

Hill & Moor Parish Council

Clerk: Mrs Jo Adams
Landline: 01386 554305

Address: 43A High Street, Pershore, WR10 1EU
Tel/ Text/ WhatsApp: 07795 608892

Email: hillandmoor@yahoo.co.uk

Minutes of the Parish Council Meeting

held at Lower Moor Village Hall

Thursday 1st July 2021 at 7pm

Present: Cllrs T. Betteridge, P. Jeanes, Mrs A. Jeanes, Mrs P. Stone and D. Saunders

Also present: J. Adams, Clerk; County Cllr D. Boatright (left at 8pm), District Cllr L. Tucker, 7 members of the public

- 1. Apologies:** There were none.
- 2. Declarations of Interest:** There were none.

*The meeting was adjourned for Public Question Time
Notes can be found at the end of these minutes.*

- 3. Minutes:** It was agreed that the minutes of the Parish Council meeting of the 3rd June 2021 were a true and accurate record.
- 4. District Councillors report:** Cllr Tucker had had another conversation with Paul Saunders about the A44 ditch. Cllr Boatright was due to go on a 'ditch tour' with the Liaison Officer Barry Barnes; Cllr P. Jeanes would attend also.
- 5. County Councillors report:** Cllr Boatright reported that the bridge to Wyre was causing a concern, with increased unauthorised access. He reported that he had requested a Q&A session between John Campion, the Police and Crime Commissioner, and parish councils in Autumn.
- 6. Parish Councillors reports:** Following last month's discussions on the overload of the field car park, some investigations had been made into a 'grasscrete' extension over part of the field. However this was not particularly cheap or simple. The only suitable point for an extension (towards the benches) would result in an L-shaped car park that would not produce an efficient use of space, for quite a lot of money. The council would monitor the matter; in the near future the footballers would restart car sharing and there would be less need for events to take place outside.

Cllr P. Jeanes reported that the mobile police station had visited the village.
- 7. Progress reports**
 - a) Review of actions from previous meeting: The action points were reviewed.
 - b) Playing Field and mowing: The grass was looking tidy. There were a few burn marks in the grass from disposable barbeques. Anti-vandal paint had been purchased for the container.
 - c) Play area: The contractor had quoted £270 for repairs to parts of the play area fence that were leaning. The playground company had quoted for replacement bolts for the nest swing but they were very expensive and the carriage charge was extortionate. Cllr Jeanes would see if suitable bolts could be sourced locally.

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- d) Flood / Drainage: Residents of Boggs Lane were still concerned over flooding from the ditch. Cllr Jeanes had tried to contact county council officers for an update without success.
- e) Footpaths: Nothing to report.
- f) Village Hall and Events Group (VHEG): Bookings were increasing. There was no update on the security system. Cllr Stone reported that the heating had been left on yet again, and the lights too.
- g) Landfill Site: Nothing to report.
- h) Lengthsman: Training had been planned but no dates had been released as yet.
- i) Newsletter: Nothing to report.
- j) PACT: Nothing to report.
- k) Urgent Decisions Group: The elderly basketball net had been replaced.
- l) SWDP: The next meeting had not yet been planned.

8. Planning

- a) **New planning applications:** There were none.
- b) **To receive Decision Notices:** There were none.
- c) **To note or discuss Planning Correspondence, Information and Issues:** There were none.

9. **Finance:** To report on the financial situation of the Parish Council and to approve payments

Income since last report			
Date	Received from	Details	Total £
09/06/2021	Lloyds Bank	Bank Interest Jun '20	0.17
18/06/2021	WCC	L/man Nov' 20 + Jan-Mar '21	664.12

Payments for approval			
Inv. Date	Payee	Detail	£ inc VAT
01/06/2021	Pinvin Services	Mower fuel	44.48
01/06/2021	BHGS	Garlic mole repellent	73.50
26/06/2021	Community Action Suffolk	Parish Council Insurance 2021/22	384.37
30/06/2021	J. Adams	Salary Jun '21	230.60
30/06/2021	J. Adams	Phone/computer Jun '21	17.50
30/06/2021	WCC	Pension contributions Jun '21 (HMPC £77.40)	95.14
27/05/2021	Wychavon District Council	Annual charge to empty 3x dog waste bins	279.32
31/05/2021	Smart Cut	Grass 20/5 and 06/05/21	267.29
26/04/2021	Eon	Play field supply 26/3/21 - 26/4/21	12.86
26/05/2021	Eon	Play field supply 26/4/21 - 26/5/21	12.51
07/06/2021	Euro Pinvin	Mower fuel	47.61
17/06/2021	Euro Pinvin	Mower fuel	43.13
18/06/2021	New Venture Products	Anti-vandal paint	33.85
18/06/2021	Amazon	Basketball net	9.99

