**Minutes of the Parish Council Meeting held on Monday 8th April 2013 @ 8.15 pm in the Villages Hall, Bishampton**

Members and Officers present: Cllrs Rimell (chair), Palmer, Argyle, Tucker, Deacon & Cllr Mills

In attendance: Clerk & CC Tucker

1. **Apologies:** To receive apologies and to approve reasons for absence. Cllr Cheetham (H), Hodgkins (H) & Cllr Beever (H)
2. **Declarations of Interest:**

a)  Register of Interests: Councillors are reminded of the need to update their register of interests. None

b)  To declare any Disclosable Pecuniary Interests in items on the agenda and their nature. Cllr Rimell, donation to St James for mowing

c)  To declare any Other Disclosable Interests in items on the agenda and their nature. None

d) Written requests for the council to grant a dispensation (S33 of the Localism Act 2011) None

Councillors who have declared a Disclosable Pecuniary Interest, or an Other Disclosable Interest which falls within the terms of paragraph 12(4) (b) of the code of conduct, must leave the room for the relevant items.

Failure to register or declare a Disclosable Pecuniary Interest may result in the commission of a criminal offence.

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| The meeting opened @ 8.30 pm |

1. The minutes of the meeting held on 4th March 2013 were approved.
2. **District and County Councillors’** **reports:** for information. (Items raised for decision will appear on the agenda for the next meeting.) CC Tucker spoke about the Fires on the Airfield, SWDP
3. **Progress reports:** for information & discussion
   1. **Village Shop & Post Office**

Looking to exchange at the end of April. Contract cannot be drawn up between PC & buyer till PO have made a formal offer.

* 1. **Nature Reserve / Footpaths**

During the course of the last -12 months we planted one dozen local variety apple trees which have now all taken, and in fact two or three produced fruit in the first year.  Whilst the pond dried out completely in late summer the whole thing has now turned round to a flood situation and in fact the Reserve has been closed for the past 3 months due to flooding and this still remains the case.

As reported during February an accident occurred whilst removing a tree within the Reserve as a result of this we have decided for Health and Safety reasons that in the future tree removal requiring a chain saw should be done professionally and this will incur a further expense which will require budgeting in the future.

The PC acknowledge the work undertaken by the ageing volunteers, and note that it would be good if a younger generation were to become involved.

* 1. **Burial Site**

Cllr Tucker read out correspondence between himself & Defra, Mr Sweasey. It was agreed that Cllr Tucker would carry on his investigation into the possible running of the Burial Site.

* 1. **War Memorial**

Still awaiting a design from the architect, once it has been received quotations will be sought. The PC agreed that time was running out and the work would need to begin in June, therefore quotations need to be presented at the May meeting. ACTION MA

Throckmorton would like their memorial to be repaired. ACTION LT

* 1. **Play Area**

Area has been reseeded, due to unforeseen weather it has not taken as yet, they will reseed when the weather turns warmer. Talking flowers in the Junior play area are not working. Investigate. ACTION LR

* 1. **Vehicle Activation Sign**

Sign has been delivered, Pinvin Lengthsman is in the process or erecting them. A Risk Analysis needs to be done. ACTION ME

* 1. **SWDP**

April Draft plan & technical consultation results submitted to Secretary of State for Communities & Local Government

June/July – public hearing held by independent Inspector

August/September – Inspectors report published

Late 2013 – Adoption of SWDP by the three councils

* 1. **Pavement in Main Street**

CC Tucker will discuss the problem directly with Roof Top Housing. ACTION LT

* 1. **Flooding**

Defer till Cllr Cheetham is back from holiday

* 1. **Fly tipping**

It has been noted that wine bottles (Blossomhill) as well as Strongbow cans are being dumped at various areas around the village. PC to investigate further. ACTION ALL

1. **To discuss** the possibility of purchasing the pub “The Dolphin Inn”

The Clerk, as instructed by the Chair made an offer to purchase for £250K which has been declined. Cllr Cheetham is in the process of drawing up a business plan, once done the Loan documents can be completed. ACTION DC/LR/ME

1. **Finance** To view the bank reconciliation & approve Cheques for payment

The current account opened with a balance of £12,013.59

Income to the value of £741.51 was received. Cheques to the value of £652.18 were written out £0 is still to be presented. This left a closing balance of £12,102.92 in the current account.

The savings account opened with £6,526.25 received £0.25 interest, giving a closing balance of £6,526.50

As at March 31st the cash assets for the PC stand at £18,629.42

The following payments were approved

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| **Payee** | **Amount** | **Cheq No** | **Details** |
| OHL | 7.14 | 1541 | Re issue of cheque 1527 |
| N WInter | 141.75 | 1542 | Lengthsman |
| OHL | 13.86 | 1543 | Stationery |
| M English | 612.44 | 1544 | Wages & Expenses |
| St James | 750.00 | 1545 | Donation |
| CALC | 53.40 | 1546 | CiLCA |
| GBD | 336.00 | 1547 | Supply & Spread Topsoil & seed to Playing Field |

1. **Correspondence for Information:** To note the attached appendix of items which haven been circulated or will be available for inspection at the meeting. (OR a list of items will be available at the meeting.)
2. **Clerk’s report on Urgent Decisions since the last meeting.**

9.1 Fires at Throckmorton

Environment Agency have been working with the  Police, Hereford and Worcestershire Fire and Rescue (HWFRS), Wychavon District Council and Worcestershire Regulatory Services (WRS) to agree how they manage this issue based on the groups collective statutory powers.  They have re-visited the site with (HWFRS) and (WRS).  As a result the fire has been smothered by soil.

The site owner has been informed that future fires will be put out by HWFRS, and that the cost to the tax payer of doing this will be recharged to them.

 They are investigating what occurred at the site to find out if there was any breaches of environmental legislation.  If any are discovered they will take the appropriate enforcement action.

They are grateful to members of the public who took the time to report the issue to our free Incident Hotline (0800 80 70 60).  They have updated them and Councillor Liz Tucker.

9.2 Sunday Markets

Clerk reported the markets to Planning. These are being held by MPG. Planning are dealing with this. Clerk to follow up

9.3 Areas of responsibility to be agreed as per email sent out 4th April

9.4 Two mowing quotations were received. Smart Cut declined to tender

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| GBD | 3 yrs | £291.60 pm (£8.43 increase) |
| GBD | One year | £325.65 pm(£42.1 increase) |
|  | Footpaths | £74.65 pm |
| Limebridge |  | £270.00 pm |
| Limebridge | Footpaths | £66.00 pm |

It was agreed to go with the cheapest quotation for one year.

* 1. The Firs goes to committee on the 25th April
  2. It was agreed to pay Clerks basic salary by direct debit from the 1st May 2013.
  3. Pothole between Village Hall & Wineberry, works order was issued on 19th March, takes 4 weeks.

1. **Councillors’ reports and items for future agenda:** Councillors may use this opportunity to report minor matters of information not included elsewhere on the agenda and to raise items for future agendas.

History Society Loan

1. **Date of next meeting:** To confirm the date of the next meeting which is scheduled for 13th May 2013 in Throckmorton

The meeting closed at 10.10pm

Signed………………………………………………… …………………………..

Chair Date