



**Bishton Community Council
Ordinary Meeting 1830 – 2100
Wednesday 14th February 2024
Underwood Community Centre**

DRAFT MINUTES

The meeting started at 1840

1. Attendance

John Davies, Pamela Davies, Andrew Cork, Carol Cork, Chelsea Powell, Rachael Stephens, Mark Campbell, Cherie Hall, John Hall, Samantha Voaden-Miller
Jacob Richards-Powell – Clerk

Karen Fulker, David Fulker, Martin Webber, Andrew Willett, Theresa Spuffard, Marjorie Devlin, Geoff Devlin

2. Apologies

Richard Stokes accepted.
William Routley accepted.

3. Declarations of interest

John Hall, Samantha Voaden-Miller – allotments

4. Announcements

- a. Comments from Standards Committee
- b. Confirm receipt of Draft Minutes from OVW Area Committee Meeting (January 11th 2024)

5. Public participation (Limited to 20 Minutes)

- a. Bishton Village Hall Report
 - i. Confirm receipt of latest report
 - ii. Note comments to take back to BVH.
 1. Andrew Cork wanted to acknowledge that despite BVH terminating their lease he wanted to thank them for the incredible / hard work that they have done in the time that they have managed the hall – bringing the hall to a good state.
- b. **Questions from Members of Public (please submit to Clerk prior to meeting)**
 - i. No questions have been received prior to the meeting.
- c. **City Councillor Participation**
 - i. City Councillor Ray Mogford noted that Bishton Village Hall is not on the land registry. Chair assured that deeds are either in the safe or held by solicitor. Transfer of school to Council was 1953/1954. Prior to formation of Land Registry service.
 - ii. Ongoing issues with floods – Bishton properties are suffering due to ingress of water. Might be that reën passing through village is blocked. Part of reën was diverted to underground and may be blocked or not clear. Ray and William are due to attend a meeting with NCC to discuss the ongoing flood issues within Bishton, Wilcreek and the Underwood estate (covering point 9G) Ray to meet John Davies (15/02/2024) at 2:30pm in Bishton to map out the areas with flood) then to meet Andrew Cork at 4:00pm in Underwood to map out the flood affected area.

6. Approve Minutes from Ordinary Meeting

- a. Meeting held on January 10th, 2024 – No issues with Minutes. Approved by full Council.

7. Action Points & Clerk Report

- a. Update on Actions from last month.

8. Finance & Procedure

- a. Review and agree bank reconciliation for January 2024
- b. Review and agree asset purchase for Bishton Village Hall
 - i. Council agrees to purchase the storage container at £400
 - ii. Additional ancillary equipment (sound bar, DVD player, cables etc) have also been agreed.
 - iii. BCC is to purchase 26 chairs at £11 each and 16 tables to replace furniture that is currently on site. The Clerk remarked that he did not agree that the purchases were necessary.

A member of public attempted to ask John Davies how many chairs would be purchased but he refused to answer the member of public as public participation had ended. This was disputed and order was called for. Mark Campbell put the question to John Davies who confirmed the amount of furniture that would be purchased.

9. Underwood, Bishton & Wilcrick

- a. Quotations received for website.
 - i. It was agreed to accept the quotation from Usk Valley Promotions as a satisfactory quotation for a new website. The price is £850 plus £30 a month hosting fees for server and email accounts.
 - ii. The quotation from Vision ICT was for £3125 with £125 plus VAT for SSL certification and a £50 per year renewal fee. £225 a year hosting fees
- b. Quotations received for new cooker for UCC.
 1. Quotations for cookers and installation for UCC were circulated by The Clerk prior to the meeting. John Davies also sent a quotation for a stove and installation. Carol Cork will decide which stove is the most appropriate and The Clerk will arrange purchase
Simon Heron will be appointed to carry out modifications to the kitchen to allow for the installation of the new stove.
 2. The old stove will be offered to CHANCE as they provided it to UCC. If they do not want it anymore it can be sold.
- c. Craig Y Perthi Solar Farm
 - i. Karen Fulker voiced concerns that properties have been valued in Bishton and prices have fallen around 10% due to the threat of the solar farm. John Davies advised putting the information on the 'Bishton Chat' social group. Comments from Jessica Morden is that Bishton will be 'marooned' if the development goes forward.
 - ii. There will be 5-weeks from the planning submission date to lodge any planning objections. Members of the community are mindful for when this happens so that comments can be lodged.
- d. Confirm Date for carol concert December 2024
 - i. 2nd Friday of December (13th) choir to be booked for the event subject to availability. Supported by all councillors.
- e. Review allotment recommendations for 2024/2025 for approval.
 - i. Allotment recommendations were submitted to the council prior to the meeting. Allotment holders have been made aware of any changes in prices and services.
 1. Chickens and fowl will no longer be accepted on allotment plots due to concerns with increasing pest control costs, ineffective pest control measures, DEFRA regulations regarding avian related diseases and illnesses.
 2. Plot holders will need to contact the Clerk with up-to-date contact information and to confirm that they wish to continue leasing a plot from March 31st 2024
 3. One plot holder has been in breach of conditions for considerable time with no improvement. The plot holder will be contacted.
 - ii. In anticipation of a new sign at the top of the allotment road the footpath register was checked to ensure that no paths cross the allotment site. This is to allow 'plot holder access only' to be included on the sign without causing conflict for footpath users.

- iii. Agreed by all Councillors with exception to Samantha Voaden-Miller and John Hall.
- f. Note concerns on poor street lighting in Underwood.
 - i. Residents have voiced concerns that streetlights in Underwood are not on during times that natural light is low. This matter has been reported to City Councillors who will take it to NCC.
- g. Note ongoing flooding issues on Waltwood Road
 - i. This was acknowledged by Ray Mogford during City Councillor participation.
- h. Young Person's First Aid Lessons – Working with Active Underwood
 - i. John Hall spoke to Ben Rice of Active Underwood with a view to creating an initiative to train young people / children basic first aid training. (Ages 8-10) **Clerk to ask St. John's for pricing. Chair to ask for further information with putting on First Aid courses.**
- i. Proposed Easter Egg Hunt
 - i. The Tavern is organising an Easter Egg hunt at Underwood so Council needs to take no action as it would only compete with established events in the community
- j. Nominee for School Governing Board
 - i. Council happy for Carol Cork to ask about being on the School Governing Board for Underwood Primary School.
- k. BCC to revise Terms and conditions for hirers of UCC
 - i. Consider deposits for parties.
 - 1. Low, mid, and high tier deposits taken depending on risk factor of event.
 - ii. Consider minimum age for party hire.
 - 1. Concerns were raised from Councillor Carol Cork and Andrew Cork that they are against booking 18th and 21st parties in Bishton Community Council facilities. (voted against all parties)
 - 2. A majority vote to take a bond of up to £100 for private parties
 - 3. Advised to carry out risk assessments for each individual event.

10. Planning

- a. Confirm receipt of delegated decision and enforcement notices (not for discussion)
- b. 24/0097 – installation of 35m tall lattice tower (Provided by Vodafone)
 - i. Noted

11. Date and time of Next meeting.

- a. Wednesday 13th March 2024 at Underwood Community Centre.

The meeting closed at: 1949

Signed:

Dated: