

HINDLIP, MARTIN HUSSINGTREE AND SALWARPE PARISH COUNCIL

Clerk to the Council Mrs E Gallagher, PO Box 6986, Kidderminster DY11 9FB,
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Minutes of the ANNUAL PARISH MEETING of Hindlip, Martin Hussingtree & Salwarpe held at 7.00pm on the 15th March 2021

HELD VIRTUALLY BY ZOOM (Non-Voting)

Present	Cllr. P. Oakley (Chair) Cllr. B. Meddings Cllr. M. Armitage, Cllr. A. Thawley, Cllr. C. Hughes, Cllr. A. Phillips, Cllr. J. Clarke, Cllr D. Luscombe, Cllr. A. Thomas. Cllr. J Brodrick, Cllr. J Hill
In Attendance	E Gallagher (Clerk). County & District Councillor T. Miller District Councillor N. Wright
Public Attendees	0. Police Representation – None

No	Minute
1.	Apologies: None
2.	Minutes The Annual Parish Meeting minutes held on the 8 th July 2020 were approved and signed (virtually) as a true record of events.
3.	Chairman's Report Introduction. It is now over a year since the world was hit by one of the most devastating viruses in modern times so physical meetings, conferences and other gatherings have not been possible. Throughout this period, the operation of our Parish Council has continued successfully by various means without risk to the health of any Councillor, member of staff or member of the public. Although a Zoom session does not have quite the same ambience as a physical gathering, we have been able to comply with all statutory requirements for holding meetings and I would like to express my thanks for your participation and also my relief to know that so far, everyone has remained healthy. Planning: Applications and Enforcements. During the twelve months to March 2021, the Parish Council has been consulted and commented on 37 Planning Applications throughout the three Parishes. There have also been 2 appeals, 5 Enforcement Actions, 1 Temporary application and 1 Licensing applications. Understandably, all these number are lower than year 2019/20 with the exception of enforcements.

Highway works

Improvement work to the A38/Copcut Lane/Pulley Lane junction has now been completed and traffic signals installed. However, there have been several collisions over the past few months and further works and road closures are ongoing to investigate and address concerns over the road layout and highway markings. Work to rectify issues at the A38/Hurst Lane junction has not commenced and we do not have a date for this.

Copcut Rise and Yew Tree Hill developments

The construction of houses at both sites is progressing with many properties now completed and occupied.

Parish Lengthsman Scheme

Despite the difficulties of Covid, the Parish Lengthsman scheme has once again been operated successfully throughout the past 12 months and fortunately there have been minimal bad weather incidents to deal with. Worcestershire County Council have restricted lengthsman activities and imposed controls to ensure that safe distancing and other safe working practices are adhered to. This has made the work of Topcut Services even more challenging and my thanks go to Daniel Lovatt and the team for their diligence, hard work and incident free management.

County & District Councillors

The Parish Council's appreciation is expressed to Councillors Tony Miller and Nicolas Wright for their ongoing support and assistance regarding matters including contentious planning applications, Highway issues and other matters taken up on our behalf.

Tree Warden

We have a new tree warden, Julia Letts but Covid – 19 restrictions have prevented her training and initiation; we await hearing when this can be carried out.

Parish Path Wardens

Martin Hussingtree public rights of way continue to be checked by Alison Phillips but a new warden, Malcolm Griffiths, has been appointed. We also have a new warden for Hindlip, Desmond Lawrence, but again due to Covid, the training for the new wardens has been postponed. Due to unforeseen circumstances, we will be seeking a new path warden for Salwarpe.

As always, our thanks and appreciation go to the volunteer wardens for their invaluable service to the community.

Parish Councillors

My thanks go to each of those Councillors who have contributed to the numerous issues we have been tasked with over the past year. These include carrying out risk assessments, reporting enforcement issues, fly tipping and planning consultations; a special thanks for this to Cllr Meddings.

My thanks to Deputy Chair Alan Thawley for his hard work on Parish matters and for his support throughout the year which has been invaluable.

Finally, my thanks to Elizabeth Gallagher for performing her duties as Parish Clerk/Responsible Finance Officer,

Philip Oakley
Chairman

15th March 2021

4. Reports of Parish Path Wardens

The following Councillor reports had been received and circulated pre-meeting;

i) Parish Path Wardens -Cllr B. Meddings

Due to the Covid-19 restrictions; induction training for our two newly appointed wardens for the parishes of Hindlip and Martin Hussingtree, along with all activities that included our existing Salwarpe wardens was suspended under the County Council's Public Rights of Way scheme. Recommencement details are awaited.

Urgent issues relating to Public Rights of Way were referred by the Clerk for appropriate action to the designated District Council Officer.

Due to unforeseen circumstances there is a vacancy for a Parish Path Warden for Salwarpe. A volunteer replacement will be sought upon the lifting of the Government's Coronavirus restrictions.

Cllr. B. Meddings

ii) Parish Path Wardens - Martin Hussingtree – Cllr A Phillips (acting in private capacity)

Martin Hussingtree footpaths: I have continued to walk the paths during lockdown pending the commencement of the new Martin Hussingtree Path Warden (post suspension). It is good to see how much the paths are being used which helps keep down the stinging nettles.

I have cleared the Bridleway 506 alongside Martin Brook (starts opposite the entrance to Martin Court on the bend of the A38) & this is now usable.

There has been a complaint about the footbridge on 512 as this has rotted away. The District Council is aware of this and it has been on their list for about a year.

Alison Phillips

iii) Parish Tree Warden

All activities for the Parish Council appointed Tree Warden for the three parishes were suspended due to Covid-19 restrictions.

The Tree Warden was invited however, to accompany Councillor Phillips, at a safe distance, after the Contractor had planted four new native trees on The Green at Martin Hussingtree in line with the Council's Biodiversity Enhancement scheme.

Parish Path Wardens Report for Salwarpe

Resignation (in absentia) had been received from Mrs Adams. The Chairman expressed his sincere thanks on behalf of the Parish Council, to Mrs Adams for her diligence and hard work over the past number of

	<p>years.</p> <p><u>Parish Path Wardens Report for Hindlip</u></p> <p>Non available (activity suspended)</p> <p><u>Parish Tree Warden Report – Mrs J. Letts</u></p> <p>Non available (activity suspended)</p> <p>Current Appointments</p> <p>Parish Path Warden – Salwarpe – Vacancy Parish Path Warden - Hindlip – Mr. D. Lawrence (appointed 2020) Parish Path Warden – Martin Hussingtree – Mr. M. Griffiths (appointed 2020) Parish Tree Warden – Mrs. J. Letts (appointed 2020)</p>
5.	<p>Public Question Time</p> <p>No members of the public were present at the virtual meeting.</p>
6	<p>Community Police Report</p> <p>West Mercia Police had suspended the provision of a Community Police Report for the duration of the pandemic.</p>

There being no further business the Chairman closed the Annual Parish Meeting at 7.10pm.

SignedDate March 2022
Chairman

