

BISHOPSTONE GROUP PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of the Annual Parish Meeting

held on Wednesday 8th May 2024

Web site address: bishopstonegrouppc-hereforshire.co.uk

PRESENT: Cllr. J Macklin; Cllr. R Morgan; Cllr. Muriel Holmes; Cllr. Serena Crump; Cllr D Hadley; Cllr. L Handscomb; Cllr C Taylor and Cllr. S Keefe.

ALSO PRESENT: Ward Cllr D Hitchiner and Mrs Lesley Hay (Parish Clerk)

No members of the public.

Chairman welcomed those present to this the Annual Parish Meeting.

1. Apologies for Absence were received from. Cllr. C Draper and Cllr L Goldwater.

2. Approval of Minutes

The minutes of the Annual Parish Meeting held on 17th May 2023 were accepted as a true record and it was proposed, seconded and unanimously agreed they should be adopted and signed by the Chairman.

3. Chairman's Annual Report 2024

Chairman's Annual Report 2023/24

Two Councillors, Sharon Knight who represented Bridge Sollars parish and Mark Geary who represented Byford parish resigned from the Parish Council during this year both have moved out of our area. I would on behalf of the Parish Council thank them for their time spent on Council work. We have been able to co-opt two new Councillors on to the Parish Council David Hadley to represent Kenchester parish and Charlotte Taylor to take over from Sharon Knight and represent Bridge Sollars.

The Parish Council was again successful in their application for additional funding towards the Lengthsman scheme. In my opinion this has been a success, enabling the Parish Council to carry out regular maintenance on our highways, plus additional drainage work, cutting back vegetation at the junctions and maintaining our footpaths, also replacement of several broken gate posts, work which would not have been carried out without this scheme.

We still have major drainage problems on our road network, road surface erosion from a spring by Byford Church, surface water collecting and running down the road in the west end of Bishopstone Village, resurface work needed on Bishon Lane and a cross road drain collapse at Kenchester Rectory causing the road to flood. Over the years I along with Parish Councillors and the Ward Councillor have had many meeting with the Locality Stewart and representatives of Balfour Beatty over the pre

listed items, we have had promises to rectify these problems but nothing has been forth coming.

Making space for Nature in our Parish was a scheme taken up by Councillor Sarah Keefe and Councillor Rosemary Morgan with help from Councillor Muriel Holmes for Byford this includes planting wild flowers throughout the parishes on verges and green spaces, thank you all for your efforts in supporting this very worthwhile scheme.

The parishes carried out their annual litter picking on Saturday March 30th 2024, we gathered eleven bags of rubbish from out verge sides thanks to everyone who helped. (note! I have handed over the parishes litter picking kit to Councillor Sarah Keefe)

Finally, I wish to thank all the Parish Councillors for their support over the last fourteen years I have been Chairman and I would like to record the Parish Councils thanks to our Clerk Lesley Hay for all her advice and help throughout the year.

4. Open Session - as there were no issues raised in the open session - the Chairman closed the session.

Signed:(Chairman)

Date: