

# **PARISH OF BISHOPSTOKE**

## **Minutes of the Annual Parish Assembly 2004 Held at the Methodist Church, Bishopstoke on Thursday 20 May 2004, commencing at 7.30pm**

**Present:** In the Chair – Cllr Anne Winstanley, Chair of Bishopstoke Parish Council  
Fourteen members of the public and seven young persons of the Parish

**In attendance:** Mr P J Storey OBE, Clerk to Bishopstoke Parish Council  
Mr P Bulbeck, Responsible Finance Officer to Bishopstoke Parish Council

### **1. Welcome by the Chair**

Cllr Anne Winstanley extended a warm welcome to all present at the ninth Bishopstoke Parish Annual Assembly.

### **2. Apologies for Absence**

Apologies had been received from Mr and Mrs B Bennett, Mr I Pemberton, Mr D Prince, Cllr S Toher and Mrs D Hedges on behalf of the Stoke Park Residents' Association.

### **3. Minutes of the Annual Parish Assembly held on 29 May 2003**

Copies of these were distributed to those present prior to the Assembly. Proposed by Cllr Roling and Seconded by Cllr Hansell, **RESOLVED** unanimously that these be accepted as a true record of the 2003 Assembly.

### **4. Matters Arising from the Minutes of the Annual Parish Assembly held on 29 May 2003**

There were no matters arising.

### **5. Presentation of the Audited and Published Return for the year ended 31 March 2003**

Mr Bulbeck, the RFO, explained the procedure whereby the contents of the Annual Return were somewhat historical but confirmed this was the norm. The Chair then invited questions of which there were none.

### **6. Chair's Address and Annual Report**

Cllr Winstanley reported that the last 12 months had seen continuing work by the Parish Council on providing improvements for Parish residents and the environment, not least with the continuing funding support for the Tree Warden programme, tarmacing the footpath from Rogers Close to Longmead Avenue and granting aid to Age Concern, the Memorial Hall, local Scouts and the Methodist Church, among others. With its regular support of village events such as the Carnival and May Fete, the Armistice Day Service, the management of Parish Council notice boards, the annual Village Spring Clean, a revamped Parish website,

and a twice yearly Parish Newsletter and Events leaflet, the Parish Council had become an established part of village life.

Cllr Winstanley continued by explaining how the Parish Council also represented the best interests of Bishopstoke by being involved in a variety of consultation processes. Subjects ranged from every planning application within Bishopstoke to strategies for the South East Regional Assembly. The year before last the Council had commented on the draft parliamentary boundary proposals and she, as Chair, had spoken at the public enquiry in Winchester, the result of which was a rethink on the proposal to move Bishopstoke into the Winchester constituency. Further comment this year had been made on the proposal to put part of Bishopstoke around the north and west into a County division with Hiltingbury and the final decision on this was still awaited.

On a lighter note, Cllr Winstanley reminded those present of the dirtier aspects of the Council – she had in mind getting hands dirty on the Annual Spring Clean and delivering the Parish Newsletter. Both Councillors and volunteers had been involved in the latter and she and fellow Councillors wished to record their thanks to the following for their help: Corrine Cochrane, Rita Sharp, Helen and Ron Pattinson, John Dietman, Arthur Crooke, Sam James, Mike and Peta Thornton, Kerry Fuller, Jaqueline Finch, Bernie and Nola Bennett, Debra Hedges and members of the Stoke Park Residents' Association, and John Rice. John Rice was the only one of the helpers able to attend the Assembly and it was with great pleasure that Cllr Winstanley presented him with his Certificate of Appreciation.

On an equally pleasant note, Cllr Winstanley commented on the recent change in Parish Clerk, welcoming Peter Storey and warmly thanking Peter Bulbeck for his four years in the post. In recognition of his support, she and fellow Councillors were very pleased to present him with a pair of engraved tumblers, two paintings of Parish scenes and a card signed by all Parish councillors, showing a picture of the old School, now Bishopstoke Community Centre, painted by John Rice. Peter Bulbeck would be staying on as Responsible Finance Officer and Deputy Parish Clerk and would not be cutting his links entirely with the Parish.

In conclusion, Cllr Winstanley reported the enthusiasm felt by the Parish Council towards the promised start of the long awaited Brookfield Youth Centre in 2005. Following the Council's support of youth work by its participating in the BIFOHH Youth Project over several years, it now looked forward to remaining involved in the funding and management of the new Youth Centre. Additionally, the Council had supported Wyvern College's lottery bid for new community recreation facilities, having set aside £20000 over several years as the Parish contribution. The Council had been delighted to learn that the lottery bid had been successful and it now also looked forward to both the start and the completion of this project.

## **7. Presentation by Young Persons of the Parish**

Paul McLeod, Youth Worker with Hampshire County Council, introduced the presentation by acknowledging how unusual it was for such an opportunity to be given to young persons and how excited they were at the prospect of having their say. They then each identified areas of interest or concern, most of which centred on Glebe Meadow, and included the need for lights, ideally on a timer to encourage people to leave at a reasonable time, to make the area safer; plastic walls on the shelter to keep out inclement weather and more girl-orientated colours; new goal posts and nets at both ends of the pitch; resurfacing of the skate board area and possible extension (they commented that local persons were willing to paint the surface in order to keep costs down); equipment for older girls (the boys had the skateboard area and the

girls would like to see some swings and roundabouts); a water fountain and generally more seating areas within the facility.

Mary Shephard asked where they went at weekends and was told that Fair Oak was more attractive with its lights and facilities. Cllr Davies-Dear recommended that these ideas be progressed with Eastleigh Borough Council and this was agreed. Cllr Winstanley then thanked all who had taken part and confirmed that the Parish Council would take the ideas forward.

## **8. Public Questions**

John Rice commented on the 'herbal vandals' who wrongly parked their vehicles on grass verges causing considerable damage in the process. Cllr Winstanley agreed, making the point that verge parking was illegal and that improvements in managing this problem should come about with the decriminalising of parking in October and transfer of responsibility for policing this to Eastleigh Borough Council employees.

*There being no further questions, Cllr Winstanley declared the Assembly formally closed at 8.00pm and invited all present to enjoy the light refreshments which had been provided in the adjoining hall.*