

**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 Meeting of Hindlip, Martin Hussingtree & Salwarpe Parish Council
held at 7.00pm on Monday 18th November 2024 at Salwarpe Village Hall**

PRESENT: Cllr. P. Oakley (Chair) Cllr. A. Thawley. Cllr. R Hewitt. Cllr. J Brodrick
Cllr. B. Meddings. Cllr. A Thomas. Cllr. M. Armitage. Cllr. A. Phillips. Cllr A
Johnson. Cllr. J. Clarke. Cllr J. Hill

IN ATTENDANCE E Gallagher (Clerk).
District Councillor D. Birch
District Councillor N. Wright (7.10pm)

Gemma Ranford - Place Partnership

Three residents of the Parish

No	Minute	Action
1.	Apologies None received	
2	<p>Declarations of Interest/Code of Conduct</p> <p>To Declare any interest W/24/01726/FUL - Cream Cottage – Cllr. A. Phillips Non-pecuniary. Personal friend</p> <p>To Declare any Dispensations Cllr. M. Armitage. Court Farm Anaerobic. 23/00007/CM Dispensation extended until November 2025 May participate in discussion but may not vote.</p> <p>To note the Code of Conduct and requirements of the Transparency Regulations Noted: The Parish Council was now classified intermediate category with greater than £25,000 turnover.</p> <p>To note the Right to Record meetings: Noted.</p> <p>To confirm any necessary update to the Register of Interests</p>	
3.	<p>Minutes Councillor A. Phillips proposed that the minutes of the Parish Council Meeting of 23rd September 2024 be accepted as an accurate record, Councillor A Thawley seconded the proposal and it was unanimously agreed. The Draft Minutes of the Parish Council Meeting held on 23rd September were therefore approved as being a correct record and signed by the Chairman.</p>	

4. **Update on Health Corridor – Gemma Ranford Place Partnership.**

Gemma Ranford gave the following update on the Health Corridor Project:

Tow Path

- 4.3KM in length
- Starts at Vines Park. Ends at Ladywood Lock, Salwarpe.
- Spec approved by CRT. Aiming for 1.5m in width. Cotswold or limestone *not* tarmac.
- Materials to be transported along canal.
- April 2025 start date. Autumn 2025 completion.

Improve accessibility, active travel and canal which is recognised as a key asset in the town.

Coney Meadow

Coney Meadow is a 5.5-hectare wetland and reedbed complex between the Droitwich Canal and the River Salwarpe. Reed beds are identified as a Habitat of Principle Importance and support a huge range of threatened and declining bird and invertebrate species. Recent wildlife records from Canal and Rivers Trust volunteers have shown that summer visiting birds such as Grasshopper Warblers, Cuckoo, Reed and Sedge warblers as well as Swifts, Swallows and House Martins are all using Coney Meadows for both feeding and breeding.

Threats to reed bed habitats include loss of water causing them to dry out. Reed beds that are constrained in the landscape, like Coney Meadows, cannot spread, develop and change over time and require active management to maintain their health and suitability for reed bed specialist species.

This project will seek to re-establish water retention within the reed beds and increase the water holding capacity of the wider site through the creation of ponds and diversion and retention of surface water flows from the canal. We will also cut and clear areas within the main reed bed to create open water and water edge habitat which is favoured by several species of birds.

Funder: Wychavon District Council.

Deliverer: The Canal and Rivers Trust (CRT).

Timeline: Works will take place between January and February. We will issue comms explaining the works before this.

Mooring

Our senior manager visited the site proposed site and concluded the following:

The economic benefit of a mooring would not outweigh the investment. It would be incredibly expensive to build because of the change in levels. And it is not an easy trek to Churchfields, particularly for those less able bodied. No one is prepared to pick up the ongoing maintenance costs. It's also on the off side of the canal and as a result, will not provide access to any other facility.

Therefore, the project team has been asked to remove the moorings from the project and focus on delivering the best quality towpath we can, with benches, interpretation panels, etc within the budget that is available to us. The Canal and Rivers Trust is in agreement with this'

The work had not yet been tendered and so all dates were estimated. It was suggested that a fire risk assessment should be added to the work as a result of recent fires on reed beds.

It was agreed that Ms. Ranford would return in January for a further update.

