

# HINDLIP, MARTIN HUSSINGTREE AND SALWARPE PARISH COUNCIL

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## Minutes of the ANNUAL PARISH MEETING of Hindlip, Martin Hussingtree & Salwarpe held at 3.00pm on the 21<sup>st</sup> March 2022, Main Hall Salwarpe Village Hall

**Present** Cllr. P. Oakley (Chair) Cllr. B. Meddings Cllr. M. Armitage, Cllr. A. Thawley, Cllr. J. Clarke,  
Cllr D. Luscombe, Cllr. J Hill (3.35pm)

**In Attendance** E. Gallagher (Clerk).  
County & District Councillor T. Miller  
District Councillor N. Wright  
M. Griffiths – Path Warden Martin Hussingtree  
D. Lawrence – Path Warden Hindlip

**Public Attendees** 0.  
  
Police Representation – None

No	Minute
1.	<b>Apologies:</b>  Cllr. A. Thomas. Cllr. C. Hughes. Cllr. A. Phillips. County Councillor M. Bayliss
2.	<b>Minutes</b>  The Annual Parish Meeting minutes held on the 15 <sup>th</sup> March 2021 were approved and signed as a true record of events.
3.	<b>Chairman's Report</b>  The Chairman gave the following report.  <b>ANNUAL PARISH MEETING 21st MARCH 2022 CHAIRMANS REPORT</b>  <b>Introduction.</b> Almost the entire world has now been affected by Covid for over two years and it is hoped that we are over the worst of this devastating epidemic. Physical meetings and other gatherings have now resumed following a period of Zoom and other remote media links, which have allowed our Parish Council to operate successfully without risk to anyone's health. This has enabled us to comply fully with all statutory requirements for holding meetings and I would like to express my thanks for your participation and also my relief to hear that everyone has remained healthy. To ensure that a level of social distancing remains in place, we have taken the decision to hold Council meetings in the main hall rather than the Ann Thomas room.  <b>Planning: Applications and Enforcements.</b> During the twelve months to March 2022, the Parish Council has throughout the three Parishes been consulted and commented on <b>42</b> Planning Applications. There have been <b>3</b> appeals, <b>5</b> Enforcement Actions, <b>2</b> Temporary application and <b>3</b> Licensing applications. These figures show a slight increase overall from year 2020/21 however

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remain over 20% lower than pre-Covid numbers.

### **Highway works**

Following an extended period of restrictions, the A38/Copcut Lane/Pulley Lane junction improvements are now complete with the junction generally operating satisfactorily. However there have been several reported incidents of queue jumping and 'cutting in' so the Parish Council will continue to monitor the situation. Bus stops have now been installed to both North and South bound sides of the A38. Traffic signals have also been installed in Fernhill Heath at the A38/Hurst Lane junction, which appear to have clearly improved traffic flows on this busy intersection.

### **Copcut Rise and Yew Tree Hill developments**

Work on construction of houses at both sites has continued throughout the Covid epidemic with further properties having been completed, sold and occupied.

### **Parish Lengthsman Scheme**

The Parish Lengthsman scheme has, despite Covid restrictions, operated successfully throughout the past 12 months and once again there have been only minor bad weather incidents to deal with. County Council Covid guidance and controls have been adhered to regarding safe distancing and other safe working practices. This has continued to make the duties of Topcut Services more challenging and my thanks go to Daniel Lovatt and his team for their hard work, prompt attention when needed and incident/accident free management.

### **County & District Councillors**

My thanks and appreciation is expressed to Councillors Marc Bayliss, Tony Miller and Nicolas Wright for their ongoing support and assistance regarding Highway matters, contentious planning applications and many other issues taken up on our behalf.

### **Tree Warden**

This post is currently vacant and the Parish Council will be advertising it shortly.

### **Path Wardens**

A change has been implemented by Worcestershire County Council to the way that the Path Warden scheme is operated. The Parish Council no longer has any involvement in the selection or appointment of Path Wardens and they are now supervised, instructed by and report directly to the County Council. Our appreciation and thanks go to the volunteer wardens for their invaluable service to the community.

### **Parish Councillors**

I would like to express my thanks to each of those Councillors who have contributed to the numerous issues we have been involved with over the past twelve months. These have included reporting breaches of planning and fly tipping, carrying out risk assessments and engaging in and compiling planning consultations; a special thank you to Cllr Barbara Meddings for this.

My thanks also to Deputy Chair Cllr Alan Thawley for his constant hard work and invaluable support throughout what has been another challenging year.

Finally, my thanks to Elizabeth Gallagher for her continued care and diligence in performing her duties as Parish Clerk/Responsible Finance Officer.

Philip Oakley  
Chairman  
21st March 2022

## **4. Reports of Parish Path Wardens**

### **Parish Path Warden -Mr. M. Griffiths- Martin Hussingtree**

- i)** Mr Griffiths was appointed to this role 2 years ago but was instructed by the County Council, (who had now

	<p>taken over the responsibility and management of this role) to wait until after the pandemic before commencing work related to this role.</p> <p>In the past 12 months most of Martin Hussingtree area had been walked and was generally in good order. Problems with stiles had been reported directly to the County Council. No serious issues had been noted. Mr Griffiths habitually performed general clearing work of paths and overgrowth extending over footpaths and signage. Additional recent clearing work had been carried out by Network Rail.</p> <p>The accessibility of public rights of way to cyclists and the disabled was discussed as was the confusion regarding the priority over the right of way between cyclists and pedestrians along canal towpaths.</p> <p><b><u>Parish Path Wardens – Mr D. Lawrence -Hindlip</u></b></p> <p>ii) Mr Lawrence had also been appointed some time ago. He reported that footpaths along Hindlip Lane were in a reasonably good state of repair in contrast to footpaths at Smite which were in need of repair beyond his remit and capability. He also reported gaps in overgrown hedges and an incident of planting within a garden which prevented access to a public right of way crossing this land. This breach had been reported to the County’s Countryside Team but no action had been taken to date. Mr Lawrence agreed to contact the clerk with further details including the footpath reference number</p> <p>iii) <b><u>Parish Path Warden – Salwarpe</u></b></p> <p>The County Council had not yet confirmed the appointment of the proposed Path Warden for Salwarpe and so training for this role had still to take place.</p> <p>iv) <b><u>Parish Tree Warden</u></b></p> <p>Vacancy to be advertised. Councillor Meddings agreed to take responsibility for the advertising process.</p> <p><b>Current Appointments</b></p> <p>Parish Path Warden – Salwarpe – Appointment to be confirmed  Parish Path Warden - Hindlip – Mr. D. Lawrence (appointed 2020)  Parish Path Warden – Martin Hussingtree – Mr. M. Griffiths (appointed 2020)  Parish Tree Warden – Vacancy</p> <p>The Chairman expressed his thanks, on behalf of the Parish Council, for the work performed by the Parish Path Wardens and for their attendance at the Annual Meeting.</p>
5.	<p><b>Public Question Time</b></p> <p>No members of the public were present.</p>
6	<p><b>Community Police Report</b></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 4.00pm.

Signed .....Date March 2022  
Chairman