

BISHAMPTON AND THROCKMORTON PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of the Parish Council Meeting held on Monday 3rd April 2023 at 7.00pm at
The Ockenden Suite, Bishampton Villages Hall

Councillor Malcolm Argyle

Before opening the meeting, The Chairman reported that long-standing Parish Councillor, Malcolm Argyle has sadly passed away. Malcolm served on the Parish Council for over 25 years, and he also served as a District Councillor between 1999 – 2007. His knowledge, support and good nature will be a sad loss to the community.

The Chairman then invited everyone to stand and pay their respects by observing a minute's silence.

The Chairman opened the meeting:

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

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

1. **Apologies:** Apologies were received from Cllrs Amoroso and Rolls.

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. **Cllr Hodgkiss declared an interest in Item 6.5 as he works at the site.**
- d) 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 6th March 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.

3.1 The minutes of the Bishampton Parish Assembly were received, and it was noted that the meeting was well attended.

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

County Councillor Boatright gave the following report:

- Cllr Boatright reported that things were very quiet at the County Council due to the forthcoming elections.
- Lots of roadworks are taking place and Cllr Boatright advised checking on One.Network.
- A van was stuck again tonight in Walcott Lane ford near Pershore. Cllr Boatright will speak to County about getting more information out to educate people.

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Questions or comments were then invited. It was noted that the barriers had been taken away at the Babylon Lane culvert, but the rails were still not in place. It was confirmed that there is no update yet on Green Leys.

District Councillor report:

District Councillor Tucker gave the following report:

- Planning – the planning decisions were noted, especially the one dating back to 2021. There is no further information regarding the Babylon Lane application.
- A Government emergency alert is due to be tested via mobile phones on 23rd April.
- The new Director of Planning starts on 11th April.

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 Tucker. All in favour.
- 5.3 The End of Year monitoring report was received. It was noted that the reserves will be finalised soon. All were in favour of accepting this.

The Clerk reported that just prior to the meeting a grant application was received from Bishampton Villages Hall Trust. This will be placed on the next agenda.

6. Progress Reports – for information and discussion

Item	Description	Responsible
a)	Community Bus Scheme – Cllr Tucker conceded that it is unlikely that the total will be reached by the end of April. Discussion took place over the merits of the scheme and possibly looking at leasing a bus rather than trying to purchase one.	CT
b)	Shorthorn Wood – Update on activities Prior to the meeting, Cllr Tucker circulated the following update: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>Alder coppicing is all done.</i> • <i>Pershore College have spent two days in the wood training students in tree felling, creating two “scallops” on the inner track.</i> • <i>Regular work parties will recommence on 04/04/23.</i> • <i>Charcoal burning. I met David Molloy on 21/3 about using the alder wood to make charcoal. He is setting up an independent business in the area, specialising in countryside management. He would like to use the alder wood and thinks he could bring his kiln to Shorthorn either in the next few months or early next year. We discussed selling the product through the village shop.</i> • <i>Woodland Management Grant. As members will know, we submitted our Management Plan to the Forestry Commission in May 2020, expecting a £1000 grant to be paid. This never materialised, despite</i> 	CT

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Item	Description	Responsible
	<p><i>many emails from Ellie and myself. I discovered in conversation with David Molloy that he is also now the FC Woodland Officer for Worcestershire – and he agreed to look into our case.</i></p> <p><i>I have now spoken to the FC Admin Officer, who advises that our original application has expired so we should formally withdraw the Management Plan then resubmit it in accordance with the current template under Countryside Stewardship. This would attract a £1500 grant and possible ongoing support. I plan to take this forward after the elections.</i></p>	
c)	<p>New VAS sign in Throckmorton – It was confirmed that the new VAS sign has now been installed and is operational. Discussion took place over if Tilesford would be a good place to re-site the old unit which is now available.</p>	JW/JGB
d)	<p>Plans for The Coronation – Cllr Wood said that she is distributing the flyers on Easter Monday and Cllrs Poulter and Boocock offered to help. The Clerk will chase up the loan of extra litter picking equipment.</p> <p>No update was given re plans for Throckmorton & Tilesford.</p>	CW/CT/MH
e)	<p>La Serra meeting – The response to the PC's request for a meeting had been circulated, with La Serra seeing no need for a meeting as they have no intention of burning the crops. If the situation changes, they will be in touch to work with the PC in line with DEFRA guidelines. Cllr Tucker felt that this was unacceptable, and a meeting should be held so that a contingency plan can be agreed.</p> <p>After discussion, it was proposed by Cllr Wood that a more conciliatory approach should be taken – 4 votes in favour, 1 abstention and 1 against. The Clerk will see if Cllr Amoroso will contact La Serra.</p>	CT/FA

7. Items for consideration

- 7.1 **Valuation of council properties for insurance purposes** – two quotes had been obtained. After discussion it was agreed to defer this item due to the perceived high cost. The Clerk to contact CALC to see if they can offer any advice.
- 7.2 **Re-appointment of Sarah Kingston as a PC representative on the Stoneland Trust** – It was proposed by Councillor Hodgkiss and seconded by Councillor Poulter that Sarah Kingston is reappointed. All in favour.
- 7.3 **Plans/options for community coffee mornings** – The Chairman reported that a meeting had recently been held with Bradley at The Dolphin and he outlined the matters that had been discussed. Brad had been very supportive of holding the coffee mornings and suggested holding them on Mondays instead of Fridays. Cllr Wood said that church members would probably be happy to provide cakes if some of the donations were given to the church. It was agreed that the first one would be held on 24th April. The kind offer from the church to hold coffee mornings at St James was noted and the thanks of the Parish Council was extended. All in favour.
- 7.4 **Prices for Coronation memorabilia** – The Clerk presented options of a recycled leather bookmark or wildflower seeds. After discussion, it was agreed that a 6g packet of wildflower seeds (380

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packets @ £1.30 each) would be purchased and distributed to each household. Authority was given to make the payment once the postage cost has been confirmed. Wychavon District Council's coronation grant of £235 would be put towards the cost. Proposed by Cllr Boocock, seconded by Cllr Wood. All in favour

7.5 **Grass cutting contract for 2023-24 onwards** – Cllr Poulter proposed that a 3 year contract is awarded to Smartcut who are the current contractors. Seconded by Cllr Boocock. All in favour.

7.6 **Update on BATVH** – Cllr Poulter explained that the Parish Council is the holding trustee of the Village Hall and the PC is duty bound to take over the running of the Village Hall if the Village Hall cannot form a committee. The Booking Secretary recently resigned and an Emergency Meeting was held, where a new committee was formed. Cllr Poulter expressed praise for how The Chair – Bev Churchill – handled the situation and confirmed that there are no implications for the PC.

8. Planning - The following planning decisions were noted:

21/02478/CU	Land at (OS9710 4907), Pershore Airfield, Long Lane, Throckmorton	Change of use of 12.6 hectares of land from Class E (research and development) to Class B8 (open storage)	Approved
22/02609/FUL	Larches Farm, Hill Furze Road, Bishampton	Installation of ground mounted PV panels with landscaping	Approved
23/00072/FUL	Evesham Vale Carp Fishery, Broad Lane, Bishampton	Variation of Condition 8 of planning permission 21/02985/FUL.	Approved
23/00103/HP	Hill Grove, Abberton Road, Bishampton	Construction of single car garage at front of property	Approved

9. Progress Reports: Properties

Item	Description	Responsible
9.1	<p>a) Dolphin</p> <p>Faulty shower pump – The Clerk has been unable to find a plumber so Brad said he would be able to get one who will invoice the PC. The Chairman also asked for a price to link the shower to the main hot water system.</p> <p>b) Updates on crack in outbuilding and roof work – the outbuilding has been temporarily strapped and the insurance company are considering the claim. The clerk to obtain tape to tape the area off.</p> <p>Feedback from the meeting with the Manager was mostly covered under Item 7.3 and notes from the meeting had been previously circulated. The fence between the car park and the paddock was raised at the meeting as it is in a poor state of repair. The Clerk will obtain a quote to get the fence repaired.</p>	JGB/MD
9.2	<p>b) Housemartins Flat</p> <p>Boiler - no further progress at present.</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:

- 10.10 – Solar panels quotes for Bishampton Stores and The Dolphin. To be revisited if funding becomes available.

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- 10.17 – The boiler service has been carried out at The Dolphin – certificate and invoice awaited.
- 10.25 – A resident has complained of a pungent smell coming from The Dolphin extractors. This was discussed with The Dolphin Manager and it was confirmed that the equipment is cleaned and maintained properly. The situation will be monitored although it is unsure what else can be done to ease the situation.
- 10.32 - RoSPA – annual play inspections have been completed. Cllrs Boocock and Poulter went through any items requiring attention. They are all relatively minor. The Clerk to see about getting the gate adjusted.
- 10.38 – SNT contract. Items identified are Speeding and anti-social driving, fly-tipping and anti-social behaviour at The Villages Hall. A comment also to be made about agricultural theft.

11. Clerk's report:

- The Clerk reminded councillors that an Action Log is always present in the Shared Area.
- The closing date for submitting nomination papers is April 4th at 4pm prompt. The Clerk noted that Cllrs Poulter and Wood are not re-standing and thanked them both for their support and friendship over the past year.

12. Councillors' reports and items for future agenda:

- Grant application from BATVHC
- Building valuations

13. Date of next meeting: - The next Parish Council meeting will be the Annual Meeting to be held on

Monday 22nd May at 7pm at The Parish Room, Throckmorton

The meeting closed at 21:10

Signed

Date

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Bishampton & Throckmorton Parish Council - April Payments

Bank Balances as at 31/03/23

	Amount	Interest
Lloyds Deposit	14,079.41	6.63
Lloyds Current (01289157)	25,340.36	
Lloyds Ounce deposit	6,505.64	3.07
Totals	45,925.41	

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	18.90	0.00	18.90	2	n/a
Smartcut	grounds maintenance	266.25	53.25	319.50	25	19297
Carl Brassington	Lengthsman Duties	165.00	0.00	165.00	31	Mar-23
Bish Bosh Bash	Grant application	500.00	0.00	500.00	30	(Approved at the January 2023 meeting)
RoSPA	Playground inspections	164.00	32.80	196.80	26	69403
Westcotec	New VAS	4779.00	955.80	5734.80	34	14596
Ford Fuels	boiler repair Housemartins	125.00	25.00	150.00	23	22754
Parish Magazine Printing	Newsletter	71.13	0.00	71.13	3	9913
Greengrowseedsupply	coronation wild flowers	504.95	0.00	504.95	36	50008
Ionos	webhosting	7.00	1.40	8.40	9	DD
Ionos	website content management	7.00	1.40	8.40	9	DD
		7,361.73	1,069.65	8,431.38		