

**MAMBLE ANNUAL PARISH MEETING**  
**Draft Minutes of the Annual Parish Meeting held on Thursday 9<sup>th</sup> May 2019 in the Village Hall at 7.00pm**

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**Present:** Councillors: Mr J Pepper (Chairman), Mr R Jones, Mrs S Rawlins, Mr S Finney and Mr C Bunn.  
**In Attendance:** Mrs A Watson (Clerk), District Councillor Mr D Godwin, PCSO V Snape and Parishioner Mr L Evans.

**1. Welcome & Introduction:**

The Chairman opened the meeting and welcomed those in attendance.

**2. Apologies**

Apologies were received and accepted from Mrs J Evans, Mrs J Young and County Councillor Dr K Pollock.

**3. Approval of the Minutes of the Annual Parish Meeting held on Thursday 3<sup>rd</sup> May 2018.**

The minutes of the 2018 Annual Parish Meeting were taken as correct, approved and signed by the Chairman.

**4. Community Police Report**

PCSO V Snape was pleased to report that crime within the Mamble area was low. The local Officers are still based at Tenbury Wells Police Station and Neighbourhood Watch continues to be a great link to local communities. This is now backed up by WhatsApp groups which give an up-to-date picture and lots of reports on suspicious activity. Free property marking sessions are still ongoing throughout the county. The Chairman thanked PCSO V Snape for attending and she left the meeting at 7.25pm.

**5. County Council and District Council Reports**

**5.1 District Council Report**

Cllr. Godwin reported on his recent election and political gains and losses at the District Council that had resulted in no political party having overall control. Cllr. Godwin stated that he was very grateful to the work his predecessor, Chris Dell, had done and gave an in depth report on the last year. A copy of this report is appended to these minutes.

**5.2 County Council Report**

County Councillor Pollock sent his apologies, but kindly provided a report that was read out by the Clerk. A copy of which is appended to these minutes.

**6. Reports from local organisations:**

**6.1 Chairman's Report**

The Chairman delivered his annual report on the activities of the Parish Council over the past year and thanked his fellow Councillors and the Clerk for their hard work and support.

**6.2 Bayton School Report**

A copy of the report, which was read out by the Clerk, is appended to these minutes.

**6.3 Footpath's Officer Report**

Mr L Evans read out a report from Mrs J Evans who had sent her apologies. Stile maintenance is still an issue with 20 stiles in poor condition and impossible to cross by those less able. The Village Walk continues to be popular and Cllr. Bunn is a great support with ongoing footpath maintenance. Problems with an aggressive local dog have also been reported and Mrs Evans is liaising with the local footpath officer for Bayton on a number of items.

**6.4 Defibrillator Group**

Mrs J Young had kindly sent a brief report which was read out by the Clerk. Defibrillator checks continue to be carried out on a weekly basis, with a monthly and annual report supplied to Webnos. Ideas for how to make parishioners more aware of the defibrillator and the pass code would be welcomed.

**7. Public question time:** Mr L Evans raised the problem of pot holes in the village, which was briefly discussed.

There being no further business the Chairman closed the meeting at 8.10pm

Signed.....  
Chairman

Date.....

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## Item 5.1 District Council Report

### Annual Report to Mamble Annual Parish Meeting 9<sup>th</sup> May 2019

#### District Councillor: Douglas R Godwin

This has been another crucial year for Malvern Hills District Council, with further cuts from central government funding. I am pleased to report however, that unlike many councils across the country, Malvern Hills District Council has been able to continue to make savings, increase its services to residents, build on its reserves, work to a balanced budget at the same time maintain one of the lowest Council Tax rates in the country.

I have played my part in the past Council during the last year as Chairman of the Audit Committee and Vice Chairman of the Overview and Scrutiny Committee. All Councillors sit on the Planning Committee for the area concerned.

The new Council has yet to sit and we will have to see if the Conservative Party can form the administration this time. I wish to pass my thanks to former Cllr Christopher Dell for the work he has done in the Ward and in looking after the parishes that make up the Lindridge ward

