

**HINDLIP, MARTIN HUSSINGTREE AND SALWARPE
PARISH COUNCIL**

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**Minutes of the Meeting of Hindlip, Martin Hussingtree & Salwarpe Parish Council
held at 7.00pm on Monday 20th January 2025
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. J. Clarke.

IN ATTENDANCE E Gallagher (Clerk).
District Councillor D. Birch
District Councillor N. Wright
County Councillor M. Bayliss (7.30pm)

No	Minute	Action
1.	Apologies Cllr J. Hill	
2	<p>Declarations of Interest/Code of Conduct</p> <p>To Declare any interest None declared</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. a)	Minutes Councillor A. Thawley proposed that the minutes of the Parish Council Meeting of 18th November 2024 be accepted as an accurate record, Councillor A Phillips seconded the proposal and it was unanimously agreed. The Draft Minutes of the Parish Council Meeting held on 18 th November were therefore approved as being a correct record and signed by the Chairman.	

b)	<p>Finance Committee Councillor B. Meddings proposed that the minutes of the Finance Committee of 13th January 2025 be accepted as an accurate record, Councillor P Oakley seconded the proposal and the minutes were accepted as a true record of events</p>	
4	<p>Progress on Items from Minutes 18th November not otherwise not covered by the agenda Chairman/District & County Councillors – Action List (18/11/2024)</p> <p>ia) Gloverspiece Field A permitted development application had been received was currently being assessed to ascertain whether this was the correct category for this type of development.</p> <p>iib) Anaerobic Digester A planning professional had been appointed by a resident group and a petition had been submitted in opposition to the application. The County Council was awaiting further information from the applicant.</p> <p>iiic) Copcut Rise – Costa Coffee Application The development of this site appeared to be outside the parameters of the application plan. The enforcement team had been advised. District Councillor Wright</p> <p>ia) Grant An £80,000 prosperity grant was available. Prompt action required for application.</p> <p>iib) Unitary Authority All Councils would transition to a Unitary Authority. There would be a decrease in the number of Councillors and District Councils would be abolished by 2027. County boundaries might be redrawn. Planned elections for May 2025 might be deferred. There would be more centralisation of services. There was a possibility that Parish Council roles might be more prominent.</p> <p>iiic) Hedgecutting The County Council were behind schedule in their hedge cutting programme. Uncleared ditches reported to Dist. Cllr Wright would be reported to County Councillor Bayliss</p>	
5	<p>Chairman’s Report</p> <p>a) Councillor Resignation The Chairman confirmed that he had received a resignation notice from Councillor A Johnson. The resignation had been reported to the District Council and the relevant procedure had been initiated. The vacancy had been advertised on noticeboards, on facebook and on the County website. The procedure allowing ten qualifying residents to call for an election would end on 27th January 2025. If an election was not necessary, the Parish Council would be free to co-opt after this date. District Councillor Birch agreed to speak with Copcut Rise residents, if an election was not called, in order to ascertain levels of interest</p> <p>b) Salwarpe War Monument Volunteers had pointed out the faded inscription on Salwarpe War Monument. Councillor Meddings had approached a monument specialist who advised that the monument would need to deter significantly before they would recommend work to be undertaken. This advice was based upon the fact that the process involved in rectification had the potential</p>	Cllr Birch/Clerk

