

# Hill & Moor Parish Council

Clerk: Mrs Jo Adams  
Landline: 01386 554305

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## Minutes of the Parish Council Meeting

held at Lower Moor Village Hall

Thursday 9th June 2022 at 7pm

Present: Cllrs P. Jeanes (Acting Chairman), P. Jeanes, Mrs A. Jeanes and Mrs P. Stone, D. Nuttall and D. Saunders (arrived at 8.40pm)

Also present: J. Adams, Clerk; County Cllr D. Boatright (left at 8.45pm); District Cllr L. Tucker; Ms B. Bingle, Communities Officer at Wychavon; Ms. T. Stephens, Community Builder at Wychavon; 6 members of the public

Tracey Stephens and Bronwen Bingle gave a presentation on their work for Wychavon. They represented Pershore and the surrounding areas and could help community projects develop and maybe find funding. This could cover development of an existing project or a new project. They were also able to focus on smaller under-represented groups in the community, so projects did not have to benefit as many people as possible. Examples were helping Ukrainian hosts in the community, health and well-being and working alongside the social mobility officer at Wychavon. They were happy to meet up to discuss projects with councillors or residents. Tracey, as a Community Builder, could help set up local groups and suggested a door-to-door survey could be carried out to find out local needs.

- 1. Apologies:** Apologies had been received from Cllr T. Betteridge, Cllr Saunders for late arrival and Cllr Boatright for early exit.
- 2. Declarations of Interest:** There were none.

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***The meeting was adjourned for Public Question Time***

*Notes can be found at the end of these minutes.*

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- 3. To consider the approval of the minutes of the Parish Council meeting on the 5<sup>th</sup> May 2022:** It was agreed that the minutes of the Parish Council meeting of the 5th May 2022 were a true and accurate record.
- 4. District Councillors report:** Cllr Tucker reported that Wychavon's planning department was joining with Malvern Hills' department. There was a shortage of planning officers overall.  
  
SWDPR: Wychavon was hoping to complete the review before January 2023 and the elections. The next meeting about the new town was on the 20<sup>th</sup> June. Cllr Tucker has asked if Fladbury Parish Council could be added to the attendees – this had been agreed but the 20<sup>th</sup> June was the same date as their council meeting.
- 5. County Councillors report:** Cllr Boatright congratulated the council on its Jubilee event on the field.
  - “20’s Plenty” campaign: this is a national campaign to persuade councils to set a 20 mile per hour speed limit where people and motor vehicles mix. Their aim was to change policy. The county council’s view was that there was no local support for this. Cllr Boatright advised the Parish Council that if it did support the campaign it should do this by resolution and inform the County Council. Cllr Nuttall would post about it on the council’s Facebook page and the clerk would send an email to residents to gauge opinion.

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- Ditches: The survey of the smelly ditch had been delayed as there was a shortage of land drainage engineers and the ones that were available were extremely busy. The work would be done 'in the next couple of months'. The work had also been downgraded from a CCTV survey to 'looking and reassessing' as the problem had failed to meet priority assessment. The Boggs Lane barriers were still waiting to be done.
- Northern Link Road: should be open by September '22.
- Buses: The Department of Transport had required the County Council to carry out a full review of bus provision. Significant cuts had been made, and the DoT considered there had not been enough public consultation. It transpired that the councils that had made fewer cuts had been more successful with their bids for funding; Worcestershire had been awarded no funding at all.
- Cllr Boatright reported an increase in flytipping in the area.
- Bridge Street pavements: some pavement repairs had been done but other uneven areas had not. Cllr Boatright would clarify this with Highways. Cllr Jeanes would send some pictures of the location.
- Schools' reorganisation: The additional costs were now estimated at £7M and changes would not happen until at least Sept '25. Confusion had arisen over the costs because WCC did not think they had to have the funds in place at the time of the public consultation.

**6. Parish Councillors reports:** Cllr P. Jeanes reported that he and a volunteer from the community would be rearranging the phone box to include some shelves for the books and DVDs that were appearing in it.

Development on land behind Chestnut Close: Cllr Jeanes reported that the land tribunal had happened and that it would take 6 – 8 weeks for a decision to be made.

## 7. Progress reports

- a) Review of actions from previous meeting: The action points were reviewed.
- b) Playing Field and mowing: Cllr P. Jeanes reported that the strimmer had been repaired. It turned out that it needed E5 petrol, so this was being used now in the strimmer and the mower.
- c) Play area: The rotten struts on the play area fence had been repaired.
- d) Floods / Drainage: Nothing to report.
- e) Footpaths: The A44 path was getting overgrown. The path from Maytree Road to the A44 was still uncut.
- f) Village Hall and Events Group (VHEG): Cllr Stone reported that Field Day had been successful. Next year they would draw more attention to teas being served in the Village Hall. £760 had been made on the various stalls.
- g) Landfill Site: Nothing to report.
- h) Lengthsman: Nothing to report.
- i) Newsletter: The next newsletter would report on the work of the Community Builders. A separate publication would detail efforts to stop the proposed new town. Timescales would be August /September.
- j) Urgent Decisions Group: Cllr P. Jeanes reported that the group had agreed to the strimmer repair.
- k) SWDP: Update minuted at item 4.