#### The following is a summary some of the major points of the last year at Malvern Hills District Council

1. Our financial position is strong and stable. Despite having to make savings of £1.45 million between 2017/22, due to central government cuts, we are building our reserves, investing in land and property, which will not only deliver us appreciating assets but also an annual income return.
2. Council tax is increasing by just £5.00 on a band D property again this year (that's £5.00 for the whole year). Less than 10% of the amount you pay for your overall council tax stays with Malvern Hills District Council - the remaining 90%+ goes to the County Council, West Mercia Police, Hereford & Worcester Fire Authority and to Parish or Town Councils
3. The new extension to the Council House is now open. We will be bringing all our telephony back in house and for the first time in over 10 years the Council House will have a reception to welcome residents and visitors to the Council. This will save the Council in excess of £100,000 each year.
4. Led by Malvern Hills District Council, the six District Councils in Worcestershire have secured a government Business Rates Retention pilot for one year. This will generate an estimated £4.9 million pounds which we are allocating to help the County Council's budget deficit. The money will be ring fenced for specific projects to help with Adult Social Care and Children's Services
5. Our 5 Year Strategic Plan and 5 Year Business Plans are now well established and enable Councillors, officers, residents, businesses and partner organisations to have a clear understanding of the Council's priorities for the five years ahead, at any one time.
6. We implemented the "Alternative Weekly Waste Collections" in April last year which seems to have been a huge success. With general waste being collected one week and recycling waste the following week, we have seen the amount of general waste reduce and a substantial increase in recycling waste.
7. We all know that changes to our town centres and high streets are inevitable, with more and more people buying goods and services on line. The Council has just placed a multi £ million bid into central government and are commissioning future prospectuses for all of our town centres in the District to ensure we are at the very forefront of any developmental changes.
8. This year we have engaged with more residents, business, partners and schools than ever before, to help us ensure our priorities are the same priorities of the people we serve.

9. Planning is always a contentious subject and we all understand why. With the SWDP Review now happening, which will take us to 2041, we have done everything we can to protect the villages and hamlets we serve, whilst appreciating that new homes are need, not least for the young residents in our community;
10. And there is so much more: We are delivering affordable homes, bringing empty homes back into use, working with partners to help those with mental health issues, loneliness and rough sleeping; provide £50,000 each year to help with Community Transport; have set up a £30,000 fund to help with food banks; are working closely with our schools, colleges and business to provide skills training, apprenticeships and creating job opportunities; promoting healthier communities for the young and not so young alike.

This is a small summary of what the Council has been doing and there is always more to do and the limitation is as always money!

Cllr Douglas R Godwin

DRAFT

## Item 5.2 County Council Report

### COUNTY COUNCILLOR'S REPORT

#### 1. County Council Affairs - personnel

At this time last year, we were about to welcome our new team of senior officers, comprising the Chief Executive, Paul Robinson, the Chief Finance Officer, Michael Hudson, the Chief Commissioning Officer, Andrew Spice, and the Interim Director of Adult Social Care Services, Avril Wilson. In addition we have since confirmed Richard Taylor as Head of Human Resources.

They joined John Hobbs, director of Economy and Infrastructure, Francis Howie in charge of Public Health, and Catherine Driscoll, the director of Children's Services. I can report that the new senior management has settled in well, working with the Cabinet to produce a viable range of services appropriate to the County's needs, and consistent with our income of around £330 million a year.

That is not to say that we have not faced substantial difficulties in balancing the budget, and Tenbury residents will be aware of some of the stress points that have been encountered during the year. Despite the controversy, I think we can be assured that the necessary range and depth of services will continue to be delivered as required.

#### 2. County Council Affairs - council tax

Once again we find it necessary to increase Council Tax, this time by 3.99% overall. Within that sum, there is a 1% rise dedicated to Adult Social Care, as the government recognizes the increasing burden of an ageing population, some of whom require council support. This overall increase is equivalent to £0.93p per week for a Band D property.

#### 3. Council County Affairs - expenditure

Many people will be aware that our Children's Services have been judged as requiring improvement and as a result we have found it necessary to place the department into a wholly owned company, named Worcestershire Children First. This will formally come into operation in October, although it now exists in shadow form.

This new venture has to be seen in the context of two years of continuous improvement in Children's Services, as a result of concerted effort of all staff, under the leadership of Catherine Driscoll and her colleague Tina Russell. We are hopeful that the new company will assist in this continuous improvement, so that the whole department may be returned to the County Council in a short while. The Government has promised a Green Paper on adult social care for some time, but its publication is still imminent. This is an area of increasing need, but there is the crucial matter of the boundary between County Council funded care and the National Health Service. Clearly both organisations should be working towards the same goal, but there are occasional conflicts about responsibilities and allocation of expenditure between the two organisations.

As I observed last year, all other services are paid from the residue of income after these two departments are financed. This has resulted in difficult decisions on funding for libraries, archives and the possible need to charge for parking. It should be emphasised that there are no plans to close any libraries, and the archive service is adequately funded to carry out its essential and valuable work. That said, we are very keen to run an efficient and effective council, and this is resulting in a detailed examination of our ways of working, aimed at maintaining or improving the service with fewer personnel and resources.

