

# Hill & Moor Parish Council

Clerk: Mrs Jo Adams  
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## Minutes of the Annual Parish Meeting

held in Lower Moor Village Hall on

Thursday 25th April 2019 at 7pm

Present: Cllrs M. Yarnold (Chair), P. Jeanes, Mrs A. Jeanes, D. Saunders, T. Betteridge, Mrs P. Stone and S. Vaughan

Also present: J. Adams, Clerk; County and District Cllr L. Tucker; Mr. M. Hayes (Allotments), Mr R. Smith (Village Hall) and 7 residents.

**1. Apologies:** Apologies had been received from Mrs C. Martin (Church), Mr. M. Taylor (PPW) and Mrs M. Williams (WI).

**2. Minutes of the Parish Meeting held on 19th April 2018:** The minutes of the meeting on the 19<sup>th</sup> April 2018 were agreed as a true record.

**3. Chairman's Annual Report**

Cllr Yarnold welcomed those present to the meeting and gave his report for the year, which is attached to these minutes.

**4. District and County Councillor's Annual Report**

Cllr Tucker thanked the Chairman Cllr Yarnold, who was standing down, for his work on the Parish Council. She reported from both Wychavon District and Worcestershire County councils. Wychavon was a well-run council that did not have the financial pressures that assailed the county council. Wychavon was now working closely with Malvern Hills District Council although the culture was different between the two district councils. She had concerns over the performance of the enforcement department which was very likely understaffed. For planning decisions, they were led entirely by policy with little room for flexibility in decision-making.

She reported that 70% of the county council's funds were now spent on the ever-increasing cost of social care. This affected and reduced the available funds for all other county council departments. However, the works to Pinvin crossroads and the Northern Link Road would be going ahead.

Yellow lines had been agreed for the top of Salters Lane if the Parish Council were in support.

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## 5. Reports from Village Organisations

### Village Hall

Mr Smith reported that the committee had had a quite year booking-wise and he would like to see it busier. However, new committee members had joined and the Hall had an increasing online presence. The windows had been done and he welcomed the proposal for the addition of audio-visual equipment and the new kitchen.

### WI

The President of Fladbury and Moor WI had forwarded a report that is attached to these minutes.

### Allotments

Mr Hayes reported that the Allotment Association was independent of the Parish Council. It was a charitable trust run by 5 trustees; there was currently a vacancy for one trustee. The plots were a good size and there were currently vacancies which residents could take advantage of.

## 6. Parishioners Open Forum

A resident asked if the rumour of houses being built at the back of Maytree Road had any truth to it? Cllr Yarnold replied that there had been a recent call for housing sites and many sites had been put forward, many of them not suitable for development. The three South Worcestershire councils would be considering all sites put forward but the final list was not yet known. This would be subject to public consultation in the autumn.

A resident asked if there was any news on the proposed houses behind Chestnut Close? There was no further information on this at the moment.

A resident noted that a Parish Plan had been carried out in 2004. There had been talk of doing a follow up Plan. Cllr Yarnold replied that the Parish Council had carried out a Residents' Survey in the recent past and the results of this had been published in the newsletter. There had been some discussion on Neighbourhood Plans but these were time-consuming and expensive and there appeared little appetite for it locally.

A resident noted that there was an increasing tendency to keep the public informed by online methods, but there was still a sizeable contingent who did not access these sources and could sometimes lose touch with what was going on locally.

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## **Chairman's Report to Annual Parish Meeting 2019**

Welcome everyone to the Annual Parish meeting. As Chair I have the job of doing an Annual Report to the meeting.

Your Council has had probably the busiest year for some time and it has been fortunate that we have had a full compliment of Councillors.

We have had a number of planning applications that we have had to respond to on your behalf, we helped Hannah Malins and David Bruce in the organisation of a bonfire and fireworks on November the 3rd last and we have worked tirelessly in taking forward and putting into place schemes to enhance facilities within the Parish, and of course responding to issues of concern raised by Parishioners.

### PLANNING

We have had a number of applications from householders for minor building works and also an application for 10 holiday chalets in Church lane, the latter subsequently withdrawn by the applicant as a result of concerns expressed by residents.

In addition, the application to increase the number of permanent pitches at Hill and Moor meadows was finally determined by Wychavon Planning Committee and was turned down as it was over development of the site and detrimental to the Village. The applicant of course has a right of appeal. The Development of 11 houses in Blacksmiths Lane is now complete and all house are occupied and have been so since last August. There are some further works to be carried out on the highway and the drains.