	<p>to cause serious damage to the Monument. This recommendation had been mirrored by the War Memorials Trust. Councillor Thawley proposed no action be taken at the present time. This was seconded by Councillor Hewitt and unanimously agreed.</p> <p>c) Anaerobic Digester A resident's action group, to oppose the siting of an anaerobic digester in Hindlip had been formed. The group had engaged a planning specialist to review the application and to draft a qualified objection. It was believed that a number of residents belonging to the group were not in a strong financial position. The Parish Council had also responded with an objection to the application and therefore the Chairman suggested, that to assist residents, a Parish Council contribution could be made towards the consultant's costs. A figure of £2000 was mooted. Councillor Armitage and Broderick were members of the group. Councillor Armitage had declared an interest and was in possession of a non-voting dispensation. Councillor Brodrick had declined to declare an interest. The Chairman however requested that Councillor Brodrick abstained from the vote. Councillor Phillips proposed a contribution towards costs of £2000. This was seconded by Councillor Thawley. The proposal was agreed at a ratio of 7 in favour with 2 abstentions (Cllrs. Armitage and Brodrick)</p> <p>d) Highways</p> <p>i) The 40mph consultation was in its final stages and once complete a report would be circulated to members. A proposal to extend the 40mph limitation from Copcut to Fernhill Heath was also under consideration. It had been agreed that VAS cameras would be installed if and when the speed limit was in place. This would allow enforcement action to be taken where necessary.</p> <p>ii) Dissatisfaction with the traffic flow at the traffic lights at Copcut Lane was noted. It was agreed that this junction was not fit for purpose but there was little that could be done in the short term. Various suggestions were made and the County Councillor asked that these suggestions be sent via email for consideration.</p> <p>iii) Offerton Canal Bridge – County Councillor Bayliss agreed to inspect the Bridge and liaise with Officers as this listed building was prone to continuous vehicle damage. He also agreed to arrange for lines to be painted on the bend at Offerton Farm Corner, Smite.</p> <p>iv) Copcut Rise Estate – Unadopted slope The site had been inspected on the 18th December 2024 and the Minor Infrastructure Team were currently working on it.</p> <p>v) Middleton Bank was in a poor state of repair. This had been reported by both residents and Parish Council. Councillor Meddings agreed to forward the reference details to County Councillor Bayliss who had agreed to check the programme of work.</p> <p>County Councillor Bayliss informed the meeting that the County Council's financial position was in distress and the Government had been petitioned for additional support.</p> <p>e) Village Hall Gifting Procedure The Internal Auditor had asked that, prior to gifting, the Parish Council seek confirmation that the Village Hall Committee had carried out robust governance procedures, (in their bid for funding for work to the Village Hall car park). Copies of tender documents had been submitted for scrutiny by both the Parish Council and the Internal Auditor and it had been agreed that this was sufficient proof of compliance. The Parish Council would therefore suspend its Financial Regulations (solely for this project) and make the gifting commitment based upon Village Hall tender documentation.</p>	<p>All Councillors</p> <p>Cty. Cllr Bayliss</p> <p>Cllr. Meddings</p> <p>Procedural Remedy</p>
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<p>f)</p>	<p>Health Corridor Project. The following update on the project had been received from Gemma Ranford :-</p> <p>The timings remained the same as previous update. Two minor updates:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • CRT appointed the contractor who is going to carry out the biodiversity enhancements at Coney Meadow today. We are yet to set a start date, but the works will take two weeks to complete and must be completed before 28th February. CRT will project manage these works – Wychavon is the funder. • 3,118m of hedge cutting along the tow path started on 13th January. This is required before the tow path works can begin in the Spring’. 	
<p>6.</p>	<p>Deputy Chair Report</p> <p>a) Precept 2025/26 The Finance Committee had proposed a budget requirement of £39,412 for the year 2025-26. If approved, this would result in a decrease of 3.8% compared with the current year’s charge. The Band D charge would, as a result, be a £37.06 charge on the 2025-26 Council Tax Demand (decrease from £38.54). Acceptance of the recommendation in full was proposed by Councillor M Armitage and seconded by Councillor R Hewitt and agreed at a ratio of 8 for with 1 abstention (Cllr. J. Brodrick)</p> <p>b) Reserves Reserve allocations proposed by the Finance Committee for the year 2025/26 were proposed for acceptance by Councillor J. Clarke and seconded by Cllr. B Meddings and approved at a ratio of 8 for with 1 abstention (Cllr. J. Brodrick)</p>	
<p>7.</p>	<p>Councillors Reports</p> <p>a) Hindlip First School – Breakfast Club update - Cllr M Armitage Hindlip First school had been awarded an outstanding category on its recent OFSTED inspection. The s137 grant for the breakfast club was considered to be a factor in achieving this award. It was reported that both pupils and families had benefited greatly in a variety of ways. The Government was planning a pilot scheme for their proposed initiative of thirty-minute breakfast clubs. Hindlip School would not form part of this early adoption pilot scheme and it was anticipated that a full roll out would not be in place until 2026. Councillor Armitage confirmed that she would be presenting a case for funding from the 25/26 budget at the March Council Meeting. Chawson First School had not yet submitted a report on the progress of their s137 funding but Councillor Armitage offered to represent them should further funding be applied for. The clerk offered to contact Chawson’s head teacher to request an update It was agreed that other community s137 projects should be encouraged and it was agreed that facebook may be a way of promoting this grant.</p> <p>b) Worcester Warriors Site – Consultation feedback – Cllr M Armitage The second phase plan was similar to the previously considered phase one. It was agreed that The club needed to develop in order to survive. Plans for development included, refurbished stands, medical centre, multi storey car park, leisure and events facilities, sports pitches, a light industrial area and a solar farm.</p>	<p>Clerk</p> <p>Cllr. Hewitt</p>

	<p>The plan appeared to be imaginative and reasonable although concern was expressed regarding some of the developmental suggestions. It was felt that some initiatives were incongruent to their green belt surroundings, the light industrial element was of particular concern. It was recognised that the solar park would represent part of a renewable strategy, but some concern was expressed over its location. Further concern was expressed regarding urban sprawl. Over-all it was felt that there was a lot in the plan that should be supported, with suggested restriction where necessary.</p> <p>The Parish Council had obtained an extension for comment until 12th February. The Chairman asked for All Councillors to respond with their views prior to this deadline</p>	All Councillors
8.	Salwarpe Village Hall – Cllr. B. Meddings (in the absence of Cllr. J. Hill)	
a)	A barn dance with pig roast would be held on the 24/1/2025 at Salwarpe Village Hall. Cllr. Hewitt agreed to advertise this on the PC facebook page.	
b)	Work on the car park had been delayed due to inclement weather and was now due to commence on 20/1/2025	
9.	Finance	
a)	Review of Payments Made and Received Since the Last Meeting (see Appendix 1) Noted	
b)	Report on Year-To-Date Expenditure Compared to Budget Noted	
c)	Monitoring Officer to Confirm Accuracy of Bank Payments Confirmed	
d)	Internal Audit Report – Interim The interim inspection had gone well albeit with the following two advisory notations <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • PC To ensure compliance with the Financial Regulations in obtaining 3 quotations prior to the awarding of contracts • PC To publish a social media policy in light of the set-up of the council's facebook page 	Clerk/Chairman Cllr. Meddings/ Cllr. Hewitt/Chairman
10.	Planning Consultations - Appendix 2-4	
a)	Planning Applications Noted	
	Enforcements and Appeals Noted	
	Temporary Granted Permissions Noted	
11	Councillor Reports and Items for Future Agendas None	
12.	Items Carried Forward for Noting	
a)	Defibrillator	

	<p>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>	
<p>13.</p>	<p>Date of Next Meeting The Annual Parish Meetings of the three grouped parishes were scheduled to be held on the 17th March 2025 at 7.00pm in the main hall of Salwarpe Village Hall These would be immediately followed by the Parish Council meeting</p>	

There being no further business the Chairman closed the meeting at 8.55pm.

Signed..... Date

Chairman