

Bishampton & Throckmorton Parish Council

Minutes of the Parish Council Meeting held on Monday, 5th July, 2010, at the Parish Room, Throckmorton.

Members and Officers present: Mr D Cheetham (chairman), Mr C Tucker, Mr M Argyle, Mr G Day, Mr R Hodgkins, Mr J Mills, Mrs L Rimell, Mr D Baldwin, Mr E Beever and Mrs C Morris (Clerk).

In attendance: Jenny Maturi, a qualified clerk and CALC officer.

The meeting opened at 7.30pm and was adjourned to hear from PC Stuart Toms. See attached note.

1. To receive apologies and to approve the reason for absence.

Cllr Liz Tucker was attending a conference and sent her apologies.

2. To record: a) Declarations of Interest (Personal & Prejudicial) and b) Any changes to be notified to the Register of Interest and Gifts & Hospitality.

Cllr Rimell declared her interest in items 7 and item 10 and she left before they were discussed.

3. To approve the minutes of the Parish Council Meeting held on June 4th 2010.

The minutes were signed by the chairman as a true record of proceedings.

4. To note and review the council's Standing Orders; Financial Regulations and Risk Assessment:

The clerk had circulated three sections of the Standing Orders and changes were agreed which would tailor them to suit the PC's way of working.

It was agreed to continue the review via email over the summer and to review the Financial Regulations in the same manner.

Chairman and clerk to check through the risk assessment.

Action Clerk/Chair

5. To consider the next stages in the purchase of the Bishampton shop building: to consider affirming the council's intention to borrow money to do this.

Under instruction of the Qualified Clerk, J Maturi, it was agreed that a meeting be held in a week's time when all the Powers of Well Being issues would be ratified to the clerk's (JM) satisfaction.

Action Clerk

The clerk set out the council's intentions and the council agreed they were correct.

A meeting of the working party had been held when advertising had been arranged. It was reported that four people had responded to adverts and been to visit the shop.

It was agreed that an interview panel would be set up – Mr McGinity (if he agrees), Cllr Mills and Cllr Beever – ready to talk to applicants after August 16th.

Funding was discussed and Cllr Tucker spoke about Community Interest Companies which he thought could be set up to attract investment from other sources. It was considered however that if other companies/individuals had a financial interest in the building, control would be taken from the parish council's hands and that the community would be jointly and fairly funding the purchase by their council tax contribution.

The council agreed it was happy to borrow from the Public Works Loans Board as its fixed interest arrangements were very favourable. Cllr Beever agreed to look at the penalties involved in early repayment.

Action Cllr Beever

The clerk wanted it noted that she was in no position to offer any financial advice to the

council and had no experience with property purchase and was in no position to recommend any course of action.

A letter of support from MP Peter Luff had been noted by the working party along with a letter from Mrs M Rimell.

6. To consider the parish council's response to the Scottish Power plan for wind turbines along Bishampton Bank: W/10/01074 Installation and operation of a wind energy scheme comprising 5 wind turbines and ancillary infrastructure for a period of 25 years, including external transformers, crane hardstandings and laydown areas, control building and compound housing switchgear, onsite access tracks, turning heads and ditch crossings, permanent monitoring mast, site entrance, underground electric cables, site mast, site signage, associated groundworks, tree felling and replanting.

Councillors expressed their individual feelings about the plan and were unanimously against it, on the grounds of it being an unsuitable location for such large windmills. Cllr Argyle was delegated to formulate a response, with the clerk, based on information being gathered by the parish councils working party, which would be circulated to councillors electronically before being sent in to Wychavon.

Action Cllr Argyle/Clerk

A letter had been received from a person requesting information about the parish council working party and a response was agreed by councillors. Clerk to reply. Action Clerk

Cllr Rimell left the meeting before the following item

7. To consider an application for a grant towards the cost of mowing Bishampton churchyard.

On reading the application, the PC agreed that the budgeted £750 donation from the parish towards mowing the churchyard should be paid. Cllr Tucker asked if Throckmorton churchyard would attract similar funding and was informed that Throckmorton was welcome to apply if it needed support at any time.

8. Finance

8.1. To note any receipts and approve invoices for payment.

The only receipt was £1.32 in interest on money in the savings account.

The following invoices paid between meeting were approved:

1299	Timothy Lea&Griffiths	Survey	£235.00
1300	Cox & Hodgetts	Deeds copy	£20.00
1301	Newsquest	Advert	£164.36

The following invoices were approved for payment:

1305	Limebridge	Footpath mowing	£124.55
1306	GBD (Evesham) Ltd	Mowing	£322.54

8.2. To approve the statement of cash reconciliation for June 2010 and consider audit/annual return issues.

The clerk had sent off the annual return in time for the External Audit.

