

BISHAMPTON AND THROCKMORTON PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of the Parish Council Meeting held on Monday 6th November at 7.00pm held in The Ockenden Suite, Bishampton Villages Hall

Present: Cllrs Boocock (Chair), Amoroso, Davis, Giel, Hodgkiss, Rolls, Tucker (arrived 19.07) and Wallace
In attendance: County Cllr Boatright, District Cllr Tucker and Julie White, Clerk

The chairman opened the Meeting.

1. Apologies: none

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 Rolls declared an interest in Item 6.4 as she is married to the applicant.**
- d) Written requests for the council to grant a dispensation (S33 of the Localism Act 2011). **None**

Adjournment for Public Question Time

There were 6 members of the public present. The meeting was adjourned whilst members of the public addressed the Parish Council.

3. Minutes: It was proposed by Cllr Boocock and seconded by Cllr Wallace that the minutes of the meeting on 2nd October were a true and accurate record. All in favour. The Chairman signed the minutes.

4. District and County Councillors' reports.

County Councillor report:

Cllr Boatright said that the priority of the past month has been dealing with the recent storms.

- **The phone mast at Nightingale Farm** The mast has been flagged with the Connectivity Team at the County Council plus various other bodies and the MP. Everyone is pushing for a resolution and there is some movement, but progress is slow.
- **Highways Planning Approach** - following a peer review, changes have been made in how planning applications are determined. It is now more in line with national policy putting more onto developers. This should result in better response rates and a change for the better with more thorough assessments of applications.
- **Drainage**- following the recent storms, some drainage issues were highlighted. Cllr Boatright said that 70mm of rain falling in one morning was exceptional. The idea of measuring sticks was raised on Facebook, but these would have to be on a waterway and drivers are expected to manage their own behaviour.
- **Double yellow lines** - If a driver has a disabled badge they can park on double yellow lines, but if they cause an obstruction the car can be removed.
- **RAAC concrete** - County Hall is still only using half the building due to aerated concrete. You can still register births, deaths and marriages at County Hall or you can go to Evesham. The County Council meeting is coming to Pershore in January.
- **NHS dentists** – The local NHS team are putting together a local plan which is expected next year. New contracts will hopefully come out of this.
- **Bus Services** - £1.4m has been awarded from the Government for 2024/5 to improve services.
- **Dog bites** – there is a campaign in new year to highlight the law. If your dog does not have recall and is off the lead, it is not under control.

District Councillor report:

- **Planning** – Nearly all planning applications have now been determined. Cllr Tucker will look into what is happening with application W/22/02070/OUT - outline application for 3 self-build dwellings at Land at (OS9890 5087) Main Street - which is still outstanding.
- **Wychavon District Council** - Chris Day is the new leader.
- **4 Year Strategy** – Cllr Tucker is soon to attend a workshop re council's strategy for the next 4 years. Drop her an email if anything you would like her to raise.
- **PACT Meeting** – Cllr Tucker is hopeful of arranging a PACT meeting soon.
- **Grass in Kerbs** – Cllr Tucker is trying to find out if the contractor commits to doing side roads.
- **Planning Communities Together** – Cllr Tucker highlighted the programme for the event on 23rd November.
- **SWDP** – Cllr Tucker suggested that it would be useful for reps to get together again. A neighbouring parish want to up money budget reserves to £10k if needed for legal representation.
- **Throckmorton Airfield** - Cllr Tucker is trying to establish if DEFRA own Mr Bruce's land or just control it.

5. Progress Reports for Information and Discussion

- 5.1. Replacement phone mast at Nightingale Farm - A comprehensive update had been given by Rodney Hodgkins in the public forum. A suggestion of involving the press was raised. It was agreed not to rule this out, but it wasn't felt that this would achieve anything at this moment in time. It was agreed to give Cllr Boatright some time to work with the County Council. Cllr Hodgkiss said that he would speak to Willow Bank House Care Home to see if they are affected by the lack of the phone mast. Cllr Hodgkiss to report back at the next meeting.
- 5.2. Update of application for Local Council Quality Award Scheme – Cllr Boocock was pleased to confirm that the Parish Council has been awarded the Quality Award. Cllr Boocock congratulated the whole council and said that this makes our Council only the 3rd in the area to achieve this award.
- 5.3. Update on Community bus service – Peopleton Parish Council is not currently supportive of the suggestion of our PC joining forces with their bus service. The Clerk to email M Sumner at Worcestershire County Council to see if she can suggest a way of moving the project forward. This will be back on the agenda when there is anything to report, probably the new year.

6. Items for consideration/approval

- 6.1. Rodney Hodgkiss said that he will speak to Brian Moran to see if he can make a plaque. Rodney and The Clerk will liaise. Cllr Boocock proposed that the Clerk is given a budget of up to £150 to source a suitable plaque and deal with the matter under delegated powers. All in favour.
- 6.2. Flail Cutting the visibility hedge in Throckmorton - Cllr Tucker has only just recently sourced the phone number of Steve Smith in Rous Lench. Cllr Tucker to advise the Clerk when he has obtained a price.
- 6.3. It was noted that Infinis had sent through a draft Constitution and Deed of Contribution relating to the funds from the solar farm. Cllr Tucker proposed that the working group get together and go through the documents and make a recommendation to Full Council at the next meeting. All in favour.
- 6.4. Tree Warden – Eddie Rolls has applied for the role and as a former Tree Officer is a good candidate. However, in the interests of fairness, it was agreed to advertise the post. All in favour. This will be revisited at the next meeting.
- 6.5. Cllr Boocock proposed that the PC authorises the purchase of a Christmas Tree from Smartcut for £85. The other tree will be donated by Smartcut. Seconded by Cllr Wallace. All in favour. Cllr Rolls suggested that a live tree could be planted or possibly a tree rented. Cllr Rolls agreed to investigate this in time for next year.

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- 6.6. Christmas Eve Carols at The Dolphin – Ounce has kindly agreed to host this community event again. Cllr Boocock proposed that the Parish Council pays for the mulled wine and sweets up to £100. All in favour.
- 6.7. The Council approved the Trust's recommendation to reappoint Mike Holden for a further 4-year term and to appoint Jeremy Taber as a new Trustee of the Stoneland Trust. Proposed by Cllr Boocock, Seconded by Cllr Hodgkiss. All in favour.

7. Planning

The following Decision Notices were noted:

- (i) W/22/02754/OUT - Land at (OS 9869 2131), Babylon Lane, Bishampton – REFUSED
- (ii) W/23/00933/PIP - Land At (OS 9876 5123), Nightingale Fields, Bishampton – APPROVED
- (iii) W/23/01093/FUL - Evesham Vale Carp Fishery, Broad Lane, Bishampton – APPROVED
- (iv) W/23/01509/HP - Pendine, Abberton Road, Bishampton – APPROVED

8. Properties

- 8.1. The annual inspection for the fire alarms and emergency lighting at the Shop and Housemartins had taken place earlier in the day. The system is shared but two invoices will be issued.
- 8.2. Housemartins – The Heating Engineer confirmed that oil can get thicker in cold weather and there are additives that could be used to combat this. However, he believes that the issue is mainly that the pipe run from the tank to the tigerloop in the boiler is on its limit, but he was unable to offer a solution due to the installation being above the plastic roof on the back of the shop. Cllr Hodgkiss offered to do some research into the additive and report back to the next meeting.
Two contractors have visited re the mould on the stairwell. One was unable to quote due to the height and the need for scaffolding, but the other quoted £635. As the Clerk was only granted £500 to get the work done under delegated powers, the council asked that more details are obtained as to how the mould is being treated and what is entailed.

9. Finance

- 9.1. The bank reconciliation for October was received and approved.
- 9.2. The list of October receipts and current payments had been previously circulated. Cllr Boocock proposed that the payments on the list were approved (appended to the minutes). Seconded by Cllr Rolls. All in favour.
- 9.3. The first draft of the 2045-25 budget was received. To be revisited at the next meeting.

