

H C P C

For And On Behalf Of
Hill Croome Parish Council
Clerk - Michael Brooks

Vine Cottage Baughton Earls Croome WR8 9DQ

DRAFT

THE MINUTES OF HILL CROOME Annual Parish Meeting **Held at Earls Croome Village Hall at 6.30PM on Tuesday 8th May 2018**

Present: Parish Councillors P. Smith; Mrs. K Smith; Mrs K. Eaton; Mrs. J Coole; M. Brooks.

In attendance: Two members of the public and Councillor Middlebrough

1. Chairman's welcome

Phillippe Smith the Parish Council Chairman welcomed those present to the meeting.

2. Approval of previous minutes

It is noted that for many years the *Annual Parish Meeting* has been incorrectly amalgamated with the *Parish Council Annual Meeting* and therefore no specific minutes exist for the Parish Meeting. As such, no minutes were available for signing and this meeting represents a new start for our community.

3. Parish Chairman's report

Phillippe Smith, Parish Council Chairman, addressed the meeting.

He congratulated the Councillors for their time and efforts during the last year and was pleased to note that communication was greatly improved. He thanked the Clerk for his efforts in updating and improving the back-office and compliance with the necessary regulations and noted a healthy financial position for the council. This is largely due to not having to pay the clerk and the saving on grass cutting since the introduction of the 'Village Green' scheme. Reserves are important to ensure that the Parish Council can meet its needs, especially with the repair and replacement programme for the computer and speed sign.

The 'Village Green' scheme is the Councils' way of both saving money and improving the environment. It may take some time to get used to the view of longer grass, but it is to be hoped that we may see a new variety of plants and wildlife in the area. During the year the Council has spoken regularly with the Highways Department resulting in some successes with the drainage by 'The Stores' and the upcoming improvement at Stanks Lane. The speed of vehicles remains a problem but 'Village Gates' may make a difference.

The rubbish bin at Smithmoor has been given a concrete base in an attempt to protect it from more damage and the dog bin has proved a success, although some folk still decline to use it leaving their dogs' mess on the lane and verge.

The lack of numbers at the meeting was noted despite the provision of some delightful cakes with tea and coffee.

4. District and County Councillors' reports

Councillor Middlebrough spoke to the meeting. He congratulated the Parish Council on their performance and stated how pleased he is with the Councils' relationship with the Highways Department.

The A38/A4104 junction consultation is ongoing with the provision of an island being likely. The roadwork in Upton is going well and there is now full permission for the doubling of the Carrington Bridge at Worcester.

Chairman - Phillippe Smith
Clerk - Michael Brooks

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Councillor Owenson provided a written report to the Clerk which was read to the meeting and held on record. He reported that the roll out of the new bin and recycling collection had gone well. The planning decision on the traveller site was still outstanding and he was investigating concerns on the discharge of waste with the Planning Officer. He is keen for Parish Council involvement with Malvern Hills decisions and a policy review is underway looking at council structure and planning. New ideas are encouraged.

5. General discussion

Those present enjoyed a piece of cake (or two) and a cup of tea/coffee provided by the Parish Council. No specific matters were raised but a pleasant evening was had by all. There was disappointment shown in the apparent lack of interest shown by parishioners in their meeting.

Meeting closed at 1920hrs.

Date of next meeting – to be advised once Parish Council has set date for Annual Parish Council Meeting

Signed: (Chairman)

Date

Chairman - Phillippe Smith
Clerk - Michael Brooks

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