

BISHAMPTON AND THROCKMORTON PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of the Parish Council Meeting held on Monday 4th April 2022 at 7.00pm at Throckmorton Parish Rooms

Present: Cllrs Boocock, Poulter, Amoroso, Argyle, Davis, Hodgkiss, Tucker (arrived at 19.17) and Wood.

In attendance: County Cllr Boatright, District Cllr L.Tucker (both arrived at 19.31) and Julie White, Parish Clerk

The chairman opened the meeting and noted that the District and County Councillors were attending another meeting and would be arriving later. Therefore, the order of the meeting would be altered accordingly.

1. Apologies: None

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

Adjournment for Public Question Time
One member of the public was present but there were no issues raised.

3. Minutes: The minutes of the meeting on 7th March were agreed as a true and accurate record. The Chairman signed the minutes.

4. District and County Councillors' reports.

District Councillor report:

- SWDPR - Councillor Tucker reported that she had just arrived from a briefing which was attended by all Wychavon councillors. The briefing was to discuss the proposed development sites identified within the South Worcestershire Development Plan Review (SWDPR). All the information was in confidence, but Councillor Tucker outlined the expected timeline with Wychavon District Council voting on the SWDPR on 22nd June. This would be followed by a Public Consultation.
- Planning: 21/02985/FUL – Evesham Vale Carp Fishery, change of use from fishing lakes to recreational use – Cllr Tucker said that this application was still to be determined and is awaiting ecological and conservation comments.

There were no further updates on the other applications.

- Pershore Northern Link Road: Work on the new link road will require 3-way traffic lights in place at the A44 roundabout between 8pm and 5am starting on 5th April.

County Councillor report:

- Wychavon Sustainability Report - County Councillor Boatright referred to the Wychavon Sustainability Report which is being rewritten. He has suggested to the County Council that they look at the Greater Cambridge report which is a good example. Any comments previously lodged will no longer be valid and new comments will need to be submitted when the new policy has been published.
- Verges – following a meeting with highways, Cllr Boatright reported that he was informed that verges are part of the highway and not meant to be pretty and it is legal to drive on a verge providing that it is done safely. Councillor Amoroso asked for a copy of the Policy which dictates when it is deemed necessary to put in a kerb and when it is not.
- Schools – The 2 tier/3 tier debate is ongoing.
- Long Lane – the state of the large potholes was highlighted with a car recently ending up in one. Cllr Tucker reiterated the point stating that the carriageway had been eaten into at the end of the airfield by the poultry farm.

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- Fence in Church Lane and Visibility fencing in Throckmorton – Cllr Boatright has been escalating his complaint regarding the lack of action and response from the County Council and expects that he will be in a Stage 1 complaint very soon.

It was noted that all the drain covers should have been replaced, although one in Hill Furze Road is outstanding. If there are any more outstanding, then Cllr Boatright asked they are reported to him.

5. Progress Reports: for information & discussion.

Item	Description	Responsible
a)	Long Lane VAS signs – still awaiting repair under warranty. Cllr Boocock proposed that the North side unit is updated to Bluetooth for a maximum price of £250 + shipment. Seconded by Cllr Amoroso. All in favour.	GB
b)	Visibility fencing in Throckmorton (opp. The Elms) – See Cllr Boatright’s report. Cllr Boocock suggested that he could speak to the Lengthsman to see if it would be practical to paint everything apart from the obstructed section. Everyone agreed to this.	GB
c)	CIL Projects – Cllr Amoroso confirmed that the wood has been ordered. A party of volunteers will be installing the gate on Thursday. The bat box locations have all been pinpointed with the What 3 Words app and it is expected that it will take a year for bats to roost in them. It is hoped in the future that bat tours will be organised. Phil Poulter has got the non-slip membrane free from Wychavon District Council. A quote for 2 x A4 ‘No Dogs’ signs has been obtained for £36 inc VAT to be fitted on both gates. Cllr Amoroso proposed that signs are purchased. Seconded by Cllr Boocock. All in favour. Cllr Poulter has asked the Village Hall to look at costings to replace the handrail at the Villages Hall as there may be CIL monies available once the other projects are completed. Councillor Tucker confirmed that the stones were down in Shorthorn Wood and appear to be working well with all the major flooding points addressed. It will be monitored over the winter period, and he asked that the remainder of the CIL money is held in reserves in case more money is needed for improvements at a later date.	FA / CT
d)	Culvert, Babylon Lane – Cllr Argyle reported that ditch South of Babylon Lane is clear but there is a smell emanating from the ditch north of where it crosses Babylon Lane. It is possible that the sewerage pumping station is leaking which will be a Severn Trent’s responsibility. Cllr Boatright will arrange a meeting with Andrew Fell if necessary and the relevant action will be taken.	MA
e)	Jubilee Events Cllr Tucker still reported a lack of enthusiasm from Throckmorton residents. Cllr Poulter is looking at a risk assessment for the procession and has approached the Police for advice. The Dolphin pub is doing a ‘Ginbilee’ event and afternoon tea boxes can be purchased and taken to the picnic. The Clerk advised of Wychavon District Council’s grant of £125 which is available and needed to know what the money would be spent on to complete the form. It was advised that money was needed for advertising flyers, prizes and possibly a First Aider may need to be paid for.	All
f)	Condition of verges – See Cllr Boatright’s report. The Clerk confirmed that she had sent the photos provided by Cllr Amoroso to John Hobbs who is in charge of Economy and Infrastructure. He has passed this over to the Highways department to investigate.	FA
g)	Footpaths and Bridle Way Noticeboard -no further update from last month.	EP

