

Hill & Moor Parish Council

Clerk: Mrs Jo Adams
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Minutes of the Parish Council Meeting

held at Lower Moor Village Hall

Thursday 3rd March 2022 at 7pm

Present: Cllrs T. Betteridge (Chairman), P. Jeanes, Mrs A. Jeanes and Mrs P. Stone, D. Nuttall and D. Saunders

Also present: J. Adams, Clerk; County Cllr D. Boatright; District Cllr L. Tucker; 5 members of the public

- 1. Apologies:** There were none.
- 2. Declarations of Interest:** Cllrs P. Jeanes and Mrs A. Jeanes declared Other Disclosable Interests in item 10 as their house was in close proximity to the proposed location although there was no shared boundary.

The meeting was adjourned for Public Question Time

Notes can be found at the end of these minutes.

- 3. To consider the approval of the minutes of the Parish Council meeting on the 13th January 2022:** It was agreed that the minutes of the Parish Council meeting of the 13th January 2022 were a true and accurate record.
- 4. District Councillors report:** Cllr Tucker reported on the request for a road sign at Haigh Villas – details are minuted at item 12.

Regarding the flood fund that the council was holding, she believed that the use of these funds was not still tied to a drainage survey as originally planned, but could be used for wider flood alleviation projects.

She reported that progress had been made on the planning application at Barlwych Cottage and it appeared that the planning officer and applicant had come to an agreement over the parking arrangements.
- 5. County Councillors report:** Cllr Boatright reported that improvements to the Boggs Lane ditch appeared to be working. The county council were now continuing to investigate the smelly ditch on the A44. There was a delay in the replacement of the railing at the Boggs Lane culvert but the work was planned.

The county council had set some rules on the use of jubilee bunting which had been circulated.

6. Parish Councillors reports:

- Cllr Nuttall had circulated a report on the legal aspects of parish streetlights. It would be beneficial to find out what agreements had been made when the streetlighting had been handed over from the county to the parish. Cllr Boatright thought there would have been a contract between the two parties, although for streetlights put in by developers there would not – these would be gifted directly to the parish. He added that he had been investigating how the maintenance for streetlighting was organised within the County Council. It transpired that there were two companies contracted to do streetlight maintenance, though one worked mainly in the north of the county. Most parish councils had a contract with the county council

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but it appeared that Hill and Moor parish didn't, so it was possible that there was a contract directly with Prysmian. However, the file of correspondence from the streetlighting project carried out some years ago did not contain any ongoing contract or agreement for maintenance.

- Holly House: beneath land in the curtilage of Holly House was a drainage pipe that was narrower than the rest of the drainage pipework. It had always been hoped that this section of pipe could be replaced with a wider section to improve drainage at the junction of Gibbs Close, Manor Road and Back Way. Cllr Jeanes reported that, with the permission of the new owners, efforts were underway to find the route of the pipe and a dye may be used with this.
- Cllr Saunders reported on the informal roadside memorial at the junction of Salters Lane and the A44. Severn Waste would contribute financially to a permanent memorial to the biker who had lost his life, and would ask the family what they would prefer.

7. Progress reports

- a) Review of actions from previous meeting: The action points were reviewed.
- b) Playing Field and mowing: The mower had returned from its service. The moles were still persistently active on the field. Options were running out, so someone has suggested using mothballs. Cllr Saunders would source some that were suitable for the environment.
- c) Play area: Cllr Jeanes reported that some of the wooden posts on the fence were starting to degrade. They were not causing any danger and so would be monitored for the time being.
- d) Flood / Drainage: Cllr Jeanes reported that a new drain had recently been uncovered which transferred water to the gully in Manor Road.
- e) Footpaths: Nothing to report.
- f) Village Hall and Events Group (VHEG): New radiators would be installed on the 21st March and the Hall would be redecorated. Plans for the Jubilee weekend were underway. The event would include live music, a climbing wall, ice cream van, field games, bouncy castle and lots more. The pub would be providing food and drink on the field.
- g) Landfill Site: There was proposal to make the creation of new landfill sites illegal. This was being challenged.
- h) Lengthsman: Cllr Betteridge and Jeanes would draw up a schedule for 2022/23.
- i) Newsletter: The next newsletter was planned for distribution during the first week of April.
- j) PACT: The recent meeting had taken place and councillors had met the new policeman.
- k) Urgent Decisions Group: Nothing to report.
- l) SWDP: A meeting with Wychavon was planned. This was confidential so regrettably the information supplied could not be shared but it would help inform the council's response to the proposal of the new town at Throckmorton.

8. Planning

a) New planning applications:

Application Number	Address concerned	Description of works
W/22/00070/HP	Wilspit Cottage, Hill, Lower Moor, WR10 2PP	2no replacement windows
W/22/00071/LB	Wilspit Cottage, Hill, Lower Moor, WR10 2PP	2no replacement windows

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W/22/00104/FUL	Land Adjacent, Barlwyth Cottage, Hill Furze	Erection of open fronted garage block to be used in association with planning approval 19/01058/FUL, resubmission of application 21/02695/FUL.
W/22/00275/HP	Bluebell Cottage, Hill, Lower Moor, Persnore, WR10 2PP	Proposed double garage

The council had discussed the applications for Wilspit Cottage by email and had not made any comments on the applications. The council had no objection to the applications for Land Adjacent Barlwyth Cottage and for Bluebell Cottage.

b) To receive Decision Notices:

Application Number	Address concerned	Description of works	Hill & Moor PC response	Wychavon Decision
W/22/00070/HP	Wilspit Cottage, Hill, Lower Moor, WR10 2PP	2no replacement windows	No comment made	Approved
W/22/00071/LB	Wilspit Cottage, Hill, Lower Moor, WR10 2PP	2no replacement windows	No comment made	Approved

c) To note or discuss Planning Correspondence, Information and Issues:

Regarding the proposal for five houses behind Chestnut Close, a hearing would take place in April to discuss the removal of the covenant on the land.

9.

Income since last report			
Date	Received from	Details	Total £
08/02/2022	WCC	Grass cutting contribution	801.97
04/02/2022	WCC	L/man April 2021	224.00
24/01/2022	Crowle Searchers	Football pitch hire 2022/23	350.00
10/01/2022	Lloyds Bank	Bank Interest Jan '22	0.18
16/02/2022	WCC	L/man various 2021	736.80
	Lloyds Bank	Bank Interest Feb '22	
11/02/2022	WCC	Path donation	2,000.00

Payments for approval			
Inv. Date	Payee	Detail	£ inc VAT
20/01/2022	EON	Playