

Bishopstoke Parish Council



Newsletter

Autumn 2024

BISHOPSTOKE CARNIVAL 2024

The first Carnival in Bishopstoke for 5 years took place Saturday 7th September. A fabulous group of local volunteers came forward and took on the Herculean task of organizing this year's Carnival in just 3 months. They did an amazing job and pulled together a great day, enjoyed by everyone who attended.

For more details on how the day went, and lots of pictures, please see the double page spread in the middle of the Newsletter.

If you would like to get involved in helping to organise next years Carnival, please email admin@bishopstokecarnival.org or find us on Facebook



Also in this edition:

- Nominate your Bishopstoke Champion.
- Volunteers needed for Bishopstoke and Fair Oak Good Neighbours.
- Allotments Update.
- Parish updates including: Memorial Hall, War Memorial and Parish Councillor Meet and Greet sessions
- Governors needed for Stoke Park Junior

BISHOPSTOKE PARISH COUNCIL

You can find us on www.bishopstokepc.org . We're also on Facebook.
The Parish Office is now closed but appointments can be arranged if needed.

PARISH CLERK: David Wheal 07368 487464 clerk@bishopstokepc.org

ALLOTMENTS OFFICER: Tim Mellor 07444 798083 allotments@bishopstokepc.org

ASSETS OFFICER: Alex Duthie assets@bishopstokepc.org

ADMINISTRATION OFFICER: Emma Earl admin@bishopstokepc.org

CEMETERIES: cemeteries@bishopstokepc.org

BISHOPSTOKE CHAMPION

Bishopstoke Parish Council wants to celebrate people who are going the extra mile for Bishopstoke, and so in 2022 we created the Bishopstoke Champion award. If you know a person, or group of people, who have championed a worthy cause, have worked hard to make life easier for people around them, particularly those for whom life can be tough, or who have been doing their best to make Bishopstoke a better place to live and work then we want to hear about them.

Our Bishopstoke Champion in 2023 was Kieran Gillingham. Kieran works for the Environment Agency but also volunteers as a bailiff on the Itchen Navigation and has set up The Itchen Navigation Preservation Trust to help protect this wonderful river.”



You can get nomination forms from the Parish Council website, or by emailing the Clerk who will send one out to you. Just get four other people to support your nomination, fill in the form telling us why your nominee deserves to be recognised as a Bishopstoke Champion and send it back to us. All contact details are on the front page of the Newsletter.

Please make sure the forms come back to us by 31st December 2024 so that the Councillors have a chance to consider them. Awards will be presented at the Parish Assembly in April 2025.

BISHOPSTOKE AND FAIR OAK GOOD NEIGHBOURS NETWORK

Do you have time you can spare to help others? Do you have a full driving licence and a reliable car?

Bishopstoke and Fair Oak Good Neighbours are a group of local volunteers who offer hospital and GP transport for those who need it within the community. We are currently looking for more volunteer drivers to meet the current demand. You will work as part of a friendly team of drivers, and you can choose volunteering hours to suit you. All fuel costs are reimbursed.

Put a smile on someone's face and make a difference to their day.

Please contact us on 02380 600807 for more information.

ALLOTMENTS UPDATE

New Allotment and Cemeteries Officer

As I am sure some of you are aware, we have a new Allotment Officer, Tim Mellor. Tim has been regularly visiting the Jockey Lane and Underwood Road sites, getting to know lots of the Allotment holders, listening to any concerns or questions and addressing any problems where he can.

Rent Increase

Due to inflation and the Cost of Living increase, the allotment rents will be increasing this year. The new rent will increase from £10.00 to £12.00 per rod with the reduced rate rising from £6.50 to £8.00 per rod.



Sewall Drive

We have currently closed the waiting list to new applicants for Sewall Drive due to the delays in the developer handing it over to the Borough Council. When that eventually happens we will be allowed to put the finishing touches to the site. All those currently on the waiting list will have their first year's rent free, and the Parish Council will also provide free soil improver during the first year.



Bow Lake Gardens

We have also closed the waiting list for the Bow Lake Gardens allotments. Experts consulted by the Parish Council have indicated that there are significant problems with the site being used for allotments and we are currently working with the Borough Council to determine the best path forward. If those on the waiting list wish it, we are happy to offer them a plot at the nearby Sewall Drive when it opens, or at Underwood Road where the waiting time is currently under 6 months.



For more information about anything to do with allotments, please contact the Allotments Officer by emailing allotments@bishopstokepc.org.

BISHOPSTOKE

Carnival started with the Parade setting off from the bottom of Underwood Road. Lots of people lined the route up Underwood Road, all the way down Hamilton Road, across into Portal Road and onto Glebe Meadow.



Hundreds of people followed the Parade along to Glebe Meadow where the Fete was officially opened by the Mayor of Eastleigh, Councillor Dave Pragnell. The prizes for the Parade were then awarded by the local MP, Liz Jarvis and Princess Elsa.



There were food stalls, games, a bouncy castle, a merry-go-round, a Bubble Artist, a juggler and a Circus Skills Tent that was very popular with all ages!



"I thought the Carnival was lovely. It was nice to see the community together. Everyone was in good spirits." Stall Holder

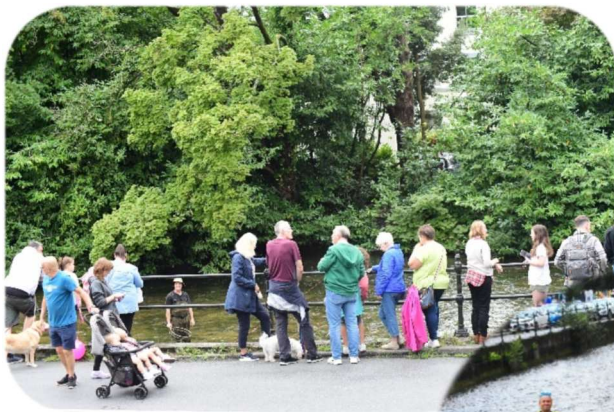


"One of the best we have been to!" Stall Holder



"I thought the day was well organised and had a great atmosphere." Stall Holder

CARNIVAL 2024



The Duck Races were back too and more popular than ever. There were 8 races in total, more than we have ever had before.



There was also music provided by Serene Groove, Lloyd Gissing and Ghost in the Machine who got people dancing even when it was raining.



What's on

- 09:00 Duck Race
- 10:00 Duck Race
- 11:00 Duck Race
- 12:00 - 13:00 Free
- 14:00 - 16:00 Free
- 17:00 - 18:00 Free
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- 22:00 - 23:00 Free
- 24:00 - 25:00 Free
- 26:00 - 27:00 Free
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- 998:00 - 999:00 Free
- 1000:00 - 1001:00 Free



We would like to thank everybody who came along to the Carnival and the Carnival Group for all their hard work. It was a great day!



PARISH COUNCIL UPDATES

Parish Councillor Meet and Greet Sessions

To help the residents of Bishopstoke meet and get to know their local Parish Councillors, we would like to set up regular monthly meetings around the Parish. It will give residents the opportunity to ask any questions they may have and to also find out about any exciting new projects the Council have planned. ***The first meeting will be at 9.30am on Thursday 5th December at the BCA Centre, Church Road, Bishopstoke. We look forward to seeing you there.***

War Memorial

Whilst we await the go ahead from the Diocese for the placing of the War Memorial on Old St Mary's, this year's ceremony will once again be held on the site of the old church. The plans for the new Memorial will be on display and water, squash and biscuits will be available afterwards.



Memorial Hall

Finally, after more than a year and a half of waiting, the Land Registry have completed registering the land and we are expecting the demolition to start in November. As the project has been stalled for some time, we will be consulting residents again for their views before updating the vision for Bishopstoke's new building. We want a building everyone can be proud of so please do join in!

BISHOPSTOKE PARISH COUNCIL MEETINGS

Meetings of the Parish Council and its Committees are currently taking place at the Bishopstoke Methodist Church on Sedgwick Road. At the beginning of every Parish Council Meeting there is a Public Session where the residents of Bishopstoke can come along and ask any questions they may have. You are then more than welcome to stay for the rest of the meeting or leave if you wish.

More details about the meetings can be found at www.bishopstokepc.org.

NEXT MEETINGS

Full Council: 12th Nov, 14th Jan
Finance: 10th Dec, 11th Feb

Assets: 26th Nov, 28th Jan
Planning: All of the dates listed.

People: 22nd Oct



PARISH COUNCIL UPDATES

Parish Council Grants

Since the start of April this year, the Parish has awarded grants to:

- Eastleigh Borough and Romsey Mencap
£1,000 to support the Dance Club hire of a venue and teacher (Blue Butterfly Studios)
- Friends of In Touch
£400 for sports equipment, coaching and healthy snacks at their weekly sessions working with children with Autistic Spectrum Conditions in the Borough of Eastleigh.
- Life Education Wessex and Thames Valley (Helping Children Make Healthy Choices)
£430 to provide and Educator and Resources to visit Stoke Park Junior School, Years 3 and 4.
- Itchen Navigation Preservation Trust
£1221.67 to provide 200m of low dog proof fencing to create and protect a conservation area in reedbeds alongside the public footpath and River Itchen.

If you are running a local charity or community group and have a project that needs funding, please do get in touch.

To apply for a grant please contact the Clerk (clerk@bishopstokepc.org) or download a form from the website.

Bee and Tree Corridor

Earlier this year, Eastleigh Borough Council started their Bee and Tree Corridor. The Tree and Bee Corridor connects woodlands and biodiversity through a series of living "stepping stones" across the landscape. These stepping stones, ranging from roadside wildflowers to edible forest gardens, provide essential food and shelter for wildlife, aiding their movement between habitats. They are planning to plant in areas like school grounds, roundabouts, and community gardens, enhancing green spaces and restoring hedgerows to create a thriving, connected environment.



We have had a lot of comments from people about the verges in the Parish which have been used as trial areas for the project. A lot of you are saying they look overgrown and don't appear to be being maintained. Please continue to let us have any questions or comments and we will pass them on to Eastleigh Borough Council.

This newsletter CAN be recycled.

We only print on FSC accredited paper from sustainable sources. These are monitored by the Forestry Stewardship Council to ensure sustainability. We don't print on recycled stock which can be harmful to the environment because harmful chemicals and bleaching agents can be used in the recycling process. We use vegetable-based ink instead of chemical ink



STOKE PARK JUNIOR SCHOOL

Underwood Road, Bishopstoke, Eastleigh, Hampshire SO50 6GR

Telephone: 023 8061 2789

E-Mail: adminoffice@stokepark-jun.hants.sch.uk

Headteacher: Allison Jenkins

Stoke Park Junior School currently have vacancies for co-opted Governors. School governors are people like you.

Have you got

- an interest in our children's future
- a desire to make a difference
- an open and enquiring mind
- the ability to work in a team
- time (on average 10 hours per term mainly in the evenings)

Then you could have what it takes to join our Governing Body and the largest volunteer group in the country, helping our children achieve their full potential.

Our schools are changing. We need people who will

- attend governors' meetings – listen and not be afraid to ask questions or make suggestions
- work in partnership with the Headteacher to help raise standards
- get to know the strengths and weaknesses of the school
- influence our future.

By becoming a governor, you can really serve the community. You don't need any special expertise but you will gain useful experience and new skills. Free training and advice is available.

Playing a part in children's education is a way of serving the whole community and contributing to a better future for us all. **Interest, enthusiasm and commitment are important**

If you are interested in being a school governor at Stoke Park Junior School, or finding out more please contact our Clerk, Judith Young, at the school on 023 80612789.

Are you a charity operating in Bishopstoke? Do you have a local event you would like to advertise? Are you a local Group or Society looking for more members?

If so, then we may be able to help you. We have 9 Notice Boards spread throughout the Parish of Bishopstoke and would be happy to put up posters to help you advertise your event or what you do.

For more information, please contact the Admin Officer on

admin@bishopstokepc.org