**VALE OF ALLEN PARISH COUNCIL – WITCHAMPTON AND MANSWOOD WARDS**

**MINUTES OF THE ANNUAL MEETING, held by video conferencing means on Tuesday 6 May 2021 at 7:30**

**Present:**

Cllr T Read, Chair

Cllr D Burford-May

One member of the public Mrs M Cook

**Minutes**

The minutes of the pervious annual meeting from 2019 were read out and signed. No annual meeting took place in 2020 due to Covid restrictions.

**Financial Report**

An overview was given of the main income and outgoings in the previous year;

Main two elements of income being:

Precept £3,034.00

The Rest and Be Thankful fund (R&BT) £4,582.00

Outgoings:

Burial ground maintenance £ 518.00

R&BT £7,720.00

Bus shelter maintenance £ 665.00

Manswood seat £ 85.00

Club bus shelter £ 14.00

Income from the burial ground has been greatly reduced in the past year. The cost of Finger Posts is not included in the outgoings.

**Finger Posts**

Mrs Marion Cook advised that although, no longer a Councillor she would be continuing her work with the replacement and upkeep of the finger post and would continue to fund raise and control the fund for the finger posts. The next post to be commissioned is the (ANOB) one at Lower Street.

**Litter Pick**

A successful litter pick has taken place within Witchampton and the surrounding area. Over 80 people had attended, which showed amazing community spirit. In addition to the litter begin picked up, all the signage was washed, and the village really looks at its best.

**Verges**

We continue to liaise with DCC to obtain “save our verges” signage to try and deter visitors from parking on and destroying the verges within the villages. Permission has been obtained from the Landowner to sight such signage.

**Village involvement**

There are several different village committees within Witchampton, and it was discussed if there would be merit in holding a village meeting, of all the different committees to improve communication and understanding of what all the different committees aims and ambitions are and raise the profile of the Parish Council.

**The R&BT seat**

The old wooden seat has been replaced with a beautiful new metal seat, which will require less maintenance and should not deteriorate like the wooden one. The Council wanted to thank Debbie White for all her hard work in fund raising and commissioning the new seat.

**Ward Members**

This year we said goodbye to two long standing ward members, Marion Cook and Debbie White. The Cllrs would like to thank both Marion and Debbie for all of their hard work over many years for the Parish Council.

We currently have two vacancies on the Parish Council, there is an opportunity for residents to be co-opted on to give them an opportunity to see if being on the Parish Council will work for them.

**Meeting closed at 8:04**