

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 12 June 2012

Present: Cllrs Thornton (Chairman), Cossey, Lyon, Roling, Toher and Winstanley

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

Public Session

On behalf of local resident, Mr Dave Stratton, Cllr Toher introduced the concept of inscribing the names of those local people who had given their lives in post World War 11 conflicts or had subsequently died of wounds received on the post World War 11 plaque on the War Memorial. It was agreed to debate this formally at the next meeting.

Action: Clerk

Ms Min Partner, our LAC Co-ordinator from EBC, explained the on-going application for Fields in Trust Jubilee Status for the Brookfield open space was progressing after an issue with the certificate of title had been resolved. A Deed of Variation was with EBC legal officers at the moment for scrutiny which, when approved and signed by both parties, would make the open space one of only two with Jubilee status in the Borough.

Ms Partner also updated Members on the proposals to install a cycle track for youngsters on an area of the Brookfield open space opposite the YZone Youth Facility. Installation should be completed by the start of the Summer holidays at a total cost of £10,000 and comprise various humps and challenges to encourage youngsters to exercise in the open. The construction would include a limestone and dust surface with an annual maintenance cost estimated at £2,340. The proposed layout would be pegged out in situ on Thursday 28 June 2012 between mid-afternoon and mid-evening for public viewing.

52. Election of Chairman

52.1 Proposed Cllr Cossey, Seconded Cllr Winstanley, **RESOLVED** unanimously that Cllr Thornton be elected Chairman of the Finance and General Purposes Committee.

53. Election of Vice-Chairman

53.1 Proposed Cllr Winstanley, Seconded Cllr Roling, **RESOLVED** with Cllr Toher abstaining, that Cllr Cossey be elected Vice-Chairman of the Finance and General Purpose Committee.

54. Apologies

54.1 Cllr Hansell.

55. To Agree the Minutes of the Meeting on 3 April 2012

55.1 Proposed Cllr Winstanley, Seconded Cllr Toher, **RESOLVED** with Cllrs Cossey and Lyon abstaining (not present) that the minutes of the meeting held on 3 April 2012 be accepted as a true record.

56. Matters Arising from the above Minutes

56.1 There were no matters arising not dealt with elsewhere in these minutes.

57. Declarations of Interest

57.1 Cllrs Toher and Winstanley, Item 8 – Bishopstoke Players lighting grant request.

58. RFO's Report, Budget Monitoring and Payments

58.1 A budget monitoring report had been circulated with the agenda papers. This was noted.

58.2 Proposed Cllr Cossey, Seconded Cllr Winstanley, **RESOLVED** unanimously that the payments be made as tabled.

59. Grant aid applications

59.1 The Bishopstoke Players had requested a grant of £750 to help finance the purchase of new stage lighting in the Memorial Hall.

59.2 Proposed Cllr Winstanley, Seconded Cllr Lyon, **RECOMMENDED** with Cllr Toher abstaining that £750 be granted to the Bishopstoke Players to help finance the purchase of new stage lighting.

60. To consider and, if appropriate, make recommendations on the introduction of internet banking.

60.1 The Clerk introduced the concept of internet banking and explained the options available from The Co-operative Bank and the safeguards in being to reduce the risk of fraudulent use.

60.2 Proposed Cllr Toher, Seconded Cllr Cossey, **RECOMMENDED** unanimously that application be made to open an internet banking facility.

61. To consider and, if appropriate, make recommendations on appointing a Councillor to the Board of the Bishopstoke Parochial Charities

61.1 Cllr Cossey, as Chairman of the Bishopstoke Parochial Charities, explained that application had been made to the Charities Commission to amend the constitution and recommended that further consideration be deferred until the changes requested had been approved. This was agreed.

62. To consider and, if appropriate, make recommendations on the revised draft Local Plan

62.1 EBC had invited comments on its revision of the draft Local Plan, full details of which were available on the Borough's website at www.eastleigh.gov.uk/lpchanges. Since no changes had been made to the Bishopstoke element, it was thought unnecessary to comment further at this time. A copy of the draft would be made available in the temporary parish office on Wednesday mornings during the period of the consultation.

Action: Assistant Clerk

63. To consider and, if appropriate, make recommendations on contracting with EBC Direct Services for dog bin emptying in the area of Otter Close

63.1 No arrangements had been concluded following transfer of ownership for emptying the two dog waste bins near the Otter Close play area and Members considered the alternatives of either the bin removal or retention and the need for a waste disposal contract.

63.2 Proposed Cllr Cossey, Seconded Cllr Roling, **RECOMMENDED** unanimously that a contract be entered into with EBC Direct Services for emptying the two dog waste bins near the Otter Close play area.

64. Asset Management Report

64.1. Cemetery. Six interments had taken place during the first two months of the year.

64.2 Allotments. The results of an asbestos survey on the main hut at Manor Farm were awaited before the installation of an extractor fan could be undertaken.

64.3 Play areas and open spaces. The Clerk would investigate the costs of having EBC undertake quarterly engineering inspections and an annual safety inspection of all play equipment.

Action: Clerk

65. Parish Website and Newsletter

65.1 Cllr Winstanley confirmed the Summer edition of the Newsletter would be with the printers by the month end.

66. Clerk's Report

66.1 Shears Mill. The architect was in discussions with the EBC planners regarding obtaining the required specialist reports to support the planning application for the new building following which planning approval was anticipated.

66.2 Stoke Park Woods 'humps'. The Forestry Commission had expressed concern, as had a local resident, at the appearance of a series of humps in the Woods which provided a challenging circuit for cyclists. It was a self-help structure of some size and the Beat Forester was attempting to identify those involved.

66.3 Land off Church Road. EBC had e-mailed to seek comments on a proposal by the developer that more houses could be built on land to the north of Breach Lane currently earmarked for houses and allotments if that portion of the land in question earmarked for allotments was made available for housing and the land owners CEMEX made a further piece of land nearby available for allotments. Members' initial reaction was not to support this proposal as in their opinion the local infrastructure would not support additional houses.

66.4 Members noted the proposed dates for this year's Carnival pub quiz series – Foresters Arms 4 July, Anglers Inn 25 July, Welcome Inn 13 August, River Inn 6 September and Working Men's Club 26 September 2012

66.5 Member's attention was drawn to the use made by other parish councils of social networking sites such as Twitter and Facebook and Cllr Toher agreed to investigate further.

Action: Cllr Toher

67. Date, time and place of next meeting

67.1 The next meeting will be on Tuesday 10 July 2012 at 7.30pm in the Methodist Church Hall, Sedgwick Road, Bishopstoke.

68. Motion for Confidential Business

68.1 Proposed Cllr Thornton, Seconded Cllr Winstanley, **RESOLVED** unanimously that, in view of the confidential nature of the business about to be discussed relating to employees' remuneration, it was advisable in the public interest that the public be excluded and for the record the business be regarded as confidential.

69. Consideration of approval for payment of staff hours of work, mileage and out of pocket expenses for April and May 2012 (Confidential Business)

69.1 Members noted the report tabled by the RFO and attached to these minutes.

69.2 Proposed Cllr Thornton, Seconded Cllr Winstanley, **RESOLVED** unanimously that payments be made as tabled.

There being no further business, the Chairman closed the Meeting at 9.40pm.

Summary of Recommendations for Consideration by Full Parish Council

- 59.2 that £750 be granted to the Bishopstoke Players to help finance the purchase of new stage lighting.
- 60.2 that application be made to open an internet banking facility.
- 63.2 that a contract be entered into with EBC Direct Services for emptying the two dog waste bins near the Otter Close play area.

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

- 52.1 that Cllr Thornton be elected Chairman of the Finance and General Purposes Committee.
- 53.1 that Cllr Cossey be elected Vice-Chairman of the Finance and General Purpose Committee.
- 55.1 that the minutes of the meeting held on 3 April 2012 be accepted as a true record.
- 58.2 that the payments be made as tabled.
- 68.1 that, in view of the confidential nature of the business about to be discussed relating to employees' remuneration, it was advisable in the public interest that the public be excluded and for the record the business be regarded as confidential.
- 69.2 that payments be made as tabled.

Payments in April and May 2012 in excess of £500 published in accordance with the Government's transparency directive

Staff	Salaries & expenses	1972.96
Green Smile Ltd	Grounds maintenance	1794.33
EBC	Bus shelters cleaning	579.60
HALC/NALC	Annual subscriptions	1157.00