### PROJECTS

The perimeter path around the green/ field has been put in place and it is great to see that it is well used. A number of complimentary comments have been made and it has been welcomed by Parishioners. The planting of grass and wild-flower seeds has been carried out in the last couple of weeks on the bund and shortly the trees will be planted. New benches have been installed, 3 picnic benches by the play area and 3 other benches located around the field. Again a big thank you to Severn Waste Services (landfill Communities Fund) for the grant for this work.

Two other benches have been installed on the field, one of which is a memorial bench commemorating the " Great War" and the other in memory of Michael Martin and Jerry Marshall for services to the Parish.

Lighting from the car park to the entrance on the field opposite the village Hall has also been installed. An order has been placed for the basket swing and timber trail, together with improvements to the existing play area surface and work should commence around mid to late May. The work will take about 3 weeks.

A bid using section 106 monies has been submitted for improvements to the football pitch which suffered badly from damage by badgers and latterly moles and it is anticipated that if approved work on the pitch will take place around possibly late July or August.

In our Spring 2019 newsletter we asked for your comments on a possible application for funds from the New Homes Bonus for New Kitchen equipment and the purchase of audio-visual equipment for films and presentations. We received approximately 60 signatures in support and so at our meeting

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earlier this month we agreed to submit an application. Again Seven Waste Services are giving a grant to help fund this application.

## OTHER MATTERS

The field has continued to be mown by Sandfields at no cost to the Parish so again a big thank you to them.

Clive Izod, has taken on the mantle of organising our participation in the Parish games. A number of Parishioners have complained about inconsiderate parking and vehicles speeding through the village.

With regard to speeding unfortunately this is often down to a minority of residents who take no account of the narrow roads and the village environment. Of course some visitors, many who drive delivery vans, do not take account of the Village environment either.

In December we again had a Christmas tree on the green and Carols on the green. With regard to having events within the Village and on the field it is imperative that if they are going to happen in future we need residents to take up the " cudgels " and get together to organise them as it is not the role of the Parish Council to organise them but to help facilitate them by making the field available etc.

Finally I would just like to say that I did not seek re-election to the Parish Council as I intend to stand down at the beginning of May, after nearly 6 years, the last 3 as Chair. My other colleague Councillors however will continue as they have been elected unopposed . There is now a vacancy for a Parish Councillor so if anyone is interested in becoming a Councillor please contact the Parish Clerk, please don't rush over to her now, wait until the end of the meeting.

I hope you will indulge me a little longer whilst I place on record my gratitude to the rest of the Parish Councillors, particularly my vice chair Paul Jeanes who has worked extremely hard, and each and every Councillor for all their work and their support over the past 3 years. My thanks to Liz Tucker for all the work she has undertaken for the Parish and last but not least to Jo Adams who works tirelessly on behalf of the Parish Council but more particularly for all the support she has given me.

We will now have brief presentations from others and then the meeting will be open for you to ask questions.

Cllr Mike Yarnold

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## Fladbury and Moor WI Annual Report for 2018/19

It had been another successful year for Fladbury and Moor WI with a range of very interesting speakers including a social and rehabilitation worker in prisons (a very thought-provoking speaker), St Richard's Hospice, an author and a playwright, the wonderful Marcus and Kirsty Mumford on their latest trip last year to Cuba on an old Post Office bike and a charity shop bike, both of which they had left behind in a country of many contrasts, a retired actor /producer who now with his wife runs a Donkey Sanctuary in Buxton, Medical Detection Dogs, a garden from scratch which people can now visit as part of the Yellow Book scheme and which we are hoping to visit in July, handbags from the Philippines, thoughtfully wrapped just in time for Christmas, and a cookery demo.

2018 saw trips to Wedgewood (shame those ladies are to be made redundant, a loss of great skills), Churchfields Dairy to see the cows and calves, and how their famous ice cream is made (they have also started salt production in line with a lot of other businesses in Droitwich) followed by a delicious afternoon tea, a trip to Trentham Gardens with Crophorne and Charlton WI and a trip to Chester in November for their Christmas Market amongst other things. Member numbers are about the same, two ladies did not rejoin due to family commitments, but two new members joined one from Fladbury one from Lower Moor and a previous member rejoined.

Marilyn Williams