

BISHAMPTON AND THROCKMORTON PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of the Parish Council Meeting held on Monday 9th January 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

The Chairman opened the meeting and wished everyone a happy new year and extended the thoughts of the Parish Council to Cllrs Amoroso and Argyle.

1. **Apologies:** Cllrs Amoroso and Argyle

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 Wood declared an interest in item 7.4 and Cllr Boocock declared an interest in item 7.7.**
- d) Written requests for the council to grant a dispensation (S33 of the Localism Act 2011). **None**

Adjournment for Public Question Time

There were no members of the public present.

3. **Minutes**

The minutes of the meeting on 5th December were proposed as a true and accurate record by Cllr Boocock. The proposal was seconded by Cllr Poulter. All those present at the last meeting were in favour. The Chairman signed the minutes.

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

County Councillor Boatright gave the following report:

The County Council has proposed a 4.94% increase in Council Tax. This small increase will mean that 'efficiencies' will be necessary.

With reference to the proposal to classify the Throckmorton Airfield site as an ancient monument, Cllr Boatright said that the current plan is to send a main letter to be signed by himself, Cllr Liz Tucker and Cllr Boocock requesting the classification. After that, a letter of support from neighbouring parish councils will be sent and following that a letter will be put out to the general public. The local MP will also be asked for his support.

Highways are struggling to find who owns the hedges on either side of the visibility fence in Throckmorton as the obligation to cut the hedges has not been met.

Cllr Poulter enquired about the cycle path in Wyre Road. Cllr Boatright reported that there has been a dispute between the landowner and the County Council regarding the moving of a BT green box. The landowner says that the County Council promised to move the BT green box as part of the agreement and as this hasn't happened the landowner has cordoned the land off. It is expected that the BT box will be moved soon.

Cllr Boocock asked if there has been any progress regarding the handrail at the culvert in Babylon Lane. Cllr Boatright confirmed that he is still waiting to hear anything.

District Councillor report:

District Councillor Tucker gave the following report:

A new Director of Planning and Infrastructure called Gayle Wootton has been appointed.

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Cllr Tucker referred to planning applications awaiting decisions:

- Larches Farm, Hill Furze Road – no issues.
- Land at Main Street, Bishampton – 3 self-build dwellings. After several applications for this site, this is the only outstanding. All the other applications for this site have been refused.
- The Cottages, Broad Lane – awaiting amendments requested by Conservation Officer.
- 4 warehouses, Land off Long Lane (airfield) – still pending due to dispute between Wychavon's archaeologist and the owners.
- Land at Pershore Airfield, Long Lane – change of use. Still ongoing.

Cllr Tucker will advise when she knows more about when the SWDPR will be sent to the Inspector.

Cllr Boocock asked Cllr Tucker if she was aware of an email which had been sent to the Parish Council concerning the Wychavon Design Code. Cllr Tucker was not aware of this. Cllr Boocock said that people are invited to put forward the type of properties they like, but Cllr Boocock feels that it is more of a beauty contest of properties with no real criteria. The Clerk to forward the email to both Cllrs Tucker and Boatright.

5. Finance

- 5.1. The bank reconciliation and third quarter monitoring report had been previously circulated and both were 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) except for the reimbursement to Cllr Boocock which is to be confirmed under item 7.7 later on the agenda. Proposed by Cllr Tucker and seconded by Cllr Hodgkiss. All in favour.
- 5.3. Cllr Boocock explained that the tax base has gone down for the first time in many years. This means that even without any increase in our precept, there would be an increase in the tax burden on Band D properties of 2.5%. The budget was agreed at the last meeting and after discussion Cllr Boocock proposed that the precept is raised to £22,500 which will mean a £4.91 annual increase on a Band D property. Seconded by Cllr Poulter. All in favour.
- 5.4. It was agreed to remain with the same Internal Auditor, Zoe Kirby, for 2023-24. This was proposed by Cllr Boocock and seconded by Cllr Poulter. All in favour.

6. Progress Reports – for information and discussion

Item	Description	Responsible
a)	Commemoration of Queen Elizabeth II in Throckmorton and Bishampton. After discussion, it was agreed to defer this item until April when there may be District Council grants available. All in favour.	CT/JW
b)	Community Bus Scheme – Cllr Tucker said that we need to get moving on this now as time is running out to secure sufficient pledges. Cllr Tucker said that he will be visiting businesses in Pershore and Cllr Rolls and Wood agreed to visit schools and businesses in surrounding villages. There is to be another Facebook push and neighbouring Parish Councils will be contacted again.	CT

7. Items for consideration

- 7.1. **Parish Council funding of chainsaw NPTO accredited training courses.** Cllr Tucker advised that there is the possibility of Wychavon District Council (WDC) funding for a chainsaw training course. It was agreed to defer the item again until there is more available information regarding WDC and

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costings. Cllr Tucker also referred to other possible options with the County Council and the College which he will pursue.

- 7.2. **To consider the use of CIL finding for 50% of the new Throckmorton VAS sign.** Cllr Boocock advised that Cazoo have informed the Parish Council that they are unable to honour the funding agreed with SMH. The Clerk advised that Barry Barnes has said that WCC Highways will replace the VAS pole at no cost in the same location to house a new solar unit. Cllr Poulter proposed that CIL funding is used to match-fund the 50% promised by the Safer Roads Fund. Seconded by Cllr Wood. All in favour.
- 7.3. **Application for the airfield to be classified as an ancient monument**
This item had been covered by Cllr Boatright during the County Councillor's report. All were in favour of the process outlined by Cllr Boatright
- 7.4. **To consider a grant application for £500 for the 2023 Bish Bosh Bash event.**
It was proposed by Cllr Boocock and seconded by Cllr Rolls that the full amount of £500 is awarded to fund the community event. The grant will be paid in April so that it comes out of next year's budget. Cllr Wood abstained from voting; all other Cllrs were in favour.
- 7.5. **To consider a grant application for £303.11 from the Bishampton Gardening Club.**
It was proposed by Cllr Boocock and seconded by Cllr Poulter that the full amount of £303.11 is awarded to the Gardening Club and CIL money would be used. All in favour.
- 7.6. **A resident's request for a bike rack at The Dolphin**
Cllr Boatright's kind offer to fund this from his budget was acknowledged and it was noted that this cannot progress without the agreement of the Dolphin's tenant. Everyone was in favour of adding this to a list of questions to the tenant when a routine tenant/landlord meeting is held.
- 7.7. **To reimburse the Chair for thank you gifts for Christmas electricity donors and (non-council) newsletter distributors for £14**
It was proposed by Cllr Wood and seconded by Cllr Davis that the amount of £14 is reimbursed to Cllr Boocock out of his Chairman's allowance. 6 votes in favour, Cllr Boocock abstained from voting. Cllr Poulter proposed that this is an annual routine expense and in future it should just appear on the list of payments for approval rather than as a separate agenda item. This proposal was seconded by Cllr Wood. All were in favour.
- 7.8. **To consider discussing with Ounce resuming the coffee mornings at The Dolphin**
All were in favour of raising this matter when the tenant meets with the landlord. Cllr Poulter said that she would be happy to be involved if the coffee mornings were to resume. If Ounce are not agreeable, then this matter would be discussed at a future meeting to see if there is any alternative.

8. Planning

8.1. The following new planning application was considered.

Address	Reference	Description	Comment
Larches Farm, Hill Furze Road, Bishampton	22/02609/FUL	Installation of ground mounted PC panels together with landscaping	No Objection

8.2. The following decision notices were noted:

Decision	Reference	Description	Comment
Approved	W/22/01799/HP	Old School House, Main Street, Bishampton - Conversion of a workshop space, adjacent to the	No Objection

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		existing double garage to be used for additional accommodation to the main house.	
Refusal	W/22/02047/PIP	Land At (Os 9890 5087), Main Street, Bishampton - Permission in Principle for 3No. retirement bungalows Location:	Objection
Refusal	W/22/02055/PIP	Land at (OS 9901 5124), Broad Lane, Bishampton Permission in Principle for 1No. self-build dwelling	Objection
Approved	W/22/02164/HP	Northbrook, Main Street, Bishampton - Northbrook, Main Street, Bishampton	No Objection

