He had hoped to have the PCC meeting on 10th January, but it was postponed until February due to unavailability of key members.

**Action: Cllr Stevens is to bring the decision back to the March meeting.**

**Planning**

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
|

|  |
| --- |
| **PENDING DETERMINATION** |

 |

* **S/LBC/19/1234** ­– Demolition of cavity wall to previous extension & erection of replacement wall – The Old Mill, Hockerbench, Bishopstone

A Cllr had reported that the work applied for above has been completed and a different type of brickwork appeared to have been used. Cllr Thomas had checked the documentation on the website and found that there were some inconsistencies in the approved application. As there was not enough information on the website to determine whether the correct bricks had been used, he felt that the planning officer should be asked to confirm this.

**Action: The Clerk is to write to the Planning Officer. (Complete)**

A reply had been received from Peter Korankye-Gyabong on 13 January *Thanks for bringing this to our attention. I will investigate and get back to you asap.* This email was forwarded to Cllrs for their information.

**OTHER ISSUES**

A Cllr queried why the Clerk had not received any communication from Enforcement with regard to Swedish House. Cllr Sumner explained that there were still problems with limited resources in the Enforcement team. Cllrs felt this service was not satisfactory. They felt if conditions were set and not adhered to it set a dangerous precedent.

*Cllr Sumner reported in his briefing note that he had asked one of SBC’s planning managers to chase this up – during February/March they will have increased the capacity of the team slightly. He asked whether the Parish Council had an acknowledgement of their complaint to enforcement.*

**Action: The Clerk will notify Cllr Sumner that no acknowledgement had been received.** (No longer relevant owing to post meeting note.)

[**Post meeting note**: Cllr Sumner had forwarded an email to the Clerk from David Dewart stating that *A letter has gone out today (1st class) to the owner concerning the compliance issues with condition 4 (the rendering) and condition 6 (the window). Louise More will update the Parish Council once they have received a response to the letter.* The Clerk has forwarded a copy of the email to Cllrs for their information.

A Cllr reported that the wooden stable on the 90º bend on the Bourton Road was being lived in.

*Cllr Sumner reported in his briefing note that he had reported this to SBC and Cllr Cooke had received an email on 9th January with a form for the Parish to complete.* Cllr Cooke confirmed via email that he was dealing with this.

Christmas Rubbish Collection

*Cllr Sumner reported in his briefing note that he had asked the Cabinet Member for an update. As he had said at the time, in previous years they had had numerous complaints from the densely populated North Swindon. This year the affected round included Ridgeway ward as well as some other places. The messaging on the bin labels could have been clearer and the messaging once things were missed (beyond a certain point) should have been to bring in waste and put out for the next collection. If there is anything more detailed he will let Cllrs know but in terms of numbers of complaints they were actually low despite Cllr Steven’s saying they were ‘disastrous’. He has echoed that he wasn’t happy but more direct complaints rather than posts on Facebook (which SBC don’t see) would help in future.*

Mirror at West End Lane

The Chair informed Cllr Sumner that the mirror has been installed and parishioners are delighted. However, the promised white lining still needs to be done.

Cllr Sumner had reported the problem and the following response had been received from Suzanne Coles *Further to my email of 9th January. An order has been raised for the refreshing of these junction markings. There is a backlog of lining works to complete but the team will endeavour to programme the works as soon as possible, weather permitting.* The response had been forwarded to the Clerk on 17 January 2020 and forwarded to Cllrs for their information.

75th Anniversary of V E Day on 8 May 2020

This item was carried forward as the Chair was not in attendance.

**Action: The Chair is to liaise with the village hall committee.**

1. **Planning**

No planning applications had been received before the agenda had been issued.

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
|

|  |
| --- |
| **PENDING DETERMINATION** |

 |

**NONE**

**APPEAL**

* **APP/U3935/W/19/3240061 –** Demolition of The Chalet & erection of 1no dwelling & associated works – The Chalet, Church Row, Hinton Parva

Cllr Thomas advised that this would probably be written representations.

[**Post meeting note**: A Cllr had advised that the appeal had been dismissed.]

**OTHER ISSUES**

The following application arrived after the agenda had been issued:

* S/19/1891 – Erection of storage or distribution building (use class B8), ancillary buildings, offices, landscaping, vehicular parking, bus depot, creation 2no passenger vehicle accesses and associated works – Symmetry Park (Phase 6), Shrivenham Road, South Marston, Swindon

Cllrs agreed there was no need for a response to this application as the Parish Council had commented on this originally.

**GRANTED**

* **S/HOU/19/1706 – REVISED** - Erection of two storey/single storey side and first floor rear extensions. - 5 High Street, Bishopstone

**REFUSAL**

**NONE**

**WITHDRAWN**

**S/LBC/19/1234** ­– Demolition of cavity wall to previous extension & erection of replacement wall – The Old Mill, Hockerbench, Bishopstone

1. **Report from Borough Council**

Cllr Sumner was not in attendance. The majority of the Borough Cllrs report has been shown in Matters Arising (item 5), the only outstanding items were:

*I will update you on Junction 15 as soon as practical – I’m confident this will be going ahead later this Spring.*

*At the moment we are in the final stages of budget setting for the coming year. The budget and cuts are very challenging.*

*Local Plan Review: I’ve attached my submission which you will see addressed housing numbers. When I checked on Wednesday there had been 20 comments on Bishopstone sites.*

1. **Key Responsibility Area Updates**

Finance – There was no report to make.

