

## BISHAMPTON AND THROCKMORTON PARISH COUNCIL

### Minutes of the Parish Council Meeting held on Monday 6<sup>th</sup> March 2023 at 7.00pm at The Parish Room, Throckmorton

**Present:** Cllrs Boocock (Chair), Davis, Hodgkiss, Poulter, Rolls, Tucker and Wood

**In attendance:** County Cllr Boatright, District Cllr Tucker and Julie White, Clerk

1. **Apologies:** Cllrs Amoroso and Argyle. The Parish Council was given the reason for the absences and Councillor Boocock proposed that the apologies of Cllrs Amoroso and Argyle and the reasons given are accepted by the Parish Council. Councillor Poulter seconded the proposal. All were in favour.

The Chairman extended the good wishes of the Parish Council to Cllr Argyle and his family.

#### 2. Declarations of Interest:

- Register of Interests: Councillors are reminded of the need to update their register of interests.
- To declare any Disclosable Pecuniary Interests in items on the agenda and their nature. **None**
- To declare any Other Disclosable Interests in items on the agenda and their nature. **Cllr Hodgkiss declared an interest in Item 7.6 and Item 8 – Planning Consultation 23/00153/HAZ - as he carries out work at the site.**
- Written requests for the council to grant a dispensation (S33 of the Localism Act 2011). **None**

#### Adjournment for Public Question Time

No public were present, so the meeting did not adjourn for Public Question Time.

#### 3. Minutes

The minutes of the meeting on 6<sup>th</sup> February were proposed as a true and accurate record by Cllr Boocock. Cllr Poulter seconded the proposal. All were in favour, so The Chairman signed the minutes.

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

County Councillor Boatright gave the following report:

- Cllr Boatright is still trying to establish if there is a link between Planning Regulations and the number of HGV's on the road.
- Council Tax has risen by 4.94%.
- On the A44 in Fladbury the traffic lights installed by Severn Trent are not working correctly so they are currently being manned by two people using mobile phones.
- There are more potholes around, due in part to a delay in materials.
- Following a recent re-shuffle, the Minister for the Department for Culture, Media & Sport has changed so the letters signed last month to support the proposal to classify the Throckmorton Airfield site as an ancient monument have had to be re-printed and addressed to the new Minister. These letters were signed at the meeting.

Cllr Boocock mentioned that an email has been received recently from Liam Gormley at Wychavon District Council confirming that the work on the culvert in Babylon Lane has been finished, but temporary barriers and tape are still there with no sign of the new metal railings. The Clerk confirmed that she received a complaint about this from a resident and has sent some photos of the site to Mr Gormley. Cllr Boatright will chase this.

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### District Councillor report:

District Councillor Tucker gave the following report:

- Cllr Tucker spoke about the current planning applications and highlighted some old applications which were still waiting for a decision and don't seem to be making any progress.
- Cllr Tucker made sure that the Parish Council was aware of the Wychavon Design Code.
- There have been more changes to personnel in the Planning Department with the Head of Planning North being moved and Charlotte Barry has been replaced by Sarah Hill.
- Council Tax is not increasing this year.

### 5. Finance

- 5.1 The bank reconciliation had been previously circulated and was unanimously received and accepted.
- 5.2 The Payments & Receipts list had been previously circulated and was received and accepted. All the payments were approved (appended to the minutes). Proposed by Cllr Boocock and seconded by Cllr Poulter. All in favour.