10. To note items of correspondence

The list of correspondence had been previously circulated. The clerk highlighted the following items of correspondence:

- A resident complained about gravel outside Nightingale House is a hazard and caused her to fall over.
- A resident has commented that the block paving in the play area requires cleaning and repairing. A quote for £650 has been obtained. It was agreed to put this on the next agenda for consideration. In the meantime, the area will be inspected.
- A request to put footpath 557b onto the grasscutting schedule has been received. The clerk is awaiting a quote but, in the meantime, the Lengthsman has said he can strim it. The clerk to ask the Lengthsman to go ahead and give the path a couple of strims. All in favour.

11. Clerk's report

- The new pay scales have just been agreed. This is to be backdated to April and will be implemented next month.
- New timings for La Serra lighting have been released.

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- Details for the Planning Communities Together event to be held on 23rd November were read out. Cllr Boocock asked to be registered to attend.

12. Councillors' reports and any items for future agenda

- The Chairman reminded everyone that they are invited to the Remembrance Sunday commemoration.
- Contributions for the Christmas newsletter need to be submitted to the Chair or Clerk by 14th November.
- A multi-forum panel comprising of representatives of the PC and local groups was previously suggested by Cllr Rolls. Cllr Rolls was asked if she would like to look into this and bring back suggestions to the January meeting.
- Cllr Wallace suggested creating a register of local volunteers who could be called upon when necessary. It was agreed that this could be incorporated into the multi-forum panel.

13. Date of next meeting:

The next Parish Council meeting will be held on:

Monday 4th December in The Parish Room, Throckmorton at 7pm

14. Confidential business

To resolve to close the meeting via Public Bodies (Admission to Meetings) Act 1960 to discuss matters relating to any of legal/contractual issues that, if discussed in the public arena, could be prejudicial to the public interest, following which members of the public will be asked to withdraw. Proposed by Cllr Boocock and seconded by Cllr Rolls. All in favour.

15. To consider a suggestion to rearrange the PWLB property loans

Opinions on this suggestion were still split after further discussion. Due to the division and importance of the matter, the Chair felt that we should seek a mandate from the community. Cllr Tucker proposed a public meeting or parish vote. Seconded by Cllr Rolls. All in favour.

16. Bishampton Stores – sale of business

Paul has recommended new tenants for the shop and Council look forward to meeting them. Whilst supportive, Council felt that more details (financial and references) were necessary before formal approval of the recommendation. Clerk to confirm legal position and lease to be made available to all cllrs.

17. Housemartins – to consider rental terms.

It was agreed that there would be no change for this month.

The Chairman closed the meeting at 21.37

Signed

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Bishampton & Throckmorton Parish Council - November Payments

Bank Balances as at 1st November	Amount	Interest
Lloyds Deposit	33,674.89	19.01
Lloyds Current (01289157)	16,194.63	
Lloyds Ounce Deposit	6,542.06	6.02
Totals	56,411.58	

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	9.90	0.00	9.90	2	n/a
Smartcut	grounds maintenance	306.18	61.24	367.42	25	21197
Carl Brassington	Lengthsman Duties	180.00	0.00	180.00	31	n/a
BATVHT	Meeting room hire	15.00	0.00	15.00	6	BATVHT-0684
SLCC	Training course	30.00	6.00	36.00	8	BK212679-1
Westcotec	VAS Battery	91.50	18.30	109.80	28	15259
Parish Magazine Printing	Newsletter printing	109.38	0.00	109.38	3	10719
St James PCC	Reimburse - wreath for Remembrance Day	30.00	0.00	30.00	9	n/a
J White Reimburse	Defib Pads - Throckmorton	66.95	13.39	80.34	9	DW-137294
Ionos	webhosting	7.00	1.40	8.40	9	DD
Ionos	website content management	7.00	1.40	8.40	9	DD
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