Footpaths & Highways - No report to make.

Pond & Island Management Committee – No report to make. The tidying event will be covered at item.

Hinton Parva Village Hall - No report to make.

Bishopstone Village Hall - No report to make.

Hinton Parva Charities - No report to make.

Bishopstone United Charities - No report to make.

Trees – No report to make.

Russley Park Liaison - No report to make.

Planning - No report to make.

Website/IT – No report to make.

Responsible Financial Officer – No report to make.

1. **West End Lane Junction**

It was agreed that this item was no longer needed on the agenda.

**Action: The Clerk is to remove this item from the agenda. (Complete)**

1. **Hinton Parva Red Phone Box**

The Clerk had received an email from SBC outlining the second consultation of the proposed phone box removals in Swindon. The Clerk is to re-iterate Cllrs original comments. The Chair had already supplied an article for the newsletter.

**Action: The Clerk is to write to SBC. (Complete)**

1. **Local Plan**

Cllr Thomas reported that Eastbrook Farm had copied the Chair and himself into their objections to the Local Plan. They had stated that the Forty site was deeply unsuitable for housing owing to the noise from animal sheds. The field is also next door to a slurry pit. The objection also states that if the concrete track is lost the farm will have to revert to the cattle using the village roads again when going from the dairy to the fields. This would interfere with traffic, causing delays and congestion. Representations from the Parish Council have been submitted. The deadline for responses was 31 January 2020.

1. **Pond & Island**

A very productive working session was held on the island. The allotments are now cleared, everything has been strimmed and there had been good clearance on the waters edge. Cllrs thanked those involved with the clearance for their help.

1. **GDPR**

Cllr Thomas reminded everyone that they should delete anything that identifies an individual when the work has been completed.

1. **Community Safety**

Cllr Green advised those present that a rota for the community speed watch is available and is building momentum with the help from a parishioner. The team is ready to upscale when necessary. Cllrs felt the Chair and the parishioner had done an excellent job of getting this scheme set up.

1. **Lengthman Works**

The rubbish in the bin at Charlbury Tump has been cleared and the new dog bins are being emptied.

1. **Accounts to be paid:**
* See Appendix 1

The amounts shown in Appendix 1 of the Agenda were presented for approval. The Clerk’s salary and timesheet had been sent to the Chair of the Finance Sub-Committee for checking before the agenda had been issued. The Lengthman had presented his invoice after the meeting but this has already been agreed by Cllrs as a monthly payment.

Cllr Crisp proposed that the accounts were paid, this was seconded by Cllr Green and agreed unanimously by those present.

1. **Correspondence**

The Chair asked Cllrs if they wished to view any correspondence; none did.

1. **Parishioners Feedback/Complaints**

Village Clean Up

Cllr Crisp will take the lead for Hinton Parva and Cllr Green will take the lead for Bishopstone with regard to the village clean up which is taking place on 1st March 2020 meeting at the village halls at 10:30 am. A parishioner had put out some suggestions for the clearance work which were discussed. Work should only be carried out in the Parish on the day.

**Action: The Clerk is to leave the original article in the Parish Times. (Complete)**

**Action: Cllr Crisp is to put the date on the website.**

**Action: Cllr Green is to pick up the equipment that a parishioner is holding.**

**Action: Cllr Green is to put a reminder about the event on Facebook.**

**Action: The Clerk is to contact SBC regarding collection of the rubbish and equipment needed, this should be delivered to Cllr Crisp. (Complete)**

Bank at Short Drove

The bank at Short Drove, opposite Brock Cottage has collapsed into the stream.

**Action: The Clerk is to notify Highways. (Complete)**

Cold Calling

Cllr Crisp was interested in setting up a “no cold calling zone” with signs around the village on lamp posts. SBC does not support this and Cllrs felt it was not necessary. No further action is required.

The Police Commissioner Angus MacPherson is to attend the April meeting, the Clerk was asked to put this item on the March agenda in order that Cllrs could decide on matters to be raised at the meeting.

**Action: The Clerk is to add this item to the March agenda. (Complete)**

**Action: Cllr Crisp is to write an article for the newsletter. (Complete)**

Potholes and problems with the road within the Parish

Cllrs reported potholes within the Parish:

* The left-hand side of the edge of the road is becoming undermined at Cues Lane past the milking sheds leading to High Street.
* Lots of potholes on the Icknield Way where Hatchett Hill meets the Icknield Way on the Hinton Parva side of the pothole that has already been filled.
* The largest pothole on Cues Lane has been filled where it meets with the Icknield Way but there are several more surrounding this that have not been filled.
* A large pothole on the Icknield Way in front of Eastbrook Farmhouse.

**Action: The Clerk is to report the above road maintenance problems. (Complete)**

Cllr Crisp advised those present that Swindon have changed the way to report potholes on their website and there is now a detailed map to put a pin in and report the problem. He has received a report from a parishioner stating the success of reporting in this way.

**Action: Cllrs are to report potholes via the new link.**

1. **Date of Next Meeting**

The next meeting is due to take place on Monday 2nd March 2020 at Hinton Parva Village Hall.

The meeting closed at 8.37 pm.

Cllr Thomas gave his apologies for the March meeting.