

**MINUTES OF THE ORDINARY MEETING OF THORNBURY GROUP PARISH COUNCIL
HELD ON MONDAY 29th JULY 2024, AT 7PM IN EDWYN RALPH VILLAGE HALL.**

MEMBERS PRESENT: Cllrs A Ede (Chair), J Farrant, D Manning and W Keown-Boyd.
ALSO, PRESENT: Jennifer Eva (Parish Clerk), Ward Councillor Baker and 2 residents.

1. APOLOGIES

Apologies were received from Cllrs K Edwards, T Edwards, H Lewis, A Pitt, and P Wildig.

2. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

2.1 To declare any Disclosable Pecuniary Interests (DPI) and other interests in items on the agenda as required by the Parish Council's Code of Conduct for Members and by the Localism Act 2011. Requests for dispensations must be made in writing, addressed to the Clerk, and received as soon as possible before the meeting. Failure to register or declare a DPI may result in the commission of a criminal offence.
None.

2.2 Register of Interests – members noted the need to update their Register of Interests.

3. MINUTES OF THE PREVIOUS MEETING

3.1 To approve the Minutes from the previous Parish Council Meetings.
a.) Monday 20th May 2024.
b.) Monday 17th June 2024.

It was unanimously **RESOLVED** to approve and sign the minutes of the meetings held on 20th May and 17th June 2024 as correct records.

4. WARD COUNCILLOR UPDATE

Members received and noted the following update from Ward Councillor Baker.

- Several C and U roads around the county that have previously been patched are to receive surface dressing in August 2024. None of this work is scheduled for the parish.

Members reiterated the Parish Council's growing concern at the deteriorating state of the B4214 from Bromyard to Edwyn Ralph and questioned why adequate repairs have not been carried out by the Highways Authority (Herefordshire Council).

It was **RESOLVED** to escalate the Parish Council's concerns to the Chief Executive of Herefordshire Council (HC), regarding the condition of the B4214 (Bromyard to Edwyn Ralph) and Church Lane (water damage to the road caused by a leak).

- Herefordshire Council: free school meals will be available during the holidays for pupils that currently receive them during term-time.
- A Parish Council Summit held in the summertime was well received. HC plans to hold another one in October 2024, at the Council's Plough Lane Offices.
- HC is working on the development of a Local Nature Recovery Strategy – this will be locally based and locally led.
- Edwyn Ralph – Wood Lane drainage gully
Cllr Baker and a member of the Balfour Beatty team recently held a site visit with a resident to discuss the ongoing drainage issue on Wood Lane. The drainage gully is not being adequately maintained and therefore overflows during heavy downpours. The Balfour Beatty team member agreed to raise this with HC, as it appears it is responsible for the maintenance of the gully.

5. PUBLIC QUESTION TIME

One of the residents in attendance raised concerns at the excessive speed at which some people continue to drive through Edwyn Ralph.

Members noted that the SNT will be available for residents and Councillors to speak to about any local Policing concerns at the next 'Coffee with a Cop' that will be held at the village hall.

Cllr Baker left the meeting at 7:30pm

6. FINANCE

6.1 To consider the July finance report (inc. bank statements, recs., and spend to date). Members considered the finance report and **RESOLVED** to accept it.

6.2 Members considered the following list of invoices for payment.

Payee	Details	Budget Heading	Exc. VAT	VAT	Total
Autela	14039	Payroll	£68.22	£13.64	£81.86
HMRC	PAYE MTH 3	Payroll	£65.20	£0.00	£65.20
J Eva	June & July Salary	Payroll			
ER Village Hall	Room Hire	Room Hire	£96.00	£0.00	£96.00
Ruth Mullett	Internal Audit fee	Internal Audit	£200.00	£0.00	£200.00

It was **RESOLVED** to approve the payments listed above for online payment.

Members noted the annual fee of £35.00 to the ICO was made via direct debit on 03.06.2024.

6.3 Monthly internal financial control check.

It was **RESOLVED** to appoint the Chair to carry out the internal financial control check.

6.4 To consider the appointment of R. Mullet as the Council's Internal Auditor for 2024/25. It was **RESOLVED** to approve the appointment of R. Mullet as the Council's Internal Auditor for 2024/25

7. PLANNING MATTERS

To consider commenting on applications for determination by Herefordshire Council. None.

8. RISK REGISTER

To review the register and consider any action required.

It was **RESOLVED** to defer this item to the next ordinary meeting in September.

9. ROADS / FOOTPATHS

Highways/Footpaths – to consider any issues for reporting to Herefordshire Council. As previously discussed during agenda item 4.

10. CORRESPONDENCE

Members noted the following correspondence received.

a) Talk Community Newsletter 18th July 2024.

b) Locality Steward Update.

c) Hedge Lecture recording from Professor Dover.

d) OPCC Survey.

11. COMMUNITY TRANSPORT BROMYARD – REQUEST FOR A DONATION

Members considered this request at length and acknowledged the service that Community Transport provides to the local area.

As the Parish Council has not budgeted for this type of unforeseen expenditure, and does not have a *donations policy*, members **RESOLVED** that would not be possible to provide a financial donation at this time.

12. NEXT ORDINARY MEETING

12.1 Members noted that the date of the next ordinary meeting: 23rd September 2024.

12.2 Members to contact the Clerk with any additional items for inclusion on the next agenda.

With no further business the meeting was closed at 7:51pm

Signed by Cllr Ashley Ede Dated

DRAFT