The cash reconciliation for June showed that in the current account, there had been no deposits and cheques had been written for £1,453.41. One cheque for £1 had not been presented and it total stood at £8,917.85 at the end of the month. The savings account had accrued £1.32 in interest which brought its total to £33,742.27. This meant, taking into account the unrepresented cheque, the council's total cash assets at the end of June stood at £42,659.12.

The clerk presented councillors with accounts for the first quarter when it was noted that income so far amounted to £9,776.73 and expenditure £6,611.86.

8.3. To approve claims for expenses/overtime.

The clerk's claim for a half day overtime for the production and printing of the newsletter and expenses of £6 mileage was approved.

Cllr Hodkins was reimbursed for the cost of a new sign for the gate of the Moat Farm Lane Nature Reserve - £10.

9. Planning

9.1. Council's response to planning applications between meetings and reports on decisions:

W/10/01041/PN – **Willow Bank House**, Long Lane, Tilesford. Extensions.

This had been refused by Wychavon on the grounds of the fact that if permitted, the extensions on the building would add up to a greater area than the original building in what is an unsustainable rural location.

9.2. Current planning applications:

W/10/01264/PP **10 Babylon Lane**, Bishampton. Single storey front extension.

W/10/01263/PP **25 Babylon Lane**, Bishampton. Single storey front extension.

W/10/01531/PP **The Glebe**, Long Lane, Throckmorton. Proposed amendments to previous application (W/07/02943/CU inc reorganisation or staircase, alterations to fenestration and inclusion of sustainable design measures such as solar water heating.

W/10/01362/PP **25 Moat Farm Lane**, Bishampton, two-storey side and single-storey rear extension.

The council had no objection to any of the above plans.

10. Play Areas : To consider any matters relating to the parish play areas/village hall grounds.

Cllr Rimell had supplied a quote for erecting a fence behind the goal posts but councillor were unsure whether the fence would be high enough to be effective. Cllr Baldwin was asked to look at the site and see if he could see what it would be best to do.

Action Cllr Baldwin.

It was noted that Cllr Rimell was very kindly making the playground checks for no charge and she was thanked by the council.

11. Footpaths: To consider footpath issues and spending of the footpath grant.

A footpath on the airfield was reported as impassable – Cllr Beever will raise it with the footpath warden.

12. To consider any parish Lengthsman issues/jobs.

No news on his return as yet. Councillors were carrying out ditch inspections.

13. To consider any newsletter/website issues.

The newsletter had been delivered and was to be put on the website as well.

14. To consider any matters regarding ongoing issues:

Housing- no news

Community First Responder Scheme - Cllr Baldwin reported on current developments.

Flooding-Drainage – Cllr Argyle reported on the drain situation and the council accepted a quote for the removal of a willow tree which was blocking a part of the system. The invoice would be paid by the parish council and reimbursed from the grant allocated to the parish by Wychavon DC.

Telephone box – BT had send notice that the handover was going through and the telephony would soon be removed from the Bishampton phone box and ownership would pass to the PC. Clerk to arrange insurance.

Action Clerk

PACT news – No news

Mowing- Following on from the request for mowing assistance along the lane to the church, councillors decided that paying for it to be mown would set a precedent for mowing other areas of the village. Clerk to inform the residents.

Action Clerk

15. CALC/ training matters.

Clerk to request Wellbeing training for Cllr Baldwin. Action Clerk

16. County and district councillor report. None

17. To receive reports from councillors, items for future agendas and items of correspondence.

Clerk to make up a correspondence pack and distribute to councillors.

18. To affirm the dates of the next meeting of the Parish Council.

The next meeting of the parish council is set to take place on Monday, September 6th at Bishampton.

The meeting closed at 10.05pm

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Chairman

Date

Notes from the public session:

PC Toms reported that there had been two reported crimes in Bishampton during the year but there had been some reports of anti social behaviour from youngsters. Councillors agreed and mentioned egg-throwing at houses, small fires in fields, some late night problems and an incident where horses' water buckets had been tipped up and thrown around during a very hot day. PC Toms said there were obviously some parents who didn't take notice of what their children were doing out at night and that he was keeping an eye on the situation.

The parish council expressed its concern to PC Toms about the actions of a parishioner which was causing distress to some residents in Bishampton and he noted the comments.