Ms. Ranford left the meeting 7.45

<p>5a)</p> <p>b)</p> <p>c)</p>	<p>Progress on Items from Minutes 23rd September not otherwise not covered by the agenda Chairman/District & County Councillors – Action List (23/9/2024)</p> <p>(County Cllr Bayliss non-attendee) -Action List 4(a) 23/9/2024 -Speed Restriction Ladywood Road Cllr. Bayliss (non-attendee) - The County Councillor and the Parish Council had registered their support of the proposed 40mph limit at Ladywood Road (see 6(a))</p> <p>Dist. Cllr Birch – Action List PQT 23/9/2024–Copcut Rise Resident Issues A senior management representative of Wm.Davis would be visiting the Copcut Rise site w/c 30/11/2024 with a view to addressing resident’s complaints. The following issues would be discussed: roads, drainage, bus routes, litter and anti-social behaviour. Additionally -:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • It was anticipated that road works would be completed by February 2025. • It was reported that drains had been blocked due to residents flushing baby wipes and similar items. • There had been a shift in planning proposals away from affordable homes towards a first home category. It was hoped that plans would be accepted prior to the introduction of legislative changes affecting this planning category. <p>Consultation with residents of Copcut Rise on Wm Davis revised development plans would commence imminently. It was anticipated that an in-person consultation would follow the initial survey.</p> <p>Dist. Cllr Birch – Action List PQT 23/9/2024–Gloverspiece Mobile Unit (Roselea Field) It was anticipated that the siting of the mobile unit at Roselea Field would be a short-term measure. The unit was not inhabited and therefore the enforcement team had concluded that no planning breach had occurred. Concern was expressed that a concrete base had been laid which appeared contrary to short term storage. Previous applications, ancillary to the land, for a caravan to support horse management had been granted with strict conditions attached, District Cllr. Birch offered to speak with the owner to clarify plans with timelines attached. He agreed to advise Cllr, Meddings and the Clerk of all new information.</p> <p>New Issues – Highways (County Councillor Bayliss not in attendance)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • A request was made for the installation of VAS cameras on both sides of the A38 (Southside before Martin Motors and North at the Nurseries). This issue to be pursued with County Cllr Bayliss. • Martin Green Traffic Lights – Issues with phased timing • Grit bin provision – to be confirmed with County Cllr. Bayliss <p>District Councillor Reports – Dist. Cllr. D. Birch</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Lido -A consultation on the reinstatement of the lido brine-pool in Droitwich had been launched. Councillors were urged to complete the survey. • Worcester Warriors Site – Residents had expressed concern over uncertainty of the site. Councillor Birch confirmed that plans were being mooted to bring rugby back to the site with a view to the team gaining promotion to league one as soon as possible. A high-end hotel was planned along with facilities for medical provision. (both sports based and general NHS). Sports pitches would remain, some of which were classified as greenbelt whilst others fell out of this category. The overall major development was no longer classified as within green belt, albeit its use would be for provision of sport facilities. Councillor Birch agreed to inform councillors of all future developments relating to this site. 	<p>Dist. Cllr. Birch/Cllr Meddings</p> <p>Cnty Cllr Bayliss</p> <p>Dist. Cllr. Birch/</p>
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	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Proposed Anaerobic Digester – Hindlip.- An article in favour of the development had recently been published by the Worcester News. District Councillors were opposed to the development and would support resident groups in their opposition. It was noted that Wychavon District Council were in consultee only position in respect of this County Council application. The Parish Council had considered appointing a planning specialist but were aware that the resident’s group had already engaged a professional to respond in opposition to the proposal. Consideration would be given to providing some funding support to this group. The Police & Crime Commissioner had also submitted objections to this proposal. • Pear Tree Hotel – It was anticipated that an application for an alternative use of the site might be submitted in the near future • Raven Hotel – Dist. Cllr. N. Wright Wychavon District Council had agreed to carry out repairs to the building and recharge expenses back to the developer. 	
<p>6. Chairman’s Report</p> <p>a) Highways – Aee also 5 (b) Proposed 40mph Limit through Ladywood A letter of support of this initiative had been sent to Kieran Hemstock (Traffic Engineering Team) on the 11th November 2024</p> <p>b) War Memorial – Inscription Renovation It had been noted that some Memorial inscriptions had begun to fade. Councillor Meddings had contacted the original stonemason and discovered that he had since retired. A new stonemason had been approached and Councillor Meddings had requested a meeting to discuss the renovation. The Clerk had contacted the War Memorials Trust for advice and details of approved contractors. The Trust had not yet replied.</p> <p>c) Proposed Tree Work A report and quotation for deadwood removal and maintenance work had been received from J Grove, Tree Surgeon. Remedial tree work was required at Martin Green, Salwarpe (War Monument site), and Brown Heath Common. Some work could not be carried out immediately due to the condition of the ground. A request was made to obtain further quotes before making an appointment decision</p> <p>d) Consideration of a .gov Domain The Clerk had attended a course dedicated to the provision of a .gov domain for Parish Councils. All Government departments would eventually be required to be registered as such, and to this aim governmental grants were available (for a limited time). A summary of course detail had been sent to all councillors prior to the meeting. It was agreed that contractors should be approached for both package and domain only details for consideration at the Finance Committee precept meeting in January</p>		<p>Cllr Meddings</p> <p>Clerk</p> <p>Clerk</p> <p>Clerk</p>
<p>7. Deputy Chair Report</p> <p>a) Finance Committee Meeting Date for 2025-26 Budget/Precept Preparation It was suggested that the Committee should meet on Monday 13th January 2025 to consider budget requirements for 2025/26. Clerk to book Committee Room</p> <p>b) Offerton Bridge</p>		<p>Clerk</p> <p>Clerk</p>

	<p>Offerton Bridge had experienced multiple incidents of damage by heavy goods vehicles and other motorists. It was suggested that the lack of white lines on rural roads was a contributing factor. This issue had previously been discussed with the County Councillor but no action had yet been taken. The Clerk was asked to contact the County Councillor to remind him of this issue</p>	
<p>8. Councillor Reports a) Remembrance Sunday – Wreath Laying/Memorial Cleaning – Cllr B. Meddings b) Registration – Possessory Title - Cllr B. Meddings c) Severn Trent Authority Letter to Ladywood Residents - Cllr Meddings d) Finance for Councillors - Training attended by Cllr Meddings e) Shrinking Width of the Footpath through Martin Hussingtree – Cllr. Hewitt f) Potential for VAS Signs on Roads at "The Dip" A38 – Cllr. Hewitt (see item 5(b)) g) Proposed 40mph Limit through Ladywood – Cllr. Hewitt (see item 6(a)) h) Middle School Choice for Copcut Rise Residents – Cllr. Hewitt i) Martin Green – To Note. No Report – Cllr A. Phillips</p>	<p>Councillor Meddings had provided a report to Councillors prior to the meeting - attached – Appendix 1.</p> <p>Councillor Meddings, on behalf of the Parish Council, expressed thanks to the volunteers who had cleaned the Monument and had also laid a wreath on behalf of local residents.</p> <p>Councillor Meddings was in the process of collating information in collaboration with the District Council and would offer an update in the New Year.</p> <p>Councillor Meddings report attached at appendix 2</p> <p>Councillor Meddings report attached Appendix 3</p> <p>Large areas of footpath from the north of Fernhill Heath (Martin Hussingtree signage) and Copcut had become overgrown and was considered hazardous to pedestrians (branches and field encroachment). This area of footpath was well used by school children, carers of young children with pushchairs and wheelchair users. Councillor Hewitt agreed to provide a detailed map of the problem area and the Chairman agreed to contact the Lengthsman to authorise clearance.</p> <p>Councillor Hewitt expressed concern over the lack of middle school choice for Copcut Rise Residents. More than 700 estate homes might be affected by this inequitable system. Councillor Johnson had previously attended meetings between Councillor Bayliss and The Director of Education to discuss this issue, and as a result had concluded that attempts to change the system would likely be long winded, expensive and futile. Councillor Hewitt felt it important to investigate further. District Councillor Birch agreed to initiate a meeting between Nigel Huddleston MP and Councillors Johnson and Hewitt. An invitation would also be extended to County Councillor Bayliss.</p> <p>Re-seeding had taken place</p>	<p>Cllr. Meddings</p> <p>Cllr Hewitt./Chairman</p> <p>Dist. Cllr. Birch/Cllr. Hewitt/Johnson</p>

