

HINDLIP, MARTIN HUSSINGTREE AND SALWARPE PARISH COUNCIL

Clerk to the Council: Mrs E Meredith, PO Box 823, Worcester WR1 9BP
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MINUTES OF THE ANNUAL PARISH MEETING HELD AT SALWARPE VILLAGE HALL MONDAY MARCH 15th March 2010

PRESENT: Councillors:
Ms B Meddings - Chairman; Mrs C Hughes – Vice Chairman;
Mrs M Armitage; Mr Jim Brodrick; Mrs P Edwards; Mr G Harrison;
Mr R Hatfield; Mr J Hill; Mr D Luscombe; Mr A Thomas

IN ATTENDANCE: District Councillor A Miller
Mrs E Meredith (Clerk)

1. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE:

Apologies were received from County Cllr E. Sheldon, District Cllr A Fisher, Cllr John Brodrick

2. MINUTES:

The Minutes of the Annual Parish Meeting held on 16th March 2009 were approved and signed.

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

1. CHAIRMAN'S REPORT

Throughout the year the **Public Question Time**, held prior to the commencement of Council meetings has been utilised by residents to express their concerns and question the Parish Council on issues arising within the three Parishes.

The overall response indicates that the community supports the work the Council has undertaken on their behalf.

The issue that has dominated the year has been the South Worcestershire Joint Core Strategy for future development and Housing sites land allocations within the three parishes from 2011 – 2026. Residents have been informed throughout regarding potential impacts and support was given to two action groups formed by residents: (i) Salwarpe Village (ii) Copcut Lane.

Highlighted below: The Council's strenuous involvement in development / issues:

- i. Demolition of Caulin Court, Salwarpe. 23 objections. Representations were made on three applications plus an Appeal response. All influencing the final design of the replacement dwelling and the location of additional buildings.
- ii. West Mercia Police Headquarters new drive onto Pershore Lane, coupled with public footpaths diversions.
- iii. Development proposals for Live/Work units on the former Poultry Houses, Drury Lane. A Public Meeting attended by over 30 residents, who expressed their views to the Developers.
- iv. The illegal Traveller encampment on The Green involved Police, Enforcement Officers and considerable time of the Chairman and Clerk before the itinerants moved off. Restoration work involved the removal of 3 tonnes of dumped waste and clearing of the grounds. Preventative boundary posts were installed costing £995.
- v. Four Road Traffic accidents, one very serious involving Air Ambulance landing on The Green. Claims were pursued for the costs of damage and restoration of grassed areas, posts and ditch embankments.
- vi. Remedial road flood works for Drury Lane.
- vii. Lengthsman grant of £1000 from County Council for minor works within the three parishes.

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- viii. The Parish Council was:
- Consulted on: 32 Planning applications

 - Responded on: 2 Planning Appeals:
 - Caulin Court
 - No.3 Barn, Newland Farm
 -

 - Initiated: 7 Enforcement Actions – 5 cases pending

Appreciation is expressed for the support given to the Parish Council throughout the year by:
County Councillor Ted Sheldon and District Councillors Tony Miller.

The Parish Council thanks our volunteers:

Parish Path Wardens for protecting and walking our Parish Public Rights of Way:
David Cullom covering Salwarpe and Martin Hussingtree Parishes.
Janet Grotefeld covering Hindlip Parish.

Parish Tree Warden – Ted Showell - ensuring protection of trees, liaising with the Woodland Trust on future development at Copcut site. Ensuring Tree Preservation Orders are upheld on other proposed developments within the three Parishes.

Introducing: New Clerk to the Council:

Mrs Elaine Meredith commenced end of November 2009 and maintained Clerk services through the extreme weather conditions of 2010.

Finally, I thank,

The Vice Chairman Mrs Carol Hughes for her invaluable support during the period without a Clerk and involvement on contentious issues that arose in the year.

and I thank,

The Parish Councillors, all were actively involved with the Council's extraordinary work load on issues: Caulin Court, Court Farm, Illegal travellers, Traffic accidents on The Green, The Pond, West Mercia Police and Brownheath Common.

Their team work was outstanding and without doubt led to the Parish Council's many achievements over the year.

2. PARISH PATHS WARDENS REPORT PRESENTED BY MR. D. CULLOM

There are 2 Parish Paths Wardens:
Mr David Cullom – Salwarpe and Martin Hussingtree Parishes
Mrs Janet Grotefeld – Hindlip Parish – who was appointed at the end of 2008.

The Wardens are appointed by Worcestershire County Council Rights of Way Department in agreement with the Parish Council. They work in liaison with the full time Area Access Officer for North East Worcestershire at County Hall. The work of the Parish Wardens is entirely on a voluntary basis.

Their role is to:

- i. Carry out regular inspections of the Rights of Way in their parishes.