Current account - Lloyds - A/c 01865441

Balance as at 24/06/21

20,328.38

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Savings account - Lloyds - A/c 07578509

Balance as at 24/06/21 20,401.67

Total cash assets **40,730.05**

<u>Ringfenced</u>		
Flood alleviation		10,000.00
CIL		0.00
Grant funds	Village Hall improvements	5,531.55
Bonfire funds		1,272.60
Total Ringfenced		16,804.15

<u>Earmarked Reserves</u>		
Asset Maintenance / Replacement / Disposal		2,000.00
Purchase Asset		0.00
Total Earmarked Reserves		2,000.00

General Reserve **21,925.90**

(Total cash assets less Ringfenced funds and Earmarked Reserves)

Lengthsman Expenditure to date including items on this document: £336.00 from a £1,937 budget.

Total of the **Open Spaces maintenance** items on this sheet: £531.88, which would make total expenditure for this budget £1,185.79 from an annual budget of £4000.

It was resolved to approve the payments. The internal auditor's report was noted.

10. To discuss the Traveller and Travelling Showpeople Site Allocations DPD Revised Preferred

Options Consultation: The council considered the questions in the consultation. Responses are attached to these minutes.

11. To quotation for a gate at the far end of the playing field and an extension to the path: Cllr P.

Jeanes reported that there was an underground BT cable near the proposed location for the gate. Other utilities may also be present. A map of utilities would be obtained. The scope of the work also may have to be scaled down due to cost restraints. Cllr Jeanes would request an amended quote from the contractor for a revised design.

12. To discuss parked cars in Blacksmiths Lane: There had been instances of cars parking on the bend which made visibility very difficult. Cars exiting the village were forced to drive in the middle of the road on a blind bend. Cllr P. Jeanes agrees to contact PC Brown to see if he could supply official West Mercia No Parking notices that could be put on the cars. In addition, it was resolved to ask the lengthsman to cut back the overgrowth on the opposite side to increase the available passing space.

13. To discuss marking basketball lines in the car park: A request had been made for basketball court markings in the car park, to be done at no cost to the council. There was general support

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for this, but it was decided to check with the insurer that there would be no implications. If all was ok, the council was happy for the basketball markings to go ahead.

14. To discuss a Village Information Leaflet: Cllr P. Jeanes had drawn up a comprehensive guide which could be supplied to new villagers. There were many things in the guide which would be of interest to current residents, and these would be put into the next newsletter. Copies of the guide would be placed in the former phone box.

15. To discuss the Parish Contact Contract document from West Mercia Police: Council priorities were confirmed as (i) Anti-social behaviour, (ii) parking problems in the village, (3) vehicles driving at inappropriate speeds for the road /conditions. The clerk would be the point of contact for the Local Police Team. The council discussed the possibility of a village WhatsApp group - there was one currently operational in Badsey. Cllr P. Jeanes would find out more about this scheme, and how useful and workable it was.

16. Correspondence for Information

The following correspondence had been received and circulated:

- An update from WCC on roadworks at Pinvin and the Northern Link Road.
- Notification of a parish event on the 30th June.
- A survey from the Wychavon Advisory Group.

17. Clerk's report: Items already covered elsewhere.

18. Summary of Councillors' agreed actions: Cllr A. Jeanes would circulate the list round in due course.

19. Date of next meeting and items for next agenda: Thursday 2nd September 2021. Cllr Betteridge sent apologies.

Public Questions

Residents had been unhappy because a group of visiting scouts (who were in the village as they had booked the field) were grouped outside the Village Hall. Cllr Saunders explained that the scouts had arrived to use the field but the footballers had turned up unexpectedly and occupied the field and car park instead. The scouts waited at the roadside for the footballers to vacate. Villagers expressed anger that they hadn't been made aware that the field had been booked and that the booking had been made to an organisation that was not based in Lower Moor. On the day of the incident there had been demands for the police to be called. Cllr Betteridge apologised on behalf of the council and pledged that field bookings would be notified on the village notice board and on social media.

A resident asked Cllr Tucker about the return of the bus service. Cllr Tucker replied that the news was not good. The bus companies would not run a service that was not profitable and the subsidies available from the county council were extremely limited. The Pershore Volunteer Service was able to give lifts for a modest fee, could be booked by phone and would drop their passengers door to door. Cllr Tucker would provide the phone number to the resident.

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Item 10 - Hill and Moor response to Traveller and Travelling Showpeople Site Allocations Development Plan Document Preferred Options (2021) Consultation

Travelling Showpeople	
1. There have not been any suggested sites for Travelling Showpeople plots and therefore it is proposed that the SWC work with the Showman's Guild to identify a suitable site. Do you agree with this approach? If no, please give your reasons.	No comment

Transit Sites	
2. The GTAA (Oct 2019) suggests that no new transit pitches are required because of the toleration policy operating across Worcestershire. Do you agree with this approach? If no, please give your reasons.	Hill and Moor Parish Council does not agree with this approach. Transit pitches should be provided in a proper manner. Unauthorised encampments harm relationships between the settled community and the traveller community – policies should be aiming to bring communities together not exacerbate tensions. In addition, the 'Toleration policy' is often not the approach taken in practice.

Proposed Deliverable Sites	
3. Do you have any comments on the suitability of increasing the number of pitches (by 3 pitches) at the existing Traveller site at Hillbee farm in Upton Upon Severn?	No comment
4. Do you have any comments on the suitability of increasing the number of pitches at the existing Traveller site by 5 pitches (to include the 2 Tolerated pitches) at The Orchard, Knowle Hill in Evesham?	No comment

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<p>5. Do you have any comments on the suitability of increasing the number of pitches (by 2 pitches) by extending the existing Traveller site at Blossom Hill, Village Street in Aldington?</p>	<p>No comment</p>
<p>6. Do you have any comments on the suitability of land at Hughes Barn, Bretforton Rd, Badsey as a potential new permanent Traveller site for 6 pitches?</p>	<p>No comment</p>

Proposed Development Sites

<p>7. The SWDPR will include Traveller Site Allocations for the new settlements at Worcestershire Parkway, Rushwick and Throckmorton Airfield. Worcestershire Parkway shall include 2 Traveller sites and Rushwick Expanded Settlement and Throckmorton Airfield Strategic Allocation shall both include 1 Traveller site. Each site to be around 10 pitches. Do you agree with this approach?</p> <p>If no, please give reasons.</p>	<p>Hill and Moor Parish Council objects to the proposal for the new settlement at Throckmorton Airfield and does not support the addition of a traveller site at the location.</p>
<p>8. Broad locations for growth are areas within 800 metres (the recognised threshold beyond which it is very unlikely people would walk to access a service) of a town or Category 1, 2 or 3 settlement excluding land within either the Green Belt or Areas of Outstanding Natural Beauty. Do you agree with this approach of identifying broad locations of growth?</p> <p>If no, please give reasons.</p>	<p>Hill and Moor Parish Council does not support this approach for Category 2 or Category 3 settlements where there are likely to be few services to walk to. The assumption that people will walk if the settlement is 800m away from services is simplistic, it also depends on very many other things including the walking route, what they are doing, what else they have to do and how much time they have to do it. Some people will walk more than 800m some will not walk any distance at all.</p> <p>Given the difficulty in finding suitable sites, the restriction of 800m should be discontinued.</p>

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Tenure

9. Do you have any suggestions as to how the SWC can encourage the provision of socially rented pitches?

If landowners will not provide land for traveller settlements, the County Council should look to providing more council run sites.

Nomadic Habit of Life

10. When determining planning applications the SWC will have to assess whether persons are Gypsies and Travellers for the purposes of planning policy. Do you have any suggestions about how the SWC should assess whether Gypsies and Travellers are leading or have permanently ceased their nomadic habit of life?

If yes, please provide suggestions.

No

General Comments

11. Are there any other comments you wish to make about this Traveller and Travelling Showpeople Site Allocations Development Plan Revised Preferred Options Document?

There should be more provision for traveller sites in Malvern Hills District.