9. Progress Reports: Properties

Item	Description	Responsible
9.1	<p>a) Dolphin Ongoing maintenance issues:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • CO detector has been confirmed as being acceptable by the electrician. • Leak – kitchen area ceiling in flat. Graham has arranged for Paul Tank to look, although the issue has not reoccurred since. • Guttering to outbuildings have been reported as being in poor condition. Paul Tank to inspect. • Kitchen appliances. The glass washer was flooding so the tenant has replaced with a new one. This has been removed from the inventory. There have been power issues with the main dishwasher which has been repaired. Also, the switch on the synergy grill was not working and needed repairing. <p>Signage</p> <p>The signage was discussed. It was agreed to add this to the list of items for discussion with the tenant.</p>	<p>JGB/JW</p> <p>JGB/JW</p> <p>JGB</p> <p>JGB/JW</p> <p>JGB</p>
9.2	<p>b) Shop The shop rental was discussed. It was agreed that a £30 per month increase would be appropriate. Cllr Boocock and the Clerk to arrange to meet with the tenant to start negotiations on this basis. This was proposed by Cllr Boocock and seconded by Cllr Davis. All in favour.</p>	JGB/JW
9.3	<p>c) Housemartins Flat Cllr Boocock reported that the boiler had broken down on 15th December. Johnsons arranged for an engineer to repair the boiler and the pump needed replacing. Johnson's have sorted this, and the invoice sum will be taken out of the next rental payment. The Clerk was asked to investigate potential maintenance contracts and to explore the cost of a replacement boiler.</p>	JW

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

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

10.36 – Email from La Serra concerning further light issues

10.39 – Confirmation that SmartCut will collect the Christmas trees this week

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11. Clerk's report:

The Clerk reported that the County Association will be presenting the Parish Council's certificate for gaining the Local Council Foundation Award immediately prior to February's meeting.

12. Councillors' reports and items for future agenda:

Cllr Boocock confirmed that the SWDPR submission totalling 43 pages was successfully submitted before the deadline. Cllr Boocock thanked everyone concerned for all their hard work.

Cllr Rolls asked that a Community Buy Scheme for solar power in the village is placed on the next agenda.

13. Date of next meeting: -

The next Parish Council meeting will be held on Monday February 6th February in The Ockenden Suite, Bishampton Villages Hall at 7.00pm

The meeting closed at 21:10

Signed

Date

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Bishampton & Throckmorton Parish Council - January Payments and December Receipts

Bank Balances as at 30/11/22

	Amount	Interest
Lloyds Deposit	14,059.60	3.22
Lloyds Current (01289157)	29,784.36	
Lloyds Ounce deposit	6,500.00	
Totals	50,343.96	

Gross Income (Nov)

321.20	9.12.22	Pirvin PC - contribution legal counsel and SWDPR leaflets
300.00	16.12.22	Shop rent
60.00	19.12.22	Wychavon DC - reimburse for room hire
409.69	9.11.22	HMRC - VAT refund
602.80	30.12.22	Johnsons
£1,693.69		Total

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
PWLB	Pub loan repayment	10,632.95	0.00	10632.95	20	DD
SLCC	Annual subscription	139.00	0.00	139.00	5	MEM241522-1
MFG Solicitors	Preparation of Dolphin lease	1000.00	200.00	1200.00	24b	146877
Parish Magazine Printing	parish magazines	91.59	0.00	91.59	3	9558
Smartcut	grounds maintenance	266.25	53.25	319.50	25	19010
Carl Brassington	Lengthsman Duties	135.00	0.00	135.00	31	n/a
Wyre Forest Gas Services	Dolphin - repair kitchen wall socket and switch on synergy grill	224.80	0.00	224.80	24	
Ounce	Mulled wine Xmas Eve carol singing	54.17	10.83	65.00	30	(from £75 donation agreed at November meeting)
D Ruskin	Reimburse for sweets carol singing	15.00	0.00	15.00	30	(from £75 donation agreed at November meeting)
*Cllr Boocock	Reimburse for gifts for newsletter distributors and Xmas tree electricity suppliers	14.00	0.00	14.00	9	Chairman's allowance
Ionos	webhosting	7.00	1.40	8.40	9	DD
Ionos	website content management	7.00	1.40	8.40	9	DD
		13,340.26	266.88	13,607.14		

* To be authorised at meeting

** Invoice for boiler repair at Housemartins for £373.68 paid directly by Johnsons and will be taken out of PC's next rental payment