<p>9.</p> <p>a)</p> <p>b)</p> <p>c)</p>	<p>Salwarpe Village Hall – Cllr. J. Hill</p> <p>Rural Grant – Update by Chairman – Cllr. P. Oakley. The Village Hall Committee had been notified of its successful application for a Rural Grant Conditions were attached but the Committee could now organise and proceed with work. to the car park and other incidentals. The Committee had asked Councillor Hill to extend their gratitude to both the Chairman for his administrative assistance and technical expertise and to the Parish Council for its support in offering to gift cycle racks and electric vehicle charging equipment</p> <p>Councillor Hill agreed to speak with the Village Hall Committee to ascertain whether/what functions would be arranged for VE and VJ day commemorations</p> <p>Councillor Hill announced that the hall would hold a barn dance and pig roast in January 2025. Details to be provided</p> <p>Councillor Hill left the meeting 8.45pm</p>	<p>Cllr. Hill</p> <p>Cllr. Hill</p>
<p>10.</p> <p>a)</p> <p>b)</p> <p>c)</p>	<p>Finance</p> <p>Review of Payments Made and Received Since the Last Meeting (see Appendix 1) Noted</p> <p>Report on Year-To-Date Expenditure Compared to Budget Noted</p> <p>Monitoring Officer to Confirm Accuracy of Bank Payments Confirmed</p> <p>Councillor Johnson had assessed data from the recommended investment house specialising in the management of parish council funds. He concluded that fund investments were medium rather than low risk (level 4). He also advised that the fund was relatively new and therefore there was minimum historic data available for analysis. The meeting agreed to remain a customer of HSBC Business Banking for the time being</p>	
<p>11.</p> <p>a)</p>	<p>Planning Consultations - Appendix 2-4</p> <p>Planning Applications Anaerobic Digester Hindlip Lane. Application updates had been uploaded to the County Council system with a deadline for comment of 5/12/2024 The Clerk had agreed an extension for comments from the Parish Council to 20/12/2024. The Chairman asked for all councillor comments to be submitted to him by 13/12/2024 at the latest.</p> <p>The meeting was adjourned for public participation 8.50pm</p> <p>A local resident had asked to speak about application W/24/02163/FUL - The Nurseries, Droitwich Road, Martin Hussingtree - Application for the Demolition of Existing Buildings and Erection of a Replacement Retail and Residential Building and Associated Parking</p> <p>This application was the redraft of a previously withdrawn application. The application had been revised on notification that the original classification had been incorrect. The redraft had changed the specified class from sui generis to class E (an amalgamation of classes including general retail) The resident was questioned on intended use of the commercial building and it was confirmed that, although not specified, the retail element might be restricted to a specific faith group.</p>	

	<p>There were no further questions and the meeting reconvened at 8.55pm</p> <p>Application W/24/02167/CU Associated Ref:W/22/00294/CU - Sterling Business Centre, Drury Lane</p> <p>It was felt that this application would formalise the existing temporary permission. There was no objection to the application but it was felt if the authority was minded to approve, a condition could be attached restricting on-street parking</p> <p>Enforcements and Appeals Noted</p> <p>Temporary Granted Permissions Cherry Lane Advertising Hoarding extended until May 2026</p>	
12)	<p>Councillor Reports and Items for Future Agendas</p> <p>None</p>	
13.	<p>Items Carried Forward for Noting</p> <p>a) Defibrillator Renewal of Battery due November 2027. (ii) Pads expiry date July 2025 (iii) Warranty of AED expiry April 2023.</p> <p>b) Memorial Land. Possessory Title 2024. Possessory title to be finalised by registration of ownership with Land Registry.</p> <p>c) Pensions Regulator. Auto enrolment compliance. Re-declaration made 28th February 2023. Next redeclaration due February 2026</p> <p>d) Cherry Lane Advertising Hoarding – May 2026</p>	
14.	<p>Date of Next Meeting</p> <p>The next meeting of the Parish Council was scheduled for 20th January 2025 at 7.00pm in the Main Hall of Salwarpe Village Hall</p>	

There being no further business the Chairman closed the meeting at 9.05 pm.

Signed..... Date

Chairman

Public Question Time

Copcut Estate Bus Route/Timetable

Two residents had attended to discuss disturbance caused by buses turning, at a traffic island in close proximity to their home (early morning until late at night). District Councillor Birch and the Parish Council had previous knowledge from correspondence received regarding this issue. Both the bus company and Wm. Davis had been approached to ascertain whether a solution could be agreed. Wm. Davis was currently awaiting further information from the bus company, who, in the past had refused to make any adjustments to the route/timetable. District Councillor Birch agreed to speak with Wm. Davis to ascertain whether a bus company response had been received. He also offered to arrange for Wm. Davis' Development Manager to meet the residents at their home address to discuss. The residents agreed to this offer and District Councillor Birch agreed to communicate with them by email. Residents also suggested the installation of traffic calming hardware and reported noise disturbance from racing cars and unruly behaviour late at night. The Clerk was asked to pass this information to the Police Support Officer.

Appendix 1

Hindlip, Martin Hussingtree & Salwarpe Parish Council
Report to Council Meeting 18th November 2024: Agenda Item 7(a)

REMEMBRANCE SUNDAY 10th NOVEMBER 2024



SALWARPE WAR MONUMENT
Grade II Listed Building 1462082

Following the conclusion of the 8.30am service at St Michael's Church, Salwarpe Village. The Act of Remembrance was led by Team Vicar Rev. Laura Handy attended by 20 members of the public.

