MINUTES OF THE ANNUAL PARISH MEETING HELD AT SALWARPE VILLAGE HALL 18TH MARCH 2013

The Annual Parish Meeting convened at 7.00pm

- PRESENT: Cllr B.Meddings Chairman Cllrs: M.Armitage, J.Brodrick, P.Edwards, R.Hatfield, J.Hill, C.Hughes, D.Luscombe, P.Oakley
- IN ATTENDANCE: Mrs.E.Meredith (Clerk) Mr. D.Cullom (Parish Footpath Officer) Mr R.Meredith (Parish Tree Warden)

1. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Apologies were received from Cllrs: John Brodrick, A.Thomas, Mrs J.Grotefeld (Hindlip Parish Footpath officer)

MINUTES The Minutes of the Annual Parish Meeting held on 19th March 2012 were approved and signed.

3. CHAIRMAN'S REPORT: The Chairman presented the following report and circulated details of issues that have been dealt with by the Parish Council during the year. This list is included as Appendix 1 to these minutes.

CHAIRMANS REPORT

Throughout the year residents have used Public Question Time to express their concerns to the Parish Council.

The issues that have dominated the past year have been the Localism Act and the adoption of the Code of Conduct that came into force on 1^{st} July 2012, requiring Parish Councillors to maintain standards of conduct in carrying out public business; to serve only in the public interest and be accountable for decisions and actions to the public.

Within the Localism Act: There is power for Parish Councils to undertake Neighbourhood Planning. The Parish Council determined that in view of the economic climate it could not justify the necessary expenditure; preferring to discuss with adjoining Town and Parish Councils any development planning aspects that would impact on our parish boundaries.

Droitwich Town Council had also declared that it could not justify the expenditure. A team was set up to liaise with North Claines covering the village of Fernhill Heath.

Highlighted: The Council's involvement in development issues:

- (a) Copcut Development: highway improvements for the junctions of Copcut Lane/Pulley Lane and The Swan at Martin Hussingtree.
- (b) Ladywood Sewage Treatment works: Improvement, odours and capacity.
- (c) Sterling Business Centre, Drury Lane. Containers compound.
- (d) David Lloyd Leisure Complex at Sixways: New centre and illuminated signage.
- (e) Offerton Amateur Rugby sites: retrospective developments.
- (f) The Sling pathway: review of condition of access track to Hindlip School.
- (g) Caulin Court: additional development.
- (h) Gloverspiece Minifarm, Ladywood: breach of planning conditions and noise.
- (i) Smite Gypsy site inspection with County Gypsy Liaison Officer.
- (j) Correspondence with new Police & Crime Commissioner and Chief Constable in connection with Gypsy Horses unlawful grazing on adjoining lands and loose horses on the public highways.
- (k) Amendments to legal agreements for Davids Nurseries and Brookside Fruits.
- (I) Network Rail investigations on noise nuisance by Train Horns.
- (m) Review of Parliamentary Constituency Boundaries.

The Parish Council was:

Consulted on:	43 Planning applications
Responded on:	1 Planning Appeal: Wind Turbine, Coneybury Woods
Initiated:	4 Enforcement Actions
Legal Action:	Felling of TPO trees, Woodside Cottages, Court Farm, Hindlip.

Lengthsman Scheme: The Clerk to the Council had administered the scheme within a County Highways Grant in which the contracted Lengthsman carried out minor highway works within our three parishes. Flooding and surface water run off dominated essential work.

Parish Paths Warden:

David Cullom reported on the Awards ceremony at Wychavon Civic Offices at which he received a Certificate of Commendation in recognition of 22 years of outstanding service safeguarding our public rights of way within the three parishes.

Thanks and appreciation were expressed to both David Cullom and Mrs Janet Grotefeld, Path Warden for Hindlip Parish.

Parish Tree Warden

Richard Meredith reported on his first year as Tree Warden with the news on the outbreak of Ash tree die back and the success of an article he had placed in the Community magazine about a lost apple variety called Martin Non Pariel. A specimen apple from a local resident was confirmed by RHS Wisley to be the re-discovered variety which had not been seen for possibly 100 years. He had attended three courses on Winter Tree identification, the National Tree Wardens Forum at Warwick castle and Tree volunteer's event at the Worcester Countryside Centre.

He had also been involved with the trees and planting proposals on the Salwarpe Memorial Land restoration project and had responded to various issues regarding trees in the parish.

Parish Councillors have been involved in schemes for:

- (i) Neighbourhood Planning Liaison with North Claines Parish Council.
- (ii) New Home Bonus grant and Memorial restoration project.
- (iii) Group Fuel Purchasing Scheme.

Chairman's thanks were extended to:

- (a) County & District Councillor Tony Miller for his support given to the Parish Council over the year.
- (b) Vice Chairman Carol Hughes for her invaluable support and representing the Council and Chairman at an unprecedented number of meetings and events throughout the year.
- (c) All parish councillors who have contributed to the many achievements of the Parish Council over the past year and in particular a special thanks to Councillor Phil Oakley for his invaluable knowledge and assistance with the Memorial restoration project.

4. PUBLIC PARTICIPATION

Members of the public were given copies of the List of Issues dealt with by the Parish Council throughout the past year.

There being no further business, the meeting was closed at 7.36pm

Signed Date: 18th November 2013

B.J.Meddings Chairman