

The Parish Times

Keeping Hinton Parva, Bishopstone and Russley Park informed.

Volume 10. Number 9

Response to PUBLIC MEETING

Introduction

The Parish Council was pleased to welcome PCSO Mark Cook and c25 other parishioners to the public meeting in Bishopstone on 12 September 2011. In a helpful session, four major topics were discussed:

1. Preventing any more anti-social behaviour in Bishopstone
2. Improving communications between the Parish Council and parishioners
3. The future use of the Island
4. Other matters

The aim of this note is to put the Parish Council's proposals out for public consultation; we would like to get views and feedback from as many people as possible, by 30 November 2011.

Parishioners must appreciate that the Parish Council has limited and tightly constrained powers and resources. Its financial resources are limited to what can be raised through the precept, that is to say, the small amount of money paid by council tax payers to Swindon Borough Council for the Parish, or by obtaining grants.

Anti-social behaviour

It was emphasised by the Police at the meeting that any crime, vandalism or anti-social behaviour in the Parish should be reported to the Police at the earliest opportunity. The Parish Council cannot take responsibility for dealing with or preventing such matters; however it was clear that all sections of the community should have an interest in addressing the issues which have arisen locally in the last 18 months. This led to a wide ranging discussion on the lack of activities for children, and particularly teenaged boys, in the Parish. (Whilst the Parish includes Bishopstone, Hinton Parva and Russley Park, the discussion at the meeting centred on Bishopstone.)

Youth activities

The Parish Council would be pleased to encourage and support to the best of its abilities any more beneficial activities within the villages of the Parish; the following have been suggested:

- Football,
- A youth club (which the Police may be able to assist)
- A book club
- A cinema club (for the winter months)

What are your suggestions to add to this list?

We need volunteers to organise any new activities - please step forward!

Without people willing to give of their time, it is unlikely that any of the improvements we would like to see can be made.



CF Oil, Community First's new venture that saves you money!

CF Oil is a new social enterprise that will reduce the cost of your domestic heating oil each time you place an order.

All you need to do to take advantage of the scheme is to pay an annual membership fee, which will cover as many oil orders as you need during the course of the year.

Membership costs £20 per year and you normally save more than your memberships costs in your first order!

The more people who get together to buy oil the greater negotiating power of the group. It helps shift power away from the supplier and back to the customer.

The scheme normally works through a volunteer local co-ordinator but CF Oil will act as the co-ordinator until one is appointed. Local Co-ordinators have FREE membership of the scheme.

If you would like to save money on the cost of your heating oil, please join our CF Oil & see how easy it is.

If you would like further information on being a member or a Local Co-ordinator please contact our CF Oil administrator Jess emery on 01380 732809 oil@communityfirst.org.uk or visit our website www.communityfirst.org.uk

101 NON EMERGENCY POLICE NUMBER from September 19 communities across Wilts will be able to call 101. This is a new national non emergency telephone number for the police. The old, longer, numbers are being phased out.

999 remains the well recognised number to report emergencies.

101 is available 24//7.

BUILDER'S WASTE

If workmen are taking waste from your home you have a legal duty to check that they are registered waste carriers. This means the waste will not be fly tipped. Ask the contractor for their waste carrier certification or waste carrier number. If they cannot supply this keep a note of their name in case they fly tip and it is traced back to you.

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Funds may be sought through the precept, by approaching Swindon Borough Council, and/or other sources for grants, but everybody has to be aware that fund raising in these difficult financial times does take time and success cannot be guaranteed.

Improving communications

The Parish Council currently uses the monthly Parish Newsletter, and its own notice boards in Bishopstone and Hinton Parva as well as the website for dissemination of information. We can improve on this by distributing relevant notices to other organisations such as the Parochial Church Council, Bishopstone School, the Village Hall committees and possibly modern social media - Facebook and Twitter etc, We want to reach all generations in an appropriate way.

How should we get information to you?

We need your ideas and interest to improve facilities in the Parish

Pond and Island

Bishopstone Pond & Island were bought by the Parish Council from the Church Commissioners - they therefore belong to all those who reside in the village, as a public area with wide varieties of wildlife habitat, for the quiet enjoyment of all residents; both areas are managed, funded and insured by the Parish Council.

