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| 8. Minute 10: Moving the Grit Bin outside the Church. The Clerk reported that he had informed Mrs Sue Hack about moving the grit bin outside the Church. | |
| 9. Minute 11: Emptying the Bin on the Village Green. The Clerk reported that he had contacted FCC Environment, but had yet to receive a reply. The Clerk was instructed to contact FCC Environment again. | CS |
| 10. Minute 11: the North Herefordshire Hunt. The Clerk reported that the Hunt Chairman had proposed a meeting between himself, the new huntsman and parish councillors, but that a meeting had not yet been arranged. The Clerk was instructed to arrange a meeting. | CS |
| 11. Minute 12: Footpath BM13. See Agenda Item 6. | |
| 12. Minute 13: Slurry leaking from Eastfields Farm. The Clerk reported that he had reported to Amey that slurry was leaking from Eastfields Farm. Mr Tony Clark said that no action had been taken and that slurry was still leaking through the gaps in the wall. Cllr Millar suggested that the Clerk should contact Environmental Services at Herefordshire Council. | CS |
| 13. Minute 14: Telephone Kiosk. See Agenda Item 8. | |
| 14. Minute 16: Hunt Timetable. The Clerk reported that a timetable for walking the hounds would be discussed at the meeting with the Hunt Chairman and huntsman. | |
| 15. Minute 17: Strip of Ground at England's Gate. The Clerk reported that he had been unable to contact the owner of England's Gate Inn, but would continue to attempt to do so. | CS |
| 16. Minute 20: Traffic Calming Measures. Cllr Clarke reported that a meeting had been arranged for 7pm on Wednesday, 12 th June in the Parish Hall. Cllr Millar requested that the meeting consider the introduction of a speed limit in Holbatch Lane. | |
| 17. Minute 21: Parish Council Insurance. The Clerk reported that he had obtained a quotation from Norris and Fisher, but that the previously obtained quotation from Zurich Municipal was more favourable and had been accepted. | |
| 18. Minute 23: Park and Share and Park and Ride Scheme. The Clerk reported that he had obtained and circulated photographs of the cycle racks and lockers. After discussion there was no agreement as to which was preferable or whether the site was suitable. The Clerk was instructed to ask the Scheme administrators about alternative sites such as England's Gate Inn and to ask the owner of the Inn whether she would be willing for a rack or locker to be located on the Inn's car park. | CS |
| 19. Minute 33: Clerk's Remuneration. The Clerk reported that the government had permitted no pay increase for local government clerks since 2010, but negotiations were taking place about a 1% increase. Cllr Clarke suggested that a sub-committee be formed to consider the Clerk's remuneration. It was agreed that the sub-committee would consist of Cllrs Clarke, Knott and Austin. The Clerk also reported that his computer was faulty and was likely to need replacement. The Clerk was instructed to obtain details of the cost of a replacement computer. | BC CS |
| 20. Minute 50: Bodenham Newsletter. Cllr Clarke reported that he had not heard from Mrs Haworth. | |
| <u>AGENDA ITEM 5 – MATTERS RAISED BY MEMBERS OF THE PUBLIC</u> | |
| 21. Mrs Gwen Bowden asked about the North Herefordshire Hunt. See Minute 10 above. | |
| 22. Mrs Bowden requested that the speed camera could be located on the A417 at around 7am, when speeding traffic is particularly busy. The Clerk was instructed to arrange this. | CS |
| 23. Mrs Bowden requested that the Lengthsman be thanked for his work around the Village. The Clerk was instructed to do this. | CS |
| 24. Mrs Bowden asked about the waste bin on the village green. See Minute 9 above. | |
| 25. Mr Tony Clark reported that the drains between Saffrons Garage and the junction with the C1125 were blocked. The Clerk was instructed to report this. | CS |
| 26. Mr Clark reported that there was a large piece of a car bumper in Millcroft Brook where it meets Moor Brook. The Clerk was instructed to report this. | CS |
| 27. Mrs Bowden asked for a letter to be written to Mr and Mrs Walters at 33, Brockington Road thanking them for replacing their overgrown hedge with an attractive fence, thereby improving access along the pavement. The Clerk was instructed to do this. | CS |
| <u>AGENDA ITEM 6 - FOOTPATH BM13</u> | |
| 28. Mr Jeremy Wilding spoke about the problem with HM Inspector's decision that footpath BM13 be reinstated through 44, Brockington Road. He reported that the searches conducted when the property was purchased had failed to find that the footpath passed through the property (see Minute 28 in the May 2013 minutes). He also reported that an old footpath over a stile into the Siward James Centre was in use in 1987 and asked whether this could be reinstated. Mr Peter Tomlinson - representing the Siward James & Arkwright Trust Charity - said that it was nonsense to be required to reinstate a footpath which had not been used for over thirty years, and that to reroute the footpath through the Siward James Centre would involve the loss of | |

parking spaces. Cllr Clarke said that the matter could not be ignored, because it would compromise any future sale of 44, Brockington Road. He added that an alternative exit to footpath BM13 was already in use through Orchard Close. Mrs Gwen Bowden asked whether Bodenham Parish Councillors had inspected the site. Cllr Powell suggested a site visit. Cllr Millar requested that Cllr Clarke accompany him around the site so that he, Cllr Millar, could take the issue to the relevant director at Herefordshire Council, even though Herefordshire Council could not overturn what was clearly a ridiculous and unsatisfactory decision. Cllr Clarke agreed to visit the site with Cllr Millar.

BC

AGENDA ITEM 7 - MOWING THE GRASS ON THE VILLAGE GREEN

29. Cllr Clarke said that the grass had now been mown.

AGENDA ITEM 8 - TELEPHONE KIOSK

30. Cllr Clarke reported that he had received no response from St Michael's School about the use of the kiosk. Cllr Millar said that he had provided information about an 'Information' sign for the kiosk. The Clerk was instructed to put an item in the *Newsletter* asking for suggestions for the use of the kiosk.

CS

AGENDA ITEM 9 - FINANCE

31. The Clerk reported that the 2012-13 accounts had been audited internally and presented for the figures for approval. The figures were approved unanimously (Proposer: Cllr Austin. Seconder: Cllr Avery).

32. Cllr Knott reported that he had circulated the monthly accounts, which are attached as Annex A, and that the balance of the accounts was £9,526.56.

33. The Clerk reported that the following invoices had been received:

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| - David J Griffiths (gardening services) | £583.00 |
| - Mrs Babs Mitcheson (refreshments for Parish Plan meeting – Carried forward from the May Parish Council Meeting) | £8.50 |
| - Zurich Municipal (PC Insurance) | £499.96 |
| - DC Gardening Services (Lengthsman) | £395.00 |
| - Siward James & Arkwright Trust | £13.50 |

34. Cllr Austin proposed and Cllr Avery seconded that these invoices be accepted. This was agreed unanimously.

AGENDA ITEM 10 - PLANNING

35. The Clerk reported that the following planning application had been received:
131180/N: Earth slurry lagoon, Eastfields Farm (revised application).

36. Cllr Clarke outlined the changes which had been made in the re-application, which were intended to allow for an increase in the size of the herd and to increase capacity for excessive rainfall retention. Cllr Millar said that in its response the Parish Council should ask whether the reasons for refusing the initial application had been met. The Clerk was instructed to contact Debbie Klein at Herefordshire Council to ascertain this.

CS

AGENDA ITEM 11 - UPDATES

37. **Bodenham Flood Protection Group.** Cllr Mitcheson had sent a report, which is attached as Annex B.

38. **Parish Hall.** Cllr Powell reported that no Management Committee meeting had taken place since the last Parish Council meeting.

39. **Lengthsman.** The Clerk reported that, although he had now received two quotations for installing a soakaway at the playground, the Lengthsman had reported that the drainage problem might be solved by spreading more chippings on the affected area around the swings and that two bags of chippings were needed. The Clerk was instructed to ask the Lengthsman to obtain and spread the new chippings.

CS

AGENDA ITEM 12 - CORRESPONDENCE NOT PREVIOUSLY CIRCULATED

40. The Clerk reported that no correspondence had been received which had not been previously circulated.

AGENDA ITEM 13 - OTHER BUSINESS (INCLUDING DISTRICT COUNCILLOR'S COMMENTS)

41. Cllr Millar said that his Report had been circulated and that he had nothing to add to it. Cllr Knott congratulated Cllr Millar on his new role as Herefordshire Council cabinet member for

Children' and Adult Social Care.

AGENDA ITEM 14 - DATE OF NEXT MEETING

42. The next Meeting will be held in the Siward James Centre at 7.30pm on Monday, 1st July.

The Meeting ended at 9.15pm.

| | May | June | July | Aug | Sept | Oct | Nov | Dec | Jan | Feb | Mar | Apr |
|-----------------------------|-----------------|----------------|----------------|----------------|----------------|----------------|----------------|----------------|----------------|----------------|----------------|----------------|
| Parish Plan | | | 500.00 | | | | 500 | | | | 500 | |
| Neighbourhood Plan | | 250.00 | | | 250.00 | | 500 | | | 500 | | |
| British Legion Grant | | | | | | 65.00 | | | | | | |
| TOTAL PC Expenditure | 606.31 | 3007.83 | 1417.25 | 2071.00 | 1059.00 | 2905.10 | 2130.83 | 345.85 | 495.8 | 1038 | 886 | 419 |
| | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| PC Closing Balance | 9526.56 | 7149.59 | 6535.59 | 4689.59 | 3755.59 | 7121.65 | 5729.8 | 5576 | 5331.2 | 4483.2 | 4560.4 | 4331.4 |
| | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| BFPG Open Balance | 2210.27 | 2210.27 | 2113.37 | 2113.37 | 2113.37 | 2113.37 | 2113.37 | 2113.37 | 2113.37 | 2113.37 | 2113.37 | 2113.37 |
| BFPG Inc | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| BFPG Ex | | 96.90 | | | | | | | | | | |
| BFPG Closing Balance | 2210.27 | 2113.37 | 2113.37 | 2113.37 | 2113.37 | 2113.37 | 2113.37 | 2113.37 | 2113.37 | 2113.37 | 2113.37 | 2113.37 |
| | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| LADY Close Orchard | 158.00 | 158.00 | 158.00 | 158.00 | 158.00 | 158.00 | 158.00 | 158.00 | 158.00 | 158.00 | 158.00 | 158.00 |
| | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Tot Closing Balance | 11894.83 | 9420.96 | 8806.96 | 6960.96 | 6026.96 | 9393.02 | 8001.19 | 7847.34 | 7602.54 | 6754.54 | 6831.79 | 6602.79 |

BODENHAM FLOOD PROTECTION GROUP REPORT
(3 JUNE 2013)

1. **Water Levels**. Despite some periods of rain over the past month the water level in the Millcroft Brook has remained very low.
2. **Monthly Meeting**. Our most recent Meeting was held on Tuesday, 30 April and, as always, was well attended.
3. **Working Party Sessions**.
 - a. We held a working party session on the evening of Friday, 24 May, during which we again used one of our petrol pumps to jet out some of the drains which empty into the Millcroft Brook. Other members of the Group cleared the section of the Brook between the C1125 and the Golf Course, strimming the banks, cutting down saplings and clearing debris.
 - b. Our next working party session will be on Friday, 7 June when we plan to jet the remaining drains along the Brook and carry out scheduled clearance and maintenance work elsewhere.
4. **Early Warning Telemetry System**. We have been reminded by Hydro-Logic LLP that our credit balance on the system needs replenishing. This money pays for the telephone alarm messages we get from the system and the bad weather over the Winter has meant that our balance has been rather reduced. As before, the Secretary will buy some more 'credits' and recover the cost from the Parish Council. Meanwhile, having now amassed a full year's experience of the system and, through it, of the behaviour of the Millcroft Brook, we will also carry out another review of when alerts are issued and who receives them with a view to reducing costs still further.
5. **The 'Statement of Principle'**. The 'Statement of Principle' is the agreement between the Government and the insurance industry under which insurers guarantee to provide flood cover for all households in return for the Government undertaking to fund the construction of flood defences across the country. The 'Statement' is due to end on 30 June and so far talks between the two sides have failed to produce any agreement to replace it. The present arrangement has been informally extended until 31 July, but it is by no means clear what will happen thereafter to those whose homes are at risk of flooding.
6. **Visit of Blast! Films**.
 - a. Mr Tom Wilde, an Assistant Producer of Blast! Films in London, visited Bodenham to see the working party session on Friday, 24 May. He was filming material for a forthcoming Channel 4 documentary about the weather, which will obviously include a section on flooding.
 - b. He started by conducting a filmed interview with Mrs Mary Dhonau about flood insurance matters, followed by ones with the Chairman and the Secretary about the flood risk in Bodenham and the work of the BFPG. He then visited the working party and

filmed members jetting drains and clearing the stretch of the Brook upstream from the C1125. This gave him the opportunity to complete a final interview, this time with Mrs Rebecca Burnill. He said that no date has yet been set for the showing of the documentary on television.

7. **The Sunday Telegraph.**

a. We were approached on 28 May by Ms Jessica Winch, who is a personal finance reporter on *The Telegraph*. She interviewed the Secretary at some length on the telephone about the flood risk in Bodenham and what the BFPG had done since 2007 to reduce this. She conducted another lengthy telephone interview on 30 May and informed us that she was preparing an article for *The Sunday Telegraph* on "what households and communities can do to protect themselves from flooding". She also arranged for a photographer to visit Bodenham on Friday morning (31 May) and take pictures of four members of the Group in action clearing the Millcroft Brook.

b. The article duly appeared in *The Sunday Telegraph* on 2 June, with the piece about the BFPG leading into a mention of the failure by the Government and the Association of British Insurers to come to an agreement on a replacement for 'The Statement of Principle'.

K.A.M.