**Minutes of the Parish Council Meeting held on Monday 4th November @ 7.30 pm in the Villages Hall, Bishampton**

Members and Officers present: Cllrs Cheetham (Chair), Hodgkins, Argyle, Tucker, Deacon & Cllr Palmer

In attendance: Clerk, Two members of the public & CC Tucker

1. **Apologies:** To receive apologies and to approve reasons for absence. Cllr Beever (w) & Mills (h)
2. **Declarations of Interest:**

a)  Register of Interests: Councillors are reminded of the need to update their register of interests. Cllr Argyle on painting the flat

b)  To declare any Disclosable Pecuniary Interests in items on the agenda and their nature.

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 @ 7.30 pm |

1. The minutes of the meeting held in October were signed and true and correct
2. **Councillor Vacancy**. This was a tough decision as both candidates were equally capable of taking the seat. A paper vote was held and Mrs Angela Robertson was unamously voted onto the Parish Council. Clerk to send past emails and Declaration Forms to AR. It was noted that Cllr Mills sent in a paper ballot which was not accepted and Cllr Tucker arrived late for the meeting, missing the Councillor voting.
3. The Parish Council granted the Stoneland Trust Committee permission to elect a new trustee

**6. District and County Councillors’** **reports:** for information. (Items raised for decision will appear on the agenda for the next meeting.)

County Councillor spoke to the Parish Council about the Northern Link, it was agreed that the PC would adopt the proposal below and the clerk would send a letter along these grounds to Wychavon

**VITAL FOR GROWTH AND VITAL FOR THE FUTURE!!**

Pershore Town Council and the Parish Councils of: Bishampton and Throckmorton, Hill and Moor, Pinvin, and Wyre Piddle (the “Councils”) have come together in strong support for the construction of the Northern Link road and railway bridge. This vital strategic infrastructure project connecting Pershore Town with the A44 must be constructed at the earliest possible time and in advance of the major residential and employment use developments within Pershore and the Villages.

The Councils further believe there needs to be an overall strategic approach to the Northern Link that considers the future and the economic health of the area. The Northern Link is a sustainable project and the necessary requirements are in place to enable an early implementation of the scheme.

The cumulative impact of all the residential and employment use projects must be considered together rather than on a piecemeal basis. Such consideration must include the impact of traffic on all approaches to and from Pershore and the Villages in particular Station Road, High Street, Terrace Road, Wyre Road, Wyre Hill and the Pinvin Crossroads. The Councils look to the developers to make significant contributions towards the construction of the Northern Link project.

Without the Northern Link the Councils have serious concerns about:-

* People: Safety implications at road junctions. Pedestrians including school children using existing bridges without adequate footway facilities,
* Business: Local shops and commercial outlets being stifled through; traffic congestion, delay of deliveries and unable to expand,
* Growth: The Town and Villages becoming less attractive and viable to live, work and shop,
* Future: Inherent traffic congestion on the A44 strategic route to the M5 motorway making the area less likely to attract investment.

The councils concern for the future is that without the pre-emptive construction of this vital strategic infrastructure project there will be serious danger of traffic gridlock at peak times affecting Pershore Town and the Villages

1. **Progress reports:** for information & discussion
   1. To discuss the Village Shop & Post Office

Due to the Parish Council being concerned that the shop will fail if the shop keeper is to continue paying rent on the flat as well as paying his own mortgage and bills, the PC elected a working party to look at a way in which to assist him.

The working group have come up with a way forward which is as follows:-

Mr Hanief is to surrender his current lease and WCC will issue a separate lease for the shop only, this will be non assignable. Mr Hanief will be responsible for the cost of this.

John Saunders have been instructed to start looking for a tenant and the following will commence on Tuesday 5th November.

The working group have agreed to fund the finders fee and well as the following items needing attention at the flat.

1. touch up of paintwork to the value of £290.00

2. steam clean carpets

3. put up curtains and light fittings

4. put a shower door over the bath

5. put a mirror in the bathroom

6. put up a towel rail in the bathroom

7. box in around the toilet

8. put in an electric fire in the lounge

9. supply an oven

The Parish Council agreed that the working group could spend up to the limit of £1500 in order to get the flat up to an agreed standard. Permission was given to the clerk to write out cheques and have them signed in between meetings.

* 1. PACT News

Meeting on the 15th November

* 1. Dog Fouling
  2. Nature Reserve / Footpaths

To cut down and remove trees from the Nature reserve by a professional will cost £400, this work can be done in January 2014. Cllr Robertson said she would look into getting a cheaper quotation.

* 1. War Memorial
  2. Play Area

It was agree the PC would do monthly checks instead of weekly ones on the Play Equipment seeing we have not had an incident in over 4 years. If at any stage it was thought there was a problem this would change to weekly inspections.

* 1. Vehicle Activation Sign
  2. SWDP
  3. Flooding

It was noted that the clerk had reported the problem of flooding in Broad Lane to Worcestershire County Council. Follow up

1. **The Dolphin**
2. **Planning** issues below where looked at and it was agreed there was no objection**.**

W/13/01943 – The Poultry Farm, Tilesford

W/13/02079 – Camwood, 2 Stanton Fields

W/13/02062 – 5 Orchard View Cottage

1. **Finance** To view the bank reconciliation & approve Cheques for payment as well as approve Cheques paid out during meetings

There had been a request for a donation of £65 towards the Carol singing, it was agreed that the PC would only donate £50 as in previous years and receipts would be required.

The current account opened with a balance of £13,503.47

Balance as at 30th October 2013 £ 7,362.89

Current account balance £ 7,362.89

Savings account balance £ 6,528.41

3 mth account £50,000.00

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**Total cash assets as at October 2013 = £63,891.30**

Clerk has submitted a “De-Registration for VAT” to HMRC. This will take 6-8 weeks.

Shop/Flat

October rent for the flat is still outstanding. Clerk has sent a reminder.

The Dolphin

Invoice 007 raised for £2599.99 This is the first payment for rent.

**Cheques for approval**

Limebridge - £444.00

Limebridge - £504.00

M English - £185.56

OHL - £152.92

D&P Design - £112.00

The Dolphin - £ 30.00

R Hodgkins - £ 36.18

I Comerley - £250.00

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.) None
2. **Clerk’s report on Urgent Decisions since the last meeting.**

Signage for the Shop and Nature Reserve have been recovered from WCC, it was agreed that the PC should officially apply to have them re-erected.

Remembrance Day – Cllr Tucker asked if a wreath could be placed in Throckmorton

Lengthsman – Clerk sent email to the Hub re the blocked culvert at 24 Tilesford Cottage, Long Lane, Throckmorton and standing water outside 4 The Elms, Throckmorton.

Several Grips need digging out once the tractors have finished their work. See invoice

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.
2. **Date of next meeting:** 2nd December @ 7pm in Throckmorton, Xmas dinner at 8pm in the Dolphin

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

Chair Date