9:30am: the Roll Call of the men of Salwarpe fallen in two World Wars was read out followed by the two-Minute silence and reading of Binyon's poem:

"At the going down of the sun and in the morning, we will remember them"

Parish Councillor Thomas laid the Remembrance wreath on behalf of the Parish Council, Churchwarden D. Luscombe laid a wreath on behalf of the Parochial Church Council. Resident Rex Stenner laid a wreath on behalf of parishioners of Salwarpe. Parish Councillor Meddings placed a wooden cross in remembrance of the Rector of Salwarpe, Rev. William Heading Mitchell served as RNVR Chaplain on HMS Charybdis killed in the sinking of the ship in 1943.

The Act of Remembrance concluded with the Vicar reading the Kohima Exhortation:

"When you go home, tell them of us and say.
For your tomorrow, we gave our today"

Armistice Day Monday 11th November 2024, flags retained in place with Information notices placed on the frontage of the war memorial.

The Council expresses its thanks to former soldier Rex Stenner and Julie Morgan residents of Copcut Rise, who as their personal act of remembrance cleaned the War Monument prior to the Remembrance Day ceremony.

Appendix 2

HINDLIP, MARTIN HUSSINGTREE & SALWARPE PARISH COUNCIL REPORT TO PARISH COUNCIL MEETING 18TH NOVEMBER 2024

SEVERN TRENT AUTHORITY – WATER SUPPLY SURVEY

I REPORT THAT PROPERTY OWNERS IN THE LADYWOOD AREA, WERE NOTIFIED BY SEVERN TRENT WATER AUTHORITY, OF SURVEYING WORK BEING CARRIED OUT FROM MONDAY **28th OCTOBER 2024.**

SURVEYING TOOK PLACE ON PRIVATE LAND BETWEEN LAYDWOOD ROAD AND DROITWICH CANAL, FOR FUTURE CONNECTION TO WASTE-WATER SERVICES.

I OBSERVED SEVERAL DEEP BOREHOLES DUG TO ESTABLISH GROUND SUITABILITY ON FIELDS ADJACENT THE HUNT KENNELS/ ACORN-KNOLL-GRETNA FARMS and OTHER FIELDS – ALL LEADING WESTWARDS DOWN TO THE DROITWICH CANAL.

IN **EARLY 2025** THE SEVERN TRENT AUTHORITY WILL CARRY OUT INVESTIGATIVE WORK ON THE HIGHWAYS IN THE LADYWOOD AREA.

THE SEVERN TRENT WATER AUTHORITY ARE REQUIRED TO PLAN FOR FUTURE DEVELOPMENT, ALONG WITH REDUCTION IN THE ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT OF USE OF SEPTIC TANKS AND EVENTUAL CONNECTION OF PRIVATE PROPERTIES TO MAINS WASTE-WATER.

THE MAINS SEWAGE DISPOSAL FOR THE AREA, IS CONTROLLED VIA THE MAIN WASTE-WATER PUMPING STATION, IN FERNHILL HEATH, WITH A MAIN PIPE RUNNING UNDERGROUND ALONG THE WEST SIDE OF DROITWICH CANAL TO LINK UP TO THE PORTERS MILL SEWAGE WORKS, WITHN SALWARPE PARISH.

SMALL PUMPING STATIONS COULD BE INSTALLED ON SELECTED LAND, THAT WOULD STAND ABOVE GROUND (APROXIMATE SIZE OF POST PILLAR BOX OR DOMESTIC OIL TANK) ON A CONCRETE BASE WITH AN ALL-ROUND FENCE, WITH UNDER-GROUND PIPES CONNECTING TO THE MAIN SERVICE PIPE ADJACENT THE CANAL.

B.J. Meddings
Parish Councillor

Appendix 3

HINDLIP, MARTIN HUSSINGTREE & SALWARPE PARISH COUNCIL

SUMMARY REPORT to PARISH COUNCIL MEETING 18th NOVEMBER 2024
AGENDA ITEM: 8(d) FINANCE FOR COUNCILLORS

I attended the CALC Zoom Training session on behalf of the Parish Council, to ascertain that our Council's procedures and controls are correctly managed.

1: Attention was drawn to:

The overall Economic Climate and that our Parish Council's money – is not yours – it belongs to the taxpayer.

2: Emphasised:

The importance of assessing Financial Risk, Internal Controls and adequate Insurance cover.

3: Important in budget preparation:

Adequate planned use of Reserves

Look at Future Financial impact beyond the next year.

Awareness of relevant Legislation.

Public and Employment liabilities.

4: Allow for Contingencies:

Unpredicted emergencies (accidents/damage/vandalism/theft)

I am able to report that our Parish Council is complying with the required procedures, controls and legislation.

A detailed report will be provided to councillors serving on the Finance Committee.

B.J. Meddings
Parish Councillor