- ii. Liaise with landowners generally, and also where problems arise if practical.

- iii. Carry out minor clearance of vegetation growth e.g.: clear stiles, gates, signposts etc. which is within their ability.

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- iv. Ensure routes are waymarked.
- v. Report any defects which cannot be dealt with locally to the Area Access Officer and work with him to resolve them. There is a good working relationship between the Wardens and the professional staff.

Parish Paths Wardens Report – March 2010 (Salwarpe & Martin Hussingtree) Presented by Mr David Cullom

During the past year the pattern of Parish Path Warden involvement has been much the same as previously.

All paths have been walked twice or sometimes more often during the year.

During the late summer and autumn annual growth around stiles and gates was cut back and new waymark signs placed where necessary.

Help has been given to 3 landowners during the year relating to new pedestrian gates and waymarking. Work is ongoing to improve gates on land adjacent to Martin Church.

A list of 15 signposts needing replacement or re-fixing was sent to the County Council Countryside Service in January 2009. A reminder with 2 extra posts has been sent, to try and get at least the missing signs replaced.

Whilst taking a proactive role and liaising with landowners and walkers, occasional problems arise. If they cannot be dealt with quickly, they are passed to the C.C Area Officer who are helpful with their advice and action.

3. TREE REPORT PRESENTED BY MR. E. SHOWELL

In addition to his inspections of trees covered by Tree Preservation Orders, Mr Showell continues to assist a county Council working group in the recording of ancient trees within the three Parishes.

Mr Showell is currently verifying all TPO's in place and referring back to the District Council for validation and also to ensure all trees subject to TPO have been photographed.

The importance of maintaining up to date records was agreed, in order that accurate information was always immediately available, especially when planning proposals were to be considered.

The Chairman requested that consideration should be given for the two Cedars of Lebanon at Copcut to be the subject of TPO's. Mr Showell agreed to look into this proposal.

Cllr M Armitage requested that information be provided for any TPO's on the site of Court Farm. It was important that these should be identified before any further development begins.

Both Mr Cullom and Mr Showell were thanked for their hard work on behalf of the Parish Council.

4. PUBLIC PARTICIPATION

No members of the public were present at the meeting.

There being no further business, the meeting was closed at 7.40 p.m.

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APPENDIX 1 - ISSUES HANDLED BY THE PARISH COUNCIL 2009 – 2010

ADVERTISING	Rugby Club Entrance. Illegal signage A38 & The Green
BRIDGES	Maintenance and repair. Ladywood & Salwarpe
BURIAL GROUNDS	Contribution for maintenance of Parish Burial grounds.
CIVIC FUNCTIONS	Opening of Worcs Rugby Club East Stand by HRH Princess Anne. Annual Remembrance Day Wreath Laying on Salwarpe War Memorial. Naming of Coley Close, Station Rd, Fernhill Heath in memory of District Councillor Paul Coley.
COMMON LAND	Protection and maintenance of: i. The Green, MH – ditch clearance, new protective posts. Reinstatement of vehicle accident damage. ii. The Pond, MH – Lane edge and drainage iii. Brownheath Common, Hindlip
CONSERVATION AREAS	Protection - Salwarpe, Martin Hussingtree
DROITWICH CANAL	Restoration & Conservation areas either side of canal.
ENFORCEMENT	Six breaches of planning controls.
FINANCE COMMITTEE	Budget 2010-2011, Accounts audit.
FLOODING	Remedial Flood Works – Drury Lane, Landowners Riparian duties roadside ditches.
GYPSY SITE,	Clearance & Community Project bordering Smite site.
HIGHWAYS	Defects, maintenance of roads and cycle routes
HEDGEROWS	Overgrown hedge cutting by landowners.
LEGISLATION	Publicising responsibilities re Dog Fouling Act 1996
LENGTHSMAN SCHEME	County Council grant for minor works in the parishes.
LISTED BUILDINGS	Protection through planning procedures.
MAJOR DEVELOPMENTS	South Worcs Joint Core Strategy 2011 – 2026. Housing, Land Allocations. Exhibitions & Responses.
PUBLIC MEETINGS	Former Poultry Houses, Drury Lane, MH
PUBLIC RIGHTS OF WAY	Protection of footpaths, bridle paths, footbridges
STAFFING COMMITTEE	New clerk, advertising, appointment & appraisal
TOURISM	Contribution towards visitors facilities at Salwarpe Fete
TRAVELLERS	Illegal encroachment, The Green, MH.
TRAINING	Planning Laws. Gypsy & Travellers Procedures.
TREES	Protection, maintenance, Tree Preservation Orders
WAR MEMORIAL	Maintenance, safety inspection.
WEBSITE	Updating Parish Council websites, Email address, Communication via six Parish notice boards, and Community News magazine.