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Item	Description	Responsible
h)	Village Hall Play Area – damage from escaping footballs. Cllrs Boocock and Hodgkiss had researched netting. After discussing the options Cllr Boocock proposed that a budget of up to £400 is allocated to purchase what is felt to be appropriate with the associated accessories. Seconded by Cllr Poulter. 7 votes in favour. Cllr Argyle abstained from voting.	GB/MH

6. Planning

There has been no change in the listings

	Reference	Description	Comment
Pending	21/01962/FUL	Rotherdale Farm Long Lane: The erection of a 142,596 M2 Glasshouse	No Comment
Pending	21/02478/CU	Land at Pershore Airfield, Long Lane: Change of use 27.6 Hectares	No Comment
Pending	21/02648/FUL	Land off Long Lane (Airfield): 4 Warehouses + associated parking etc	Commented
Pending	21/02985/FUL	Evesham Vale Carp Fishery, Broad Lane, Change of use from fishing lakes to recreational use	Commented

The proposal for 6 self-build properties on Main Street, Bishampton has gone to appeal. District Councillor Tucker said that it may be that Wychavon District Council is near to the self-build target and she is going to contact the planning officer to establish if this is the case.

It was noted that the original objection will automatically be forwarded to the Inspectorate. It was agreed that Cllrs Argyle, Tucker and Boocock will look at making an additional submission taking the wildlife aspect and self-build target into account.

Cllr Wood confirmed that the hedge at the entrance to the proposed site was always maintained by the householder and not the site owner as claimed. Cllr Wood's son used to cut the hedge and would be prepared to issue a statement to that effect.

The Parish Council had been approached for its views on a proposal to replace the 13m mast which burnt down at Nightingale Farm with a 15m 5G mast, prior to a planning application being submitted. The selected location remains within Nightingale Farm premises and is tucked away and as far as possible from dwellings and public road. The row of trees will further assist in screening the mast from wider views. After consideration, the Parish Council had no objection in principle to the siting of the replacement mast. It was agreed that the public would be informed via Facebook and the website about the proposals.

7. Progress Reports: Properties

Item	Description	Responsible
a)	Dolphin Maintenance Issues: -	GB
	i) Gas safety certificate – The Clerk had been advised by the solicitor who had prepared the lease that there was no requirement for the landlord to provide a Gas Safe certificate in commercial premises. The Clerk was asked to confirm the Parish Council's obligation regarding the domestic premises within the pub.	
	ii) Wiring in loft space – still awaiting an electrician	GB
	iii) Mould rectification and radiator replacement – after discussion it was proposed by Cllr Boocock and seconded by Cllr Poulter that a budget of £450 (exc VAT) is agreed for the purchase and fitting of a new radiator. All in favour.	
	iv) The Clerk has been contacted by the tenants of pub regarding a heat sensor which needs replacing and also damage to a shed door. Cllr Hodgkiss had been looking into the sensor and agreed to order one and arrange fitting it.	MH
	Cllr Davis said that he would investigate prices to repair or replace the door.	MD

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Item	Description	Responsible
b)	Housemartins –fan fitting: An electrician has visited the property and a quote is awaited. In view of the amount of time this has taken, Cllr Boocock proposed that providing the quote is no more than £350, the work is authorised. Cllr Poulter seconded. All in favour. The curtain rail has been fitted.	GB
c)	Shop electrics: No further progress to date.	GB

8. To discuss the Solar Farm's commitment to fund local projects

Cllr Tucker explained that now Aura has been sold to another company – Infinis - it is important that the Parish Council establishes a relationship with the new company to make it clear that the Parish Council is the primary parish involved in the Solar Farm and to ensure that the agreement that existed with Aura to support local projects will still be relevant with Infinis. District Councillor Tucker suggested that thought is given to possible projects prior to any meeting. It was proposed by Cllr Tucker and seconded by Cllr Boocock that a working party is formed comprising of Cllr Tucker, Cllr Amoroso, Cllr Davis and District Cllr Tucker. All in favour. The Clerk to contact Infinis to request a meeting.

County Councillor Boatright left the meeting at 21.10.

9. Finance

9.1 The bank reconciliation was received and payments were approved en bloc (appended to the minutes)

9.2 Councillor Boocock confirmed that he had put on the website an explanation of the reasoning behind the precept rise for this financial year. Cllr Boocock said that an initial review of the Year end accounts suggests a small surplus over budget.

10. Correspondence for Information (circulated prior to the meeting).

The correspondence list was noted and the Chairman highlighted the occurrence of discarded empty wine bottles in Hill Furze Road again. The usual signage was displayed to deter the perpetrator and it was agreed that these signs could be deployed at any time in the future should the situation arise again. Cllr Argyle will remove the current signage.

11. Clerk's report:

- The Clerk reported that a casual vacancy has arisen due to the resignation of Cllr Oakley. The vacancy has been advertised and requires ten electors to request an election. If by 12th April no election has been called then the Parish Council may co-opt a member on to the council.
- Re the Lengthsman Scheme, the amount from Worcestershire County Council for 2022/23 is £2249.49. Everyone confirmed that they were happy to renew the Lengthsman's contract.
- The Internal Auditor has been appointed and has accepted the appointment and the books will be forwarded to her as soon as possible.

12. Completed items to close

12.1 Ridge tile replacement (Bishampton Stores)

12.2 Tree Work at the Nature Reserve

12.3 Vaccination clinics

12.4 Information kiosk signage

12.5 Newsletter

13. Councillors' reports and items for future agenda.

- Cllr Boocock confirmed that he is going to remove the Covid volunteer register from the website. Everyone agreed with this.

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- Cllr Boocock reported that the Community Speedwatch is short on numbers and he has offered to ask for new recruits via Facebook and the website if they would like him to.
- Cllr Hodgkiss said that the road was blocked at a recent peloton race and the cyclists had a poor attitude and were riding 6 abreast. District Cllr Tucker said that she would ask Peter Chattleton if he knew the organiser and advise the Clerk so that a complaint could be made.

14. Date of next meeting:

The Bishampton Parish Meeting will be held on Thursday April 14th at 7.00pm in the Main Hall at Bishampton Villages Hall.

The next Parish Council meeting is the Annual Meeting of the Parish Council to be held on Monday 16th May 2022 at 7.00pm in the Ockenden Suite, Bishampton Villages Hall.

15. Confidential Business

It was proposed by Cllr Boocock and seconded by Cllr Poulter that the public were excluded from the meeting. All in favour.

15.1 The dolphin boundary was discussed (confidential report appended to minutes)

The meeting closed at 21:55

Signed

Confidential Report

DRAFT

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Bishampton & Throckmorton Parish Council - Payments & Receipts

Bank Balances at Mar 31st	Amount	Interest
Lloyds Deposit	14,052.73	0.11
Lloyds Current	33,194.09	
Totals	47,246.82	

Gross Income (March)		
1,779.17	3/3/22	Dolphin monthly rental
42.70	7/3/22	Coffee Morning donations
572.00	23/3/22	Johnsons - Housemartins rent
300.00	24/3/22	Shop monthly rent (increase from March)

Authority to pay		Nett	VAT	Total	code	Invoice No
J White	Salary	615.40	0.00	615.40	1	n/a
J White	monthly allowance	17.50	0.00	17.50	2	n/a
CJC	Stone - Shorthorn Wood	214.23	42.86	257.09	34	1636 & 1627 & 1431
Cllr Amoroso - reimburse	Screws - Cil nature reserve	29.16	5.83	34.99	34	1350107211-2022-51148
Cllr Amoroso - reimburse	Gate - Cil - nature reserve	266.10	53.22	319.32	34	150468
SmartCut Ltd	Mowing	266.25	53.25	319.50	25	16731
Stockwell Davies	Tree work in nature reserve	750.00	150.00	900.00	29	831
Reimburse Cllr Argyle (Ron Smith)	Hedge trimmer	486.67	97.33	584.00	33	175548
HMRC (Mar)	PAYE - J White	139.20	0.00	139.20	1a	n/a
Reimburse J White	Information signs	88.00	17.60	105.60	27	58496
J White	mileage - March	9.45	0.00	9.45	2	n/a
Viking	Stationery	29.71	5.94	35.65	3	8654382
Johnsons	Curtain pole	79.17	15.83	95.00	23	JPC9131
Ionos	webhosting	7.00	1.40	8.40	9	DD
Ionos	website content management	7.00	1.40	8.40	9	DD
Parish Magazine Printing	printing	80.10	0.00	80.10	3	8481
Wychavon Council	administration of payslips 21-22	24.00	4.80	28.80	1	ppd0280895
Carl Brassington	Lengthsman duties	225.00	0.00	225.00	31	n/a
	TOTAL	3,333.94	449.46	3,783.40		