## 8. Planning

- a) **New planning applications:** There were none.

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## b) To receive Decision Notices:

Application Number	Address concerned	Description of works	Hill & Moor PC response	Wychavon Decision
W/22/00275/HP	Bluebell Cottage, Hill, Lower Moor, Pershore, WR10 2PP	Proposed double garage	No objection	Approved

## c) To note or discuss Planning Correspondence, Information and Issues: There were none.

## 9. Finance:

- a) To report on the financial situation of the Parish Council and to approve cheques for payment.

Income since last report			
Date	Received from	Details	Total £
06/05/2022	Wychavon	L/man - balance of funding	30.65
12/05/2022	Midland Alarm	Reimbursement for VAT error	12.00
27/02/2022	E & C Christians	Overpayment for Village Hall works	105
09/05/2022	Lloyds Bank	Bank interest May	0.16

Payments for approval			
Inv. Date	Payee	Detail	£ inc VAT
10/05/2022	P. Jeanes	Mower Fuel	55.84
12/05/2022	Mrs P.Stone	Village Meeting refreshments	7.30
24/05/2022	EON	Playing field supply April 2022	14.26
23/05/2022	Npower	Streetlighting elec. April 2022	115.06
31/05/2022	Hartwell & Co	Wood for play area repair	55.72
31/05/2022	J. Adams	Salary May '22	256.74
31/05/2022	J. Adams	Phone/computer May '22	17.50
31/05/2022	WCC Pension Scheme	Pension contributions May '22	104.60
31/05/2022	Smart Cut	Grass 20/05/22	330.93

Current account - Lloyds - A/c 01865441

**Balance as at 02/06/2022** 18,902.26

Savings account - Lloyds - A/c 07578509

**Balance as at 02/06/2022** 20,403.54

**Total cash assets** **39,305.80**

Ringfenced		
Flood alleviation		10,000.00
CIL		717.94
Grant funds	Village Hall improvements	914.00

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Bonfire funds	2,095.60
<b>Total Ringfenced</b>	<b>13,727.54</b>

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

**General Reserve** **23,578.26**  
**(Total cash assets less Ringfenced funds and Earmarked Reserves)**

It was resolved to approve the items for online payment.

- b) To decide if the Council wished to certify itself exempt from a limited assurance review under Section 9 of the Local Audit (Smaller Authorities) Regulations 2015: This was agreed.
- c) To approve the Annual Governance Statement for 2021/22: The Council resolved to approve the Governance Statement for 2021/22.
- d) To approve the Accounting Statements for 2021/22: The Council resolved to approve the Accounts for 2021/22.

The following were noted:

- The General Reserves were quite high. There would be no external audit this year, but if there had been this would probably be noted. Funds would be earmarked to be put towards replacement of the mower, currently underfunded.
- The Open Spaces budget was showing an underspend.
- Overall, the Parish Council's financial position was showing a small uplift compared to the previous year. However...
- The county councillor's donation towards the path extension had been received in 2021/22 but payment had been made to the contractor in 2022/23.

**10. To discuss an additional dog waste bin or litter bin at the new playing field gate:** A quote had been /received from Wychavon for additional bins of each type:

100L floor mounted bin - £450  
50L post mounted bin - £175  
50L dog waste bin - £350

Fitting (Floor mounted) - £20.47  
Fitting (Post Mounted) - £17.59

Emptying cost - £63.70 (Per year – weekly collection)

20% admin on total cost

The total cost for a larger litter bin would therefore be £565 and for a dog waste bin would be £441, plus the increase in emptying cost.

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It was decided that the litter bin currently located by the Village Hall steps would be moved to the new gate. Wychavon would be informed so that they could continue their collection. The council discussed a larger bin at the play area. There was no resolution, and this would be revisited at a later date.

## 11. Correspondence for Information

The following correspondence had been received and circulated:

- A request from the county council to map areas of grass that WCC are responsible for but that the parish cuts.

## 12. Clerk's report:

- The poles for the vehicle activated sign had not yet gone up.
- The play inspection company had put their costs up to £120 per inspection. This was still a competitive price compared to alternatives. The council was happy to still go ahead.

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

**14. Date of next meeting and items for next agenda:** Thursday 7th July 2022.

The meeting was closed at 8.55pm.

## Public Questions

The new owner of Holly House reported on progress. Unfortunately there had been delays. He had been required to supply a bat survey and an archaeology survey before the planning application could be decided, so the hoped-for completion date was now unlikely to be met.

A resident noted a disappointing increase in the amount of dog waste on the field. Could the council supply dog bags? However it was observed that some people would never pick up after their dogs no matter how many dog bags they had access to.