BISHOP'S ITCHINGTON PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of the Meeting Held on 1 February 2010
St Michael's Church Hall at 7.30pm

Present:

Cllr Kettle, Chairman	Cllr Christian-Carter	Cllr Harries
Cllr Whittaker	Cllr Maddison	Cllr Tagg-Wilkinson
Cllr Macaulay	Cllr Robins	Cllr Kanwar
Cllr Stevens (County)	Cllr Mann (District)	Cllr Patrick (District)

Alison Biddle, Clerk to the Council
Chris Redstall, Yellow Land Project Officer

13 Members of the public

1. Apologies

There were no apologies. All councillors were present.

2. Declarations of Interest

There were no declarations of interest.

3. Minutes

It was **RESOLVED** to accept the minutes of the meeting held on 11January 2010 as a true and complete record of that meeting.

4. Chairman's Comments

A lot of correspondence has been received on the subject of affordable housing. Cllr Tagg-Wilkinson had summed up the relevant points in a recent email to fellow councillors. This is supported by the advice given by the Clerk.

The Chairman was concerned about the email which Cllr Christian-Carter had sent to bi-rdwatch in response to their survey form. The Clerk had issued plenty of advice on declaration of interests and pre-determination to all councillors. The Chairman believes that there are times when councillors must put aside their personal right to comment. He asked the Council to vote on whether or not he should continue as the Chairman. If he continued it would be on the basis that the Council agrees to abide by the Code of Conduct, with particular reference to the issue of pre-determination. He handed over to the Vice-Chairman, Cllr Tagg-Wilkinson, at this point.

A proposal was made that Cllr Kettle should continue as Chairman on the basis that all councillors agree to abide by the Code of Conduct. A vote was taken and the majority were in favour of Cllr Kettle continuing as Chairman.

5. Public Forum

Windfarm

Would it be possible for the Parish Council to add a link from its website to the FRAWT website? The Clerk said it was important to remember that the windfarm planning application had not yet been determined. Therefore if a link is added to FRAWT, she felt that a link to Broadview's website should also be included. The Clerk said she would like to take advice on this matter before adding any links.

Footpaths

A problem was reported with SM 85 at Old Town. There is a sign next to the footpath sign which says "Strictly Private" and the way marker is missing at the point where the footpath joins the road. The Clerk will report this to the Footpaths Officer at WCC.

Hedges

Who is responsible for clearing up the mess after a farmer has cut the hedge? The Clerk will find out.

6. Clerk's Report

There were no questions for the Clerk.

7. Police Matters

Cllr Kettle and Cllr Whittaker, along with our County and District Councillors, had attended a meeting with the police and officers from WCC/SDC. It was made quite clear that police officers will not be attending Parish Council meetings on a routine basis. It is therefore suggested that "Police Matters" is regularly included on the agenda and that any matters raised under this heading are fed back to the police via the Clerk.

It was emphasised that the public still has direct access to the police via the community forums. The police are still keen to meet with people but they now have a different way working.

Cllr Kettle has received a response to the joint letter which he sent with the Chairman of Harbury PC.

8. Yellow Land Natural Heritage Project

Chris Redstall gave a short presentation and update on the project. He was thanked for all his hard work to date.

1. Land Management Plan
   It was **RESOLVED** to formally approve the Land Management Plan.

2. Type of Fencing
   It was agreed to install post and rail fencing.

3. Path Quotations
   A third quotation has yet to be obtained. It was **RESOLVED** to delegate authority to the Clerk to decide which quotation to accept, subject to cost and in consultation with the Project Officer.

9. Affordable Homes

Cllr Whittaker stated that he did not feel that he had predetermined the issue to be debated this evening and therefore would be taking part.

Cllr Macaulay stated that he had no interest to declare in relation to the location of affordable housing.

A member of the public, who could not be present this evening, had written a letter asking Cllr Kanwar to make his position clear with regard to any interest he may have in the Station Road site as he and his relatives live nearby. Cllr Kanwar said that he could not see the site from his property in High Street. He did not consider that there was any likelihood of an access via High Street because the road at the top of High Street is private and therefore any development would not have an impact on his property. He became a councillor shortly after moving to the village and has to take time off

work, at considerable personal financial loss, in order to attend council meetings. He is therefore not a member of the Council for his own benefit.

There have been numerous emails and letters received since the last Parish Council meeting about the decision to take forward the proposals for Plough Lane/Gaydon Road. These have all been circulated to members of the Council. The Clerk has also given advice. The Council has been asked to reconsider its decision in the light of the new evidence regarding an access road off Station Road. If the Council had been given the correct information in 2008, would it have come to a different decision? At the same time, the Council is also aware of the timescale and that there are people who are waiting for these homes.

After serious consideration, it was **RESOLVED** to rescind the decision made on 11 January 2010 to support the proposals for Plough Lane/Gaydon Road.

Following on from the above, it was **RESOLVED** to review the new information regarding Station Road and revisit this site but that while doing so, the Council would also look again at Ladbroke Road.

10. Proposal by Follett Property Holdings Ltd

Some months ago, the Council delegated authority to the Chairman and the Clerk to discuss possibilities for the future with John Hayward, property consultant for Follett's. Further to these discussions, a letter has been received from John Hayward, providing an update on the current situation following the sale by Follett's of the Lodge Bungalow and Bishop's Bowl Lakes and a very broad outline of possibilities. It was agreed that John Hayward should be invited to a Parish Council meeting to expand on this.

11. Finance

1. Monthly Financial Report

There were no questions.

2. Accounts Payable

All cheques were noted as per the schedule and they were passed for signing.

3. Internal Audit

It was **RESOLVED** to appoint Toni Heatley as the Internal Auditor, subject to an appropriate fee being agreed. It was agreed that the terms of reference should remain the same as last year. The Clerk hopes to complete the internal audit before the year end.

