

BISHOPS CAUNDLE PARISH COUNCIL

ANNUAL PARISH MEETING MINUTES

HELD ON TUESDAY, 21st MAY 2024 AT 7.00P.M.

IN THE VILLAGE HALL

Present: . D. Kennelly (Hall representative), Cllrs. D.Blair, K. Adlem, J. Shaw, J. Phillips.

3 Members of the public.

Apologies: Cllr. Jones.

Minutes: Parish Clerk J. Walsh-Quantick

1. Election of Chairman for Annual Parish Meeting:

M. Richards. Proposed D. Blair, seconded by K. Adlem.

2. To receive apologies for absence:

Apologies were received from Cllr. Jones, Cllr. Legg.

3. To approve minutes of the Annual Parish Meeting held on 16th May 2023

Circulated previously, the minutes were approved and signed. Proposed K. Adlem, seconded D. Blair.

Outstanding Action – None

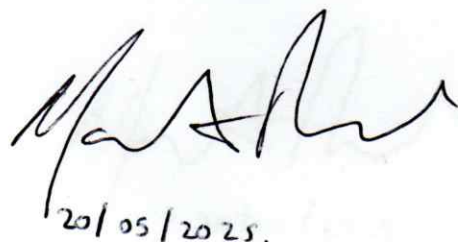
4. Parish Council Chairman's Report A. Jones – Written copy provided in advance and read at the meeting.

My apologies for not attending both the Annual Parish and Annual Parish Council Meetings due to personal and family reasons.

Following many complaints concerning speeding vehicles through the village, we have (despite technical problems) obtained our own Speed Indicator Device which is erected for variable periods of time at either entry to the village warning motorists they are entering a speed limit zone. Furthermore, we now have our own speed radar gun which is operated, following full training from the police, by a group of volunteers. Those who exceed the speed limits are reported to the police for action to be taken, these details are often used to indicate the frequency of visits by the police to check vehicle speeds through the village.

The Parish Council have received a number of planning applications for our comments to be considered by planning as required by Planning Regulations.

Like most households in the Parish, we have seen over the year an increase in our costs. Our budget for the coming year has had to be increased with a subsequent increase in our Precept. Our volunteer group has continued to redevelop the new play area, the existing area has been cleared, the ground levelled by addition of new soil and grass seed applied. So far we have managed to purchase two new items of play equipment, it is hoped finance permitting to install further units in the coming year. We will also need to make positive decisions concerning the redundant football hut. Initial inspection seems to indicate repairs and refurbishment will be uneconomic and only options are to demolish and clear the site. This will incur considerable costs to the community so the council welcome ideas.



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We have been fortunate in the support of volunteers for grass cutting of the playing field for which an annual £500 donation is given, this is a considerable cost saving to the community. These volunteers are to be congratulated for their hard work over the past year.

Unfortunately we have, similar to many others, suffered the effects of flash flooding within the area especially on the approach roads to the village. Like many, I consider this to be the result of lack of good maintenance of roadside ditches and culverts which have been allowed to collapse.

The council has managed to co-opt some new members to fill vacancies following retirements and it is hoped they have found their new role of interest. I propose a vote of thanks to councillors for their support and hard work over the past year. I would also like to congratulate Cllr. Legg on his re-election to the District Council and his considerable help and guidance over the past year. Lastly but not least, thanks to our excellent clerk for her industry and hard work and guidance.

5. Statement of Parish Council Accounts.

The clerk presented the full parish council accounts for the year April 2023-March 2024, these were fully approved. Proposed by D. Blair and seconded by J. Phillips.

The internal audit of the accounts will be completed by N. Ladd by mid June and the audited accounts submitted to BDO LLP. Annual accounts are displayed on the parish council webpage and notice board and this year's will be added once auditing is completed (towards the end of June). There is still some money within the accounts ring fenced for projects within the village linked to the Playing Field, Play Area and speeding which accounts for the high balances presented.

Balances at 31/03/24:

Natwest Current account £2655.37

Natwest Savings Account £15932.10

Natwest Grants Account £1136.74

Balance at year end: £19724.21

Expenditure 2023-24 - £24050.07

Income 2023-24 - £11693.03

N.b: Maximum reserves permitted 2023-24 £16516.00

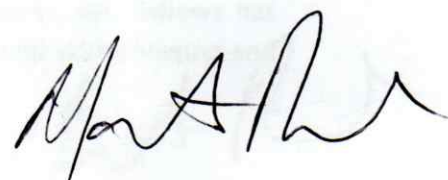
We continue to have a small amount of CIL money allocated to projects within the village which are ongoing.

6. Representatives from Village Organisations were invited to give a brief statement of the year's activities:

A. Parochial Church Council.

An update was provided by Cllr. Richards. Cllr. Richards is the sole warden due to C. Loder MP setting down from this role. Attendance levels are low, typically 8-10 in a service held monthly. Financially the resources for the church are poor and it is unknown how much longer the church can survive in its current form. The building is in poor repair with some water leaks and there is water damage to the organ. A picture of a lion and unicorn within the church is in need of some preservation work. The bats that were in the tower are no longer present.

The current rector Tony will be retiring in June.



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It has been asked if the ashes of former rector Derek Hillier can be interned within the cemetery which was unanimously agreed and any fees are to be waived.

B. Village Hall Committee.

Report for the Bishops Caundle & Caundle Marsh Village Hall D. Kennelly.

The hall is run by committee and it is in a good current position financially. Recent purchases include solar panels from the hall funds and there have been other purchases assisted through grants.

The hall is well used for clubs including craft, badminton, short mat bowls and there has been increasing hire by locals for events.

C. Village Community Shop

No representation

D. Badminton Club

No representation

E. Short Mat Bowling Club D. Kennelly.

The club continues in its success in league games, 2nd last year. There are 8 full time players which is sufficient to maintain the clubs but it needs more players to allow the club to progress. Currently there are 2 meetings per week.

F. Community Speed Watch (CSW) J. Shaw.

Typically CSW have two 1 hour sessions per month which are supported by the CSW team at Dorset police. There was a recent focus day supported by the head of Dorset Police who gave thanks to CSW teams county wide. On average 4-6 people per month are recorded at driving over 35mph in the village who are reported to the speeding team at Dorset police who will then write to the vehicle owner. The process is for 2 x letters followed by a police visit on a 3rd occasion of speeding. There are 6 current members and volunteers are welcome to join to support with CSW. The team continue to take responsibility for moving the SID every 6 weeks.

G. Other Village Groups

Patchwork group: No representation

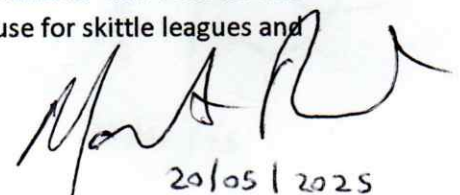
Spinning Group: No representation.

Football Social Club: No representation:

As with last year, the football social club has officially disbanded. S. Martin is awaiting some volunteer support to clear the building and until this has been done, the lease still remains the responsibility of the Football Social Club. Office tables and chairs will be donated to the village hall. Due to no action having been taken in the past 12 months, the Parish Council will take on responsibility for the building.

7. Open Public Forum

- M. Fellows (landlord at The White Hart) reported that he has been the landlord since November 2023. Work in the building is ongoing for renovations. Mr. Fellows has expressed some interest in the pavilion with the potential for use for skittle leagues and



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a youth club, her would like to arrange to visit the building. Cllr. Wookey will ask the school if Heras fencing can be borrowed for safety.

- M. Bolton has raised concern over the management of the community shop which he volunteers for. He is keen to get involved with local groups.
- A Hill View resident (Daisy) is keen for equipment for older children is installed, advised that finances are restricting the work that the parish council are able to do however we continue to look for funding sources. Daisy is happy to support with fund raising and grant applications.
- Manor Farm development – A concern was raised about the developers not yet having completed the barn conversion or the road. This will continue to be monitored throughout the coming year.

The meeting closed at 8:10pm



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