We naturally hope that this endeavour will be supported by all residents, and I would encourage everyone to let me and the officers know of any deficiencies in our performance over the year.

#### **4. Infrastructure**

One of my Cabinet responsibilities concerns infrastructure, and, unlike my colleagues who are concerned with children and vulnerable adults, it means that I get to work on some exciting big physical projects.

In the last year we have doubled the width of the railway bridge on the Southern Link Road between Whittington and Norton. This manoeuvre has been recognised as a difficult project well executed by the receipt of two awards for excellence already.

We have also had confirmation of the Government's financial support for the 4<sup>th</sup> phase of the link road, so that is now steaming ahead, aiming for opening in 2021. This will involve dualling the road between the Ketch and the Powick roundabouts, including a second Carrington Bridge and the flood overflow viaduct, as well as the widened causeway for some 1.2 miles.

By the end of this calendar year, Worcestershire Parkway Rail Station should be opened and fully operational. This will mean many trains to and from London stopping there, and some initial services on the Cross Country line also stopping. We are hopeful that more of the latter will join them, giving residents of the County the chance of joining trains to and from the south west and north east without leaving Worcestershire.

In addition, we are in process of a complete renewal of Kidderminster Station, as well as starting on the improvement of the A38 through Bromsgrove.

Meanwhile, there are exciting developments at our Game Changer sites at W6, Redditch Gateway and the Malvern Hills Science Park, all related to improving the economy of the County and increasing our business rate income and the number of good jobs available for our residents.

#### **5. Divisional Fund**

As I mentioned last year, I, along with all other councillors, have £10,000 to allocate to good causes within our Divisions. In the past 12 months, I have been able to grant small amounts of your council tax money to support the Poetry Festival, the Mistletoe Festival, one of the town bands, the Regal Theatre and many other good causes.

It is a privilege to be able to help some of these brilliant folk who give of their time and talents to run these sorts of events, and I would encourage anyone knowing of such a "good cause" to get in touch, to seek to ensure the money is put to the very best use.

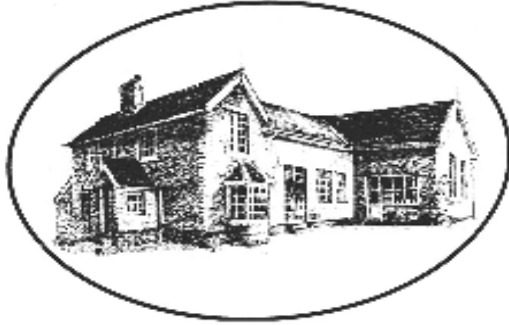
**Cllr Ken Pollock**  
**Cheltenham,**  
**Gloucestershire,**  
**GL50 2BZ**  
**09.05.19**

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Item 6.2 Bayton School Report

## Bayton Church of England Primary School

Be the best you can be!



Bayton, Worcs, DY14 9LG.  
Tel: 01299 832393  
Email:  
[office@baytonpri.worcs.sch.uk](mailto:office@baytonpri.worcs.sch.uk)  
Website:  
[www.baytonceprimary.co.uk](http://www.baytonceprimary.co.uk)

*Headteacher: Ms J Simmonds*

Friendship Hope Perseverance Compassion Trust Forgiveness Responsibility Respect Truthfulness

Our school vision: We aim for everyone to be a part of our community, be life-long learners who are confident, enthusiastic, valued and reach their full potential.

### School News

Since the last report, school has made many improvements to its previous position. This has been noted by the local authority with staff continuing to work hard and out the needs of the children at the heart of all that they do.

As part of our Church school status, we have continued to strengthen the links to the church. We now use the church twice a week to host our whole school worship as well as our Praise worship in which parents are invited to attend.

Our pupil numbers continue to increase. We have taken 16 pupils from various different settings via in school year transfers. Our current 1<sup>st</sup> place placements for EYFS September 2019 show 14 allocations. We are awaiting final figures once parents/carers have accepted/declined offers.

Funding continues to remain an ongoing issue and school currently is running a deficit budget as are most schools across the country. We continue to try to raise additional funds through school fundraisers, the last one raising £1200 but this does not go very far. Our current budget for this financial year is another £20000 less coming into 'the pot' as a starting point which does not help matters. Our PTA continue to work hard in order to raise further funds for the children and continue to fund events such as coaches for the annual pantomime and beach trip.

In June, we are holding our first ever 'career and aspirations day' in which the children have written to people in the community as well as further afield to invite them to attend. Parents/carers have also volunteered to attend. We are hoping that this event will help children to think about why learning is so important as long term gains. If there are any members of the further community who would like to offer their services to this event, please contact the school ASAP.