A number of suggestions were made; the section below identifies them, with the Parish Council's own views:

Suggestion	Parish Council Response
The Pond/Island Management Plan of 2007/8 should be reviewed	We are in the process of that and will circulate an update in due course
The Island should be locked at night	We do not believe that this is in the spirit of ownership by the village as a whole, or practical, long term.
Provision for further allotments should be made on the Island	A considerable proportion of the Island is already taken up by the allotments run by Bishopstone School. We do not believe that further allotments in such a small area are in the best interests of the wider ownership - residents of the village.
Increasing vegetation on the Island should be cut back	A number of the trees on the Island are overgrown and in need of routine maintenance. We are taking advice from Swindon Borough Council as to what should be done and will undertake the required work, subject to funding.
SBC have suggested that a new hedge should be cut and laid from the mixed trees and saplings growing on the water's edge	This would create a natural safety barrier and also allow better visibility on to and out of the Island – discouraging any future vandalism. The hedge itself would enhance the wildlife habitat.
Other matters	
Progress a Parish Plan and Neighbourhood Plan	We are actively researching both at present
Closer liaison with Wanborough	Ideas on the form of closer liaison envisaged would be appreciated; with this, we will be able to discuss this with Wanborough Parish Council.

Please pass your views and ideas to any member of the Parish Council; their names and addresses are included in the Newsletter each month.

Please make sure that we have all responses by 30 November 2011, for consideration at the December Parish Council meeting.

Alternatively, why not attend the monthly Parish Council meeting for a discussion? The dates and locations are included in the Newsletter each month.

SMALL PRINT

Welcome

The Parish Council always extends a warm welcome to all new and prospective residents of the Parish. We are very pleased that you've chosen to live in our community.

The Parish contains two conservation areas and everything south of the Icknield Way is also in the North Wessex Downs Area of Outstanding Natural Beauty. Many houses are also listed.

Naturally this brings with it all sorts of problems when it comes to tree felling, house alterations, etc. There are also other regulations aimed at

preserving the character and beauty of the parish. If in doubt, please check, we are only a phone call away.

The Parish Council is therefore always available to answer any questions you may have on any particular aspect of living in a conservation area, the area of outstanding natural beauty or in listed buildings. Please do not hesitate to contact either the Clerk, the Chair or any member of the council - the numbers appear on the next page.

We do hope you will be very happy here.

Parish Documents

The Parish has an archive room in the village hall in Bishopstone. This is not accessible to members of the public, however, with advanced warning any document stored there may be viewed by contacting a member of the council.

Documents of particular importance are also stored on the parish website and may be viewed

by anyone with a PC. Members of the parish without a PC can ask the clerk to provide them with a hard copy.

Documents on the website include the precept, the accounts, standing orders, annual Returns, etc.

Parish Parking

The Parish has many narrow lanes and these need to be accessible to residents, utility and emergency vehicles at all times. Cars are now being parked along some of the narrowest sections of road (e.g. Cues Lane in Bishopstone, High Street, Bishopstone, etc.) often blocking these routes to even small vehicles. Please remember that emergency vehicles need to be able to move freely down all the roads and lanes of the parish at all times. Could we therefore ask that owners of vehicles park them responsibly and avoid the narrowest sections.

THE Village Hall car park in Bishopstone is a private space available only for those using the village hall. It is not somewhere for parishioners to park on a long term basis; whatever the circumstances might be. This is clearly signed on

the wall of the hall.

Cars parked here make it very difficult for legitimate car park users to find space for their vehicles. It is also incredibly inconvenient for those users having to load and unload items, or for the infirm or disabled who wish to make use of the hall.

Provided the hall is not in use, loading and unloading of vehicles is permitted, as is visitor parking for short periods. By prior arrangement with the committee the siting of skips can also be accommodated.

The committee very much regret that it cannot offer parking for those in need, however, hall users must come first and from the complaints received these are frequently finding it difficult to park.

Protected Trees

Trees are vital to the quality of our lives for a number of reasons:-

- They help make our two villages more pleasant and attractive places in which to live and work.
- They are often a familiar and cherished feature and so provide a sense of place.
- They provide a valuable habitat for wildlife.

They are often older than many of the buildings amongst which they stand and so contribute to our local history.

Because they are so important to our environment all trees within a Conservation Area are protected by law*. The **whole** of Bishopstone is within a Conservation Area. The **whole** of Hinton Parva centred around the church is also within a Conservation Area.

Anyone planning to cut down or carry out work to a tree here must give the Borough Council six

weeks written notice of their intention to do so.

*Whilst there are one or two exemptions, such as trees with a diameter of less than 3 inches (measured 1.5m from the ground) or when a tree is in a dangerous condition, you are strongly advised to check first with the Council's Tree Officer since any unauthorised works can be a criminal offence which could lead to prosecution and heavy fines of up to £20,000. Better to be safe than sorry!

The Council's Tree Officer can be contacted on 01793 466318.

Individual trees or groups of trees that make a particularly important contribution to either of our villages may be worthy of special protection by way of a Tree Preservation Order. If you know of any such trees then please do not hesitate to contact any Member of the Parish Council or the Borough Council's Tree Officer who will be happy to make an inspection.

USEFUL INFORMATION

Crimestoppers: 0800 555 111

(Call anonymously with information about crime)

Domestic Violence 24hr National Helpline: 0808 2000 247

FRANK: 0800 77 66 00
(drug related)

Anti Social Behaviour: 01793 445500

Noise Nuisance: 01793 445500

NHS Direct: 0845 4647

Swindon Community Safety Partnership: 01793 466506

Wiltshire Bobby Van Trust 01225 794652 provides home security services to people aged 60+ or with special needs. (NB: the WBVT is a charity - donations are welcome).

Beat the Burglar

If you see anyone acting suspiciously, take their description and vehicle registration details and call the police on: 0845 408 7000. In an emergency call 999.

For a free home security pack and information about offers on home security call the Home Office:

0800 456 1213

(Packs are subject to availability).

Police search website.

<http://www.police.uk/>

Meetings for the year

14th November 2011 Hinton Parva Village Hall
12th December 2011 Bishopstone Village Hall
9th January 2012 Hinton Parva Village Hall
13th February 2012 Bishopstone Village Hall
12th March 2012 Bishopstone Village Hall (Parish Assembly) **7:00 pm start**
9th April 2012 Hinton Parva Village Hall
14th May 2012 Bishopstone Village Hall (AGM)

All meetings begin at 7.30pm and members of the public are always welcome. Late changes are shown on the website <http://parish.bishopstone.net> and on the notice boards in Hinton Parva and Bishopstone.

BISHOPSTONE PARISH COUNCIL

Lesley Drewett (Clerk)
2 Downs Close
Eastbury
Hungerford
RG17 7JW

Phone: 01488 71828
Fax: None
Email: lesley@tynash.com
website: http://parish.bishopstone.net

Mr Julian Cooke

Church Farm, Hinton Parva. SN4 0DW. 790278.

Mr Simon Jenkins

The Old Vicarage, Bishopstone. SN6 8PY. 790545.

Mr Stuart McGuigan

Greenoak, Newtown Lane, Bishopstone. SN6 8QA. 790219.

Mrs Sarah Paye

Senama, Russley Park, Baydon, SN8 2JY. 01672 541600.

Mr Rob Selbourne

Prebendal Farm, Bishopstone, Wilts. SN6 8PT. 790485.

Mr Doug Stevens

Church View, Church Lane, Bishopstone. SN6 8PY. 791107.

Mrs Karolyn Tapper (Vice Chair)

Orchard Cottage, Bishopstone, Wilts. SN6 8PL. 790658.

Mr Ian Thomas

Littlecot, High Street, Bishopstone, Wilts. SN6 8PH. 790106.

Mr Ian Thompson

Snowberry House, Hinton Parva. SN4 0DW. 790970.

Useful Information

**101 new non Emergency
Police Number**

Police Headquarters

0845 408 7000
24hrs, 7 days a week

**SBC Reception Premier
House**

01793 465055/465056

Civic Offices

01793 463668

Wat Tyler House

01793 463725

Borough Councillor

Andrew Bennett 01793 790563

**Fly Tipping and other
similar problems**

Swindon Commercial Services

01793 463463

Keeping Swindon Safe

SBC 01793 445500
Police 0845 408 7000

**Foxhill Motocross
2011 Calendar**

No more events in 2011.

**Refurbiz - the Domestic
Appliance Re-cycling
Charity.**

**Refurbished appliances
at affordable prices with
warranty**

Replacing your washing machine, dryer, fridge or electric cooker? Please donate your old machines to us so we can refurbish them for families in need.

Wiltshire-wide collection and delivery service.

Call us on (01380) 720200, Or visit our showroom at Hopton Park, Devizes www.refurbiz.org Registered Charity Number 1107150

Planning Update

All planning applications, their history and all supporting documents can now be viewed online by visiting:
www.swindon.gov.uk/planning.

Planning issues are discussed at the monthly Parish Council meetings. All plans for that month are laid out on display prior to the meetings and councillors and members of the public are invited to take a look. Public representations are heard prior to the start of the meeting.

Parish Council meetings alternate between Hinton Parva Village Hall and Bishopstone Village Hall.

Members of the public are always welcome.

Planning:

APPLICATIONS

S/11/1261ROBI - Erection of a single storey rear extension, new porch, alterations and roof mounted solar panels - Parva Stud, Church Row, Hinton Parva

S/11/1307KICO - Erection of 2 no dormer windows - Boxwood House, Hinton Parva

Conservation Area – Section 211 Notices:

NONE

GRANTED

S/11/1102CLMC - Erection of a single storey rear extension - Old Farmhouse, West End Lane, Bishopstone

REFUSED

NONE

Don't forget that all important information is displayed on the notice-boards in both villages and on the website at <http://parish.bishopstone.net>.

The Parish Times will always be available on the website. It is added there as soon as it is ready to go to the printers.

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