12. Review of Local Police Organisation

This had already been dealt with under Item 7.

13. Buckingham Palace Garden Party

Cllr Kettle was nominated to attend.

14. Information from District and County Councillors

- Councillors' Corner takes place next Saturday
- SDC is organising a "Market Place Event" on 12 March at Gaydon. Information to be sent out in the next few days.

- The new owner of Bishop's Bowl Lakes hopes to attend a Parish Council meeting soon.
- The County's grit levels are back to normal following the recent bad weather.
- There is still a problem with the underground spring in Chapel Street. The Clerk will notify WCC.
- The BI Community Project has just received a £4000 grant to help it find a venue to secure its future.

15. Correspondence

All items of correspondence were noted as per the list.

16. Accounts Payable

It was **RESOLVED** to authorise the accounts payable.

17. Reports and Questions

- The Chapel Street/Lakin Drive footpath tarmac is all broken up. This was reported last month and WCC has been informed.
- A new dog waste bin is still required at the far side of the playing field. The Clerk will chase this up.
- The catch on the gate at the bottom of the play area is broken.
- The Biodiversity Group is obtaining quotes for fruit trees to plant at the far corner of the playing field. They are likely to cost around £20 each. The Clerk will check the budget and confirm how much is available to spend.
- Car parking in Hambridge Road is causing problems. This is a police matter.
- Members of the public have enquired about the possibility of a bus shelter on the Leamington Spa route. This is to be placed on next month's agenda.
- There is a problem with lorries parking in The Greaves Way and Meadowcroft. This is a police matter.
- Now that the hedge has been cut down in the playing field, please could the Football Club put up some nets to prevent the balls going into the gardens.
- Bikes have been cutting through the Yellow Land again and have churned up the path.

Members of the public left the meeting at this point.

17. Confidential Items

Grounds Maintenance Quotes

It was **RESOLVED** to award the contracts to TJB Landscapes and MFM Services.

Meeting Closed at 10.40pm

Signed……..Chairman

Date……..

Bishop's Itchington Parish Council **APPENDIX A**

Accounts Payable 1 February 2010

To Whom Payable	Cheque No		Excluding Vat		Vat Payable		Total
Staff salaries	2166	£	936.63			£	936.63
Staff salaries	2167	£	1,059.91			£	1,059.91
Staff salaries	2168	£	249.91			£	249.91
Staff salaries	2170	£	58.50			£	58.50
Staff salaries	2171	£	34.53			£	34.53
Warwicks Wildlife Trust (consultancy)	2172	£	400.00			£	400.00
WALC (seminar)	2173	£	35.00			£	35.00
ANHSO Education (training)	2174	£	70.00			£	70.00
BTCV (Bio Group's tools)	2175	£	348.43	£	52.26	£	400.69
HMRC (PAYE)	2176	£	422.42			£	422.42
WCC (LGPS)	2178	£	261.21			£	261.21
Southam Office Supplies	2179	£	44.46	£	7.78	£	52.24
C Redstall (Expenses)	2180	£	57.87			£	57.87
A Biddle (Expenses)	2181	£	102.99			£	102.99
Warwicks Training P'ship (t/course)	2182	£	30.00			£	30.00
WCC (Conversion of slides to digital)	2183	£	101.50			£	101.50
TW Printing & Copying Ltd (YL Leaflets)	2184	£	191.00			£	191.00
						£	-
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	TOTALS	£	4,404.36	£	60.04	£	4,464.40

N.B. Cheque nos 2169 and 2177 spoiled

Bishops Itchington Parish Council
APPENDIX B
Monthly report

Jan-10	This month			Year to date		
	Actual	Budget	Variance	Actual	Budget	Variance
10	£'s	£'s	£'s	£'s	£'s	£'s
APPENDIX B						
Budget Heading						
			-			-
Salaries & expenses	1,945.62	1,983.37	(37.75)	18,633.90	19,290.98	(657.08)
Administration	54.24	231.59	(177.35)	6,578.87	7,570.43	(991.56)
Grasscutting & estate works	3,603.04	697.99	2,905.05	13,892.88	15,638.48	(1,745.60)
Section 137	16.00	-	16.00	16.00	-	16.00
Cemetery & churchyard	150.00	201.02	(51.02)	8,714.04	6,698.23	2,015.81
Pavilion & playing field	1,430.33	473.17	957.16	5,990.12	7,124.66	(1,134.54)
Memorial Hall	-	-	-	3,380.00	-	3,380.00
Other expenditure	-	-	-	3,611.18	250.00	3,361.18
VAT payments	-	-	-	1,105.60	-	1,105.60
Contingency	183	-	182.63	-	-	-
Transfers	-	-	-	-	-	-
Total Expenditure	7,381.86	3,587.13	3,794.73	61,922.59	56,572.78	5,349.81
Income						
Precept	-	-	-	62,500.00	62,500.00	-
Burials	-	179.17	(179.17)	1,504.50	1,791.67	(287.17)
Reimbursements	-	85.83	(85.83)	-	858.33	(858.33)
Playing field	-	2.48	(2.48)	31.01	24.75	6.26
Interest	-	209.98	(209.98)	697.73	2,099.85	(1,402.12)
P3 Grant	79.84	-	79.84	24,650.00	-	24,650.00
Other grants	-	-	-	-	-	-
Closing of B Gate fund	-	-	-	-	-	-
VAT refund	-	-	-	-	-	-
Total income	79.84	477.46	(397.62)	89,383.24	67,274.60	22,108.64
Surplus deficit	(7,302.02)	(3,109.67)	(4,192.35)	27,460.65	10,701.82	16,758.83