

# BISHAMPTON AND THROCKMORTON PARISH COUNCIL

## Minutes of the Parish Council Meeting held on Monday 10<sup>th</sup> January 2021 at 7.00pm at Bishampton Villages Hall.

**Present:** Cllrs Boocock, Poulter, Amoroso, Argyle, Oakley, Davis, Hodgkiss, Tucker and Wood.

**In attendance:** C.Cllr Boatright, D.Cllr L.Tucker, Carolyn Morris, Acting Clerk.

The chairman opened the meeting with a reminder about current covid restrictions.

### 1. Apologies: None

#### Declarations of Interest:

- a) Register of Interests: Councillors are reminded of the need to update their register of interests.
- b) To declare any Disclosable Pecuniary Interests in items on the agenda and their nature. **None.**
- c) To declare any Other Disclosable Interests in items on the agenda and their nature. **Cllr Oakley declared an interest in Item 13 and left before the discussion.**
- d) Written requests for the council to grant a dispensation (S33 of the Localism Act 2011).

Adjournment for Public Question Time
Two members of the public were present but there were no issues raised.

### 2. Minutes: The minutes of the meeting on 1<sup>st</sup> December were approved and signed.

### 3. District and County Councillors' reports.

#### District Councillor report:

Planning: Cllr Tucker said she was keen to hear the parish views on the planning application for the Vale Carp Fishery– it was discussed later in the meeting. She also spoke about the plans for further storage of vehicles on the airfield and pointed out that the application was for land more visible, near the fence, so she was keen to ensure it wasn't too intrusive. (Also discussed in item 5)

Legacy Grants: Grants were available from Wychavon, this time focussing on community ideas in areas where there had been new development.

#### County Councillor report:

The parish council gratefully noted that Cllr Boatright attended the meeting despite it being his eighth meeting of the day, with another still to go!

Babylon Lane Ditch: Efforts were being made (emails had been exchanged) to resolve the issue of the non-draining ditch. All parties were going to attempt a site meeting to discuss. (See agenda item 4g)

Village Hall Pavement: Despite being told previously that the pavement belonged to highways, Cllr Boatright was frustrated to report that another map showed it wasn't part of the highway. He was still attempting to resolve which map was correct and who should pay for repairs.

County SEN Provision: A new OFSTED report on the county provision for students with educational needs showed Worcestershire was doing a little better than before, but not as well as it should, said Cllr Boatright. He said he was determined, unlike in previous consultations, that people who use the service should have a say in its improvement and he was gathering information to take back to the education department.

Barrier Damage: Cllr Argyle reported that a ditch safety barrier had been damaged by a vehicle at the end of Main Street. Cllr Boatright said it would be reported but stressed that the Christmas holiday and significant ongoing staff shortages meant that the county highways repair list was a very long one.

Flooding Ditch in Throckmorton: An apparently blocked drainage ditch in Throckmorton was brought to Cllr Boatright's attention but it was agreed that the lengthsman should look into the matter in the first instance.

### 4. Progress Reports: for information & discussion.

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Item	Description	Responsible
a)	Staffing: Newly appointed clerk Julie White was in attendance to observe the meeting. She was warmly welcomed by the council and Cllrs Poulter and Amoroso were also thanked for their work in arranging interviews. The chairman reported that the new clerk will be officially in office from March but would hopefully be available to administer the meeting in February. The acting clerk was thanked as well.	
b)	Long Lane VAS signs – The battery for the sign shared with Wyre Piddle had been purchased and Wyre Piddle had made a payment for half of it. The repair of the VAS on the south side hadn't been progressed over Christmas to avoid courier delays.	GB
c)	Visibility fencing in Throckmorton (opp. The Elms) - Vegetation is due to be cleared in February. The lengthsman has been consulted about the option of reflective paint.	GB
d)	CIL Projects – There had been a consultation on the parish council website and Newsletter. Though there were only a few responses, the projects favoured were: 1) the Nature Reserve, 2) improvements at Shorthorn Wood and 3) improvements to the village hall footpath. The council agreed to support these projects with its CIL money. Cllr Amoroso was to gather quotes for a gate, some bat-boxes and some wood, for the nature reserve improvement proposal and Cllr Tucker was asked to put together a proposal for the improvements to paths and surfaces in Shorthorn Wood.	GB / FA / CT
e)	Road Traffic Damage – Following the incident on the 12 <sup>th</sup> November, councillors were pleased to note that the insurance company had agreed payment for an exact replacement memorial bench. It will be ordered for delivery to Mr Tony Jones, a neighbour who has kindly agreed to store it until it can be fixed in place by the parish lengthsman. The council thanked him again for all his help and members were pleased to note that this will rectify all damage caused, excepting some bollards which are now on highways department's long list of repairs.	GB
f)	Nature Reserve Tree Work – Cllr Amoroso had been contacted by the nearest neighbours to the nature reserve who had expressed concern about some of the trees bordering their property during recent storms. They had offered to pay half for the trimming of the trees and had provided a quote for the work. It was agreed that Cllr Amoroso would have a discussion with them about the council's responsibility for the trees and would bring two more quotes back to the council for a decision on how to proceed.	GB
g)	Culvert, Babylon Lane - The idea of a meeting of all parties was welcomed as an important step forward and hope was expressed that it could happen as soon as possible. The ditch was not draining, explained Cllr Argyle, and its repair needed to be agreed before the parish council would adopt an ongoing maintenance programme.	MA
h)	Meeting Dates 2022 - A schedule of meeting dates was agreed – to be circulated.	GB
i)	Jubilee Events – Councillors heard how the church (a procession of village clubs), the village hall committee (a picnic), the gardening club, and the history group were already planning events and displays to commemorate the Queen's Platinum Jubilee in Bishampton. It was agreed that the parish council could provide financial support for projects but should not organise further events itself. Mark Platts had offered to make and distribute fliers and it was agreed in principle to fund his costs. It was noted that the organisers of the Bish Bosh Bash were not planning a fete this year but had indicated they would be willing to help with jubilee events. There had been no word of plans in Throckmorton and Tilesford – Cllrs Tucker and Hodgkiss to investigate. Everyone involved was invited to come to the next meeting with any proposals for PC support.	All

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## 5. Planning

- The chairman reported that the extension at the Coach House in Throckmorton had been approved.
- There was no objection to the new application for a Certificate of Lawfulness granting retrospective permission for a development on 10 Moat Farm Lane.
- Airfield applications – Cllr Hodgkiss had been looking into the county council guidelines re the suitability of the airfield entrance for use by further/large vehicles. Fearing an accident, Cllr Hodgkiss said he believed the entrance was unadopted and that it may not meet county guidelines which said there should be visibility of 70 metres in each direction. He was liaising with Cllr Boatright. Cllr Liz Tucker agreed to speak to planners. The general concern was not the planning applications alone but the accumulation of heavy traffic in the area.
- Carp Fishery – The planning committee was keen to hear views of villagers about plans to develop the Vale Carp Fishery at the bottom of Broad Lane. A plan has been submitted for 6 lakeside lodges and a new plan had now been submitted to change the use of the site ‘from fishing lakes to recreational use’. Concern had been raised from nearby residents about noise and increasing development of the site and there was concern from councillors in case it could be the beginning of a much larger complex. Wild swimming, kayaking and triathlons had been mentioned in the change of use application. It was agreed to inform villagers of the plans via Facebook in order to canvas local views and encourage people to make their own views known. Research into the issues and growth of similar leisure ventures was also suggested. The planning team will draw up a response.

	Reference	Description	Comment
Pending	20/02113/FUL	Evesham Vale Carp Fishery, Broad Lane: 6 Lakeside Lodges	<b>Commented</b>
Pending	21/01962/FUL	Rotherdale Farm Long Lane: The erection of a 142,596 M2 Glasshouse	<b>No Comment</b>
Pending	21/02478/CU	Land at Pershore Airfield, Long Lane: Change of use 27.6 Hectares	<b>9 Dec</b>
Pending	21/02648/FUL	Land off Long Lane (Airfield): 4 Warehouses + associated parking etc	<b>16 Dec</b>
Approved	21/02604/HP	The Coach House 6 Lower House Farm Barns Long Lane: Single storey rear extension	<b>9 Dec</b>
New	21/02941/CLPU	10 Moat Farm Lane, Bishampton, Certificate of Lawfulness	
New	21/02985/FUL	Evesham Vale Carp Fishery, Broad Lane, Change of use from fishing lakes to recreational use	

## 6. Progress Reports: Properties

Item	Description	Responsible
a)	Dolphin Maintenance Issues:- Boiler replacement update: Quotes had been gathered in and a company had been appointed to carry out the work as soon as possible. The Gas Safety Certificate will be obtained afterwards.	GB
b)	Housemartins –fan fitting: There had been no progress to date.	GB
c)	Shop electrics: No further progress to date.	GB

## 7. Finance

- 7.1. The bank reconciliation was reviewed and payments were approved. Delegated authority was agreed for the chairman to arrange payments for the Dolphin coffee morning and the temporary clerk payment at the same rate as previously agreed. The chairman noted that half of the nett cost of the VAS sign battery had been paid in by Wyre Piddle Parish Council which shared its use. The chairman’s expenditure on small Christmas gifts for newsletter volunteers and people providing electricity for X-mas trees was approved in retrospect. Claim be made next month.

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- 7.2. Councillors studied an analysis of the budget presented by the chairman and noted last month's agreement to increase the parish council precept in order to maintain reserves. Councillors agreed by a majority to increase the parish council portion of the council tax by 5.5%. This rise would give an increase on an average band D property of £2.26 per year, bringing the parish council portion of the precept to £49.78 and increasing the PC income by £1,097.00 to £21,000 per year. Councillors explained the need to begin to replenish reserves for maintaining the shop and the pub properties and for expected professional and legal expenses in fighting the SWDPR plans. It was agreed, as last year, to explain the increase, and the council's reserves system, so parishioners could appreciate the council's position.

	£
Current Account balance as of 31 <sup>st</sup> December 2021	53,521.11
Savings Account, 30 Day notice account	14,052.15
Total cash assets for the PC stand at	67,551.69
<b>Payments for Approval (inc. of VAT)</b>	<b>£</b>
JEM Arborist And Forestry Services	370.00
The Dolphin – Mulled Wine for Christmas Eve Carols	70.00
The Dolphin – December Coffee morning	52.50
Smart Cut – December maintenance	319.50
BATVHT – hall hire	90.00
Westcotec – VAS sign battery	105.00
Carl Brassington – LM Duties	180.00

## 8. Correspondence for Information (circulated prior to the meeting). Noted.

## 9. Clerk's report n/a

## 10. Completed items to close

- 10.1 Ash tree removal and Eco Plugging behind the Dolphin - completed.

## 11. Councillors' reports and items for future agenda.

- The pub landlords had asked whether a table could be sold for private use. No objections were raised to the sale – Cllr Argyle was asked to agree to a suitable offer. Updates to asset register and inventory will be required when complete.
- The chairman reported that the History Society had paid back money loaned to produce its latest book about local history.
- The history society had asked if the open barn at the Dolphin could be cleared of debris for the proper display of the wheelwright artefacts and had asked if the PC could support the club in producing some information boards. Cllr Wood will ask them for a proposal which could be added to the agenda.
- There was a request for help to produce some new, laminated carol sheets for next year, as they had degraded in recent years – and got very soggy this last very wet Christmas Eve! Cllr Amoroso offered to personally help with laminating. Cllr Poulter will advise those concerned on claiming a grant.

## 12. Date of next meeting:

The next parish council meeting is on Monday 7<sup>th</sup> February, to be held at Throckmorton Parish Rooms. The councillors finished by thanking the chairman for a lot of extra work undertaken during the time between clerks.

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## 13. Confidential Business

The meeting closed at 20:42 for confidential business to be discussed regarding the boundary of the Dolphin land. Notes to be distributed to members regarding the decision made.

The meeting closed at 21:02.

Carolyn Morris (Acting Clerk)

Signed .....

DRAFT