### 6. Progress Reports – for information and discussion

Item	Description	Responsible
a)	<b>Community Bus Scheme</b> – Cllr Tucker confirmed that the deadline has been extended to the end of April and he is hopeful of securing further funding. Cllr Rolls said that she is in contact with The Rotary Club and hopes to be invited to a meeting to speak about the scheme. It was suggested that local radio stations could be approached and posters made. Neighbouring Parish Councils are to be contacted to confirm the extension of the deadline.	CT
b)	<b>New VAS sign in Throckmorton</b> – The Clerk confirmed that the new post was due to be installed today so the new VAS unit can be ordered.	JGB/JW
c)	<b>Shorthorn Wood</b> – Cllr Tucker confirmed that the alder plantation has been coppiced. There are many trimmed poles and ideas for what to do with them are sought. The most popular idea so far is to make charcoal from them, but any other ideas are gratefully received and should be directed to Cllr Charles Tucker.  John Hancock from Pershore College has marked some trees that meet their training requirements and Cllr Tucker is waiting to hear when students will be coming. There is no update regarding funding for brush cutter training from Wychavon Council	CT
d)	<b>Plans for the Coronation</b> – Cllr Wood updated the Parish Council on the Big Help Day on Monday 8 <sup>th</sup> May which will include a litter pick, footpath work and tidying the churchyard. The church has agreed to provide lunch to the volunteers. Posters will be produced and a piece placed in the parish council newsletter. It was confirmed that there won't be a big street party on the Sunday in Bishampton.  Plans for Tilesford and Throckmorton are still being considered and a litter pick and possible repair to the potholes in Tilesford (private road) were suggested. Cllr Hodgkiss said that a picnic may be organised in Tilesford and an event is being considered in Throckmorton.	CW/MH/CT

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### 7. Items for consideration

- 7.1 **Approval of the purchase of bird boxes for Shorthorn Wood** – Councillor Tucker proposed that he purchases 8 x birdboxes at a price of £10 each which will be taken from the existing budget. Councillor Hodgkiss seconded the proposal. 4 votes in favour, 1 vote against and 2 abstentions. The motion was carried.
- 7.2 **Installation of MagPost at Nature Reserve and approval of associated costs** – Cllr Amoroso was not present at the meeting but sent in a report confirming that she has purchased a MagPost for £262, using £202 that she has recently fundraised, and she has put the remaining £60 on her credit card. She asked that £60 currently held in Parish Council Reserves from previous fundraising in April 2021 is released to reimburse her. Cllr Amoroso also asked to be reimbursed for £6.97 for the Postcrete needed for installation of the MagPost. Councillor Boocock proposed that the Parish Council accepts the MagPost purchase and releases £60 previously deposited in the Parish Council accounts to Cllr Amoroso to make up the shortfall. Councillor Wood seconded the proposal. All in favour. Cllr Boocock also proposed that Cllr Amoroso is reimbursed by £6.97 for the Postcrete. Seconded by Cllr Poulter. All in favour.
- 7.3 **Future tree management at the Nature Reserve** – Cllr Amoroso sent in a report confirming that she had recently met with the Project Delivery Officer from Heart of England Forest. He has offered to take on the tree management within the Nature Reserve free of charge. The Nature Reserve will be divided into sections and each year one section will be worked on. As there are mainly Ash trees present in the Nature Reserve, which could potentially all be wiped out by dieback, the Project Delivery Officer has suggested that alternative native trees are planted, and he has helped Cllr Amoroso to secure 110 native tree saplings free of charge which are due to be delivered in October to be planted throughout the Nature Reserve. Cllr Amoroso would like to get a working party together who will learn certain aspects of tree management eg tree planting, coppicing etc. Cllr Amoroso was commended on organising this and Councillor Boocock proposed that the plans as outlined above are accepted and supported by the Parish Council. The proposal was seconded by Councillor Poulter. All in favour.
- 7.4 **Preparation for the forthcoming elections on May 4<sup>th</sup>** – Councillor Boocock outlined the process for the forthcoming elections. It was noted that applications are open from 14<sup>th</sup> March. Nomination packs may be obtained from the Clerk – [Clerk@batpc.org.uk](mailto:Clerk@batpc.org.uk) or [www.wychavon.gov.uk/elections](http://www.wychavon.gov.uk/elections)
- 7.5 **Discussion to identify any improvement projects** – The Chairman referred to the Strategic Objectives document which the council adopted in June 2022 and suggested that the council needs to consider identifying improvement projects. Cllr Rolls suggested that there should be a forum with members of all groups so that everyone works co-operatively. After discussion it was felt that any schemes need to be identified by the new council after the May elections.
- 7.6 **La Serra** – Cllr Tucker referred to the recent response to the PC's letter sent just prior to Christmas. He also referred to the significant light pollution seen in the middle of the night recently which Cllr Boocock said was a cloud flare. Cllr Tucker proposed that a meeting is held with La Serra to ask what the plan is if they have to burn again this year and to say that we would like to work together to understand their contingency plans. Everyone was in favour of this. A constant bright white light that has been troubling a resident during the night was mentioned. After discussion it was suggested that this was probably a security light from Marshalls. In the first instance, Cllr Liz Tucker said that she would check to see if there are any restrictions on the hours of operation.

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7.7 **To discuss the annual parish meetings** – Firstly, it was confirmed that the Annual Parish Assembly that was due to take place on March 15<sup>th</sup> in Throckmorton will have to be rescheduled due to the hall being double-booked. The dates of both the meetings were deliberately being held early to avoid purdah, but Wychavon has announced that the purdah period will start earlier than expected so the Bishampton meeting on March 20<sup>th</sup> will now fall within the purdah period. The date of the Throckmorton Parish Assembly is still to be confirmed.

**8. Planning** - The following new planning application and consultation were considered:

Address	Reference	Description	Comment
Nightingale Farm, Main Street, Bishampton	23/00231/HP	Create a new access to the property to be accessed directly from the main road and to erect a timber frame carport with a garden store.	<b>No objection</b>
Rotherdale Farm, Long Lane	23/00153/HAZ	Consultation – application for hazardous substances consent.	<b>No comment</b>

### 9. Progress Reports: Properties

Item	Description	Responsible
9.1	<p><b>a) Dolphin</b></p> <p>Ongoing maintenance issues: The contractor has been informed that his quotes were successful for the roof work but there is no update on when the work will take place.</p> <p>Cllr Boocock confirmed that the crack in the outbuilding is worsening. An offer has been made to strap the corner to stabilise the building. Cllr Boocock proposed that the kind offer from Mr Young is accepted to strap the building. Seconded by Cllr Poulter. All in favour.</p> <p>Following on from that, there are a few options available regarding permanent repair of the outbuilding, but the Clerk was asked to speak to the insurers first.</p>	JGB/MD
9.2	<p><b>b) Housemartins Flat</b></p> <p>We have not yet received a further quote for the boiler, nor further opinion on the requirement for an oil lifter. As the system is operating properly at present the matter is not deemed to be urgent.</p>	JGB/JW

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

The list of correspondence received was noted with the following items being highlighted:

- Worcestershire County Council – Lengthsman rates
- Wychavon Parish Games details for 2023

### 11. Clerk's report:

- The Clerk spoke about the requirement for at least 6 councillors to be elected in May or the General Power of Competence will be lost.
- The Chairman mentioned a recent meeting that he attended with the Clerk where David Manning from Wychavon District Council spoke about the grants that are available from Wychavon.

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### 12. Councillors' reports and items for future agenda:

- The Clerk mentioned some Coronation memorabilia which is available. The Clerk agreed to obtain some options and quotes for the next meeting.

### 13. Date of next meeting: - The next Parish Council meeting will be held on:

**Monday 3<sup>rd</sup> April in The Ockenden Suite, at 7.00pm**

The Bishampton Parish Assembly will be held on:

**Monday March 20<sup>th</sup> in Bishampton Villages Hall at 7.00pm**

The meeting closed at 21:29

Signed .....

Date .....

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### Bishampton & Throckmorton Parish Council - March Payments

Bank Balances as at 28/02/23	Amount	Interest
Lloyds Deposit	14,072.78	7.17
Lloyds Current (01289157)	22,786.66	
Lloyds Ounce deposit	6,505.64	3.31
<b>Totals</b>	<b>43,365.08</b>	

Authority to pay	Description	Nett Amount	VAT	Total	Cost code	Invoice No
J White	Salary	736.00	0.00	736.00	1	n/a
J White	monthly allowance	17.50	0.00	17.50	2	n/a
J White	mileage	13.50	0.00	13.50	2	n/a
Smartcut	grounds maintenance	266.25	53.25	319.50	25	19196
Carl Brassington	Lengthsman Duties	105.00	0.00	105.00	31	Feb-23
J White	certificate frames - reimburse	8.30	1.66	9.96	9	5869
*Cllr Amoroso	postcrete for MagPost reimburse	5.81	1.16	6.97	29	Receipt
*Cllr Amoroso	Money from earmarked reserves - Nature Reserve	60.00	0.00	60.00	29	n/a
Ionos	webhosting	7.00	1.40	8.40	9	DD
Ionos	website content management	7.00	1.40	8.40	9	DD
		<b>1,226.36</b>	<b>58.87</b>	<b>1,285.23</b>		

\* for approval at the meeting