

**MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF BISHOP'S HULL PARISH COUNCIL HELD AT THE
FRANK BOND CENTRE ON THURSDAY, 14th APRIL 2011**

Present: Mr K Burgess (in the Chair)
Mrs C Bulbeck
Mr G Everett
Mrs L Kelly
Mrs W Lewis
Mr R Porter
Mrs S Ravenhill
Mr N Roper
Mrs J Beaumont
Mr M Summers

Cllrs Ian Morrell and Nigel Stuart Thorn (TDBC) and Cllr Alan Paul (SCC) were also present.

E2287 APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Apologies for absence were received from Mr Rose.

E2288 MINUTES OF THE LAST MEETING

The Minutes of the meeting held on 24th February 2011 were signed as a correct record.

E2289 MATTERS ARISING

E2271 – Diverted footpath at Norton Fitzwarren – there was still no progress with the re-opening of this footpath.

E2290 PACT

PC Claire Griffiths was welcomed to the meeting. Work against anti-social behaviour was progressing well, with the help of a new housing officer, but with the improving weather and the holidays, it was anticipated that the situation may well deteriorate. There was now an 'anti-social behaviour car' which was on patrol around the town and villages until midnight, which was helpful. Some drug warrants had been issued and the residents evicted. Various problems with the roadworks by the Persimmon development were being dealt with. Some drivers were still coming into Bishop's Hull Road from the Wellington Road although it was now a very difficult turn. They would be advised not to continue to do this, if caught. The bus gate in Mountway Road was still out of action, and the proposed camera was not yet in place. The Police were actively monitoring the illegal use of this gate by motorists.

The point was raised that the signage indicating no left turn into Bishop's Hull Road from the Wellington Road (going north) was too late and needed to be much earlier so that motorists were sufficiently warned. Claire said that the Police were aware of this and had raised it with Somerset County Council - that was all that they could do. Claire said that she had been re-posted to the town centre and would no longer be associated with Bishop's Hull. PC Charlie Gear (currently Comeytrove) would be taking over he is very experienced beat manager. Claire was thanked for all her hard work for the village.

E2291 CORRESPONDENCE

The following correspondence had been received and was noted: -

- 1) Letter from SCC regarding the temporary closure of the footpath T3/18 through the Persimmon development;

- 2) Email from Theresa Hart at Avon and Somerset Police regarding reorganisation of the neighbourhood policing teams.
- 3) Letter from TDBC regarding the nominations for the new Parish Council – only 8 had been received by the due date, leaving three vacancies to be filled by co-option. Once again there were insufficient nominations to require an election
- 4) Letter from Chief Executive of SCC regarding faster broadband for rural areas – Mr Everett said he would respond to this as he thought it was an important issue.
- 5) Various other emails had been circulated to all members since the last meeting, and had been noted.

E2292

FINANCIAL MATTERS

Request for financial assistance from: -

VEG – it was agreed to grant VEG £300 towards the cost of hiring portable toilets for the Party in the Park. Mr Porter and Mrs Bulbeck declared an interest in this item and did not vote on the motion.

CAB – it was agreed to donate £50 towards the valuable work of the CAB.

Somerset Community Council – it was agreed to renew our subscription - £35.

Overpayment and liability for NI – the Chairman reported that following further correspondence and discussion with HMRC it has been agreed by them that the Parish Council is entitled to a total reimbursement of £1266.65 in respect of overpayment of contributions for Mr Dezille. A further meeting was due to be held the following week to complete the forms to collect the over-payment and agree how to progress the situation regarding the Clerk’s non-payment of NI which has not yet resolved.

E2293

CHEQUES AUTHORISED

S Watts – Clerk’s salary and expenses for March	£428.86
R Dezille – Street Cleaner’s hours for March	£288.00
HMRC (4 th quarter)	£612.18
Playing Fields Trust (annual grant)	£1,000.00
D Jorgensen (website domain fee)	£42.24
S Watts – Clerk’s salary and expenses for April	£456.56
R Dezille – Street Cleaner’s hours for April	£312.00
SCC Allotments rent for 2010-11	£150.00
Taunton Deane BC (dog bins)	£487.44
K Burgess (expenses)	£46.07
Society of Local Council Clerks (subs)	£106.00
VEG (donation)	£300.00
Somerset Community Council (subs)	£35.00
Taunton CAB (donation)	£50.00

E2294

POST OFFICE

Cllr Ian Morrell was invited to speak on this subject. He reported on his involvement with the situation regarding the Post Office closure. He said that, although there are various possible alternative locations on offer, its future is still unsure. He is monitoring the situation and meeting from time to time with the Post Office. He is hopeful that the village might retain a Post Office but its location was still undecided.

E2295

PERSIMMON WORKS UPDATE

Mr Burgess reported that although there are still some matters outstanding, the Cross Road modifications are more or less complete and the housing construction is under way with the show house available for inspection. There are further planning applications associated with the same development under consideration, which amongst other things

vary the appearance of the properties. This particularly applies to the show houses. Problems are still being caused by parked vehicles and there were still instances of speeding. How best to deal with this was a matter for the new Council, and could only really be addressed once the development was completed. Mr Burgess said that he was investigating the possibility of the field next to the development being used for allotments, and he would continue to pursue this.

E2296

PLANNING

The following applications had been RECEIVED and there were no objections: -

05/11/011 – Conservatory to rear of 1 Jarmyns;

05/11/012 – Widening of pedestrian access to form vehicular access at 4 Stonegallows;

05/11/016 – Minor changes to conditions pertaining to layout, design and materials at land west of Bishop's Hull Road. It was decided not to object at this stage.

Subsequent to the meeting an objection was agreed on the basis that the proposed finishes are inappropriate and out of character for the area. **Shed at 6 Mountway Road** – it was noted that although planning permission had been refused for this retrospective application, the shed had still not been removed. The Clerk was asked to make enquiries.

E2297

ONGOING AND OUTSTANDING ISSUES

The Clerk reported progress on the list of issues drawn up at the previous meeting: --

- Dog bins – were both now in position and the Clerk had received a servicing agreement for the new one in Frethey Lane. This was duly signed.
- Smelly water at Netherclay – Mrs Kelly thought that this matter was now receiving attention. The Clerk commented that the water had been very smelly during the recent hot weather.

E2298

COMMUNITY WOODLAND

The Chairman reported that he had recently attended a meeting with the Somerset Wildlife Trust and Taunton Deane BC and more work was being undertaken in the woodland, including the removal of tree guards. There was a large tree in the river which was now collecting debris and could potentially be a danger if there was sudden flood of water. Mr Burgess undertook to find out what the SWT were doing about it. The Environment Agency did not appear to have done anything about the other tree further down river towards the bridge, although this had now been reported twice. Mr Burgess also confirmed that £1000 had been spent on planting wild flowers and bulbs in the woodland, and more needed to be spent. Mrs Kelly was keen to have the hedge between the TDBC and SWT sections of the woodland properly layered. Mr Burgess thought that this had previously been done by the SWT and students from Cannington College. Mrs Kelly reported that there were people illegally camping in the woodland – the Police indicated that they were not aware of this but since it is a civil and not a criminal offence they cannot take action.

E2299

DATE OF NEXT MEETING

Thursday 19th May 2011, at 7.30 p.m.

E2300

ITEMS OF REPORT

The Big Society – a letter had been received from SCC asking Parish Councils to do more. The Clerk was asked to write to SCC and TDBC seeking clarification of action might be appropriate.

Orchard on Persimmon site – this was full of dandelions and other weeds and needed to be treated. The Clerk was asked to contact Persimmon.

Closure of tips – it was noted that fly tipping had already started due to the closure of local tips. The Clerk was asked to write to Taunton Deane.

Interpet office, Bishop's Hull Hill – it was reported that water was running from a pipe onto the main road.

E2301

RETIRING CHAIRMAN

As had already been mentioned, Mr Burgess had indicated that he was standing down from the Council and would not be seeking re-election. He was thanked for his many years of service to the Parish Council, the last two as Chairman. Mr Burgess was then presented with a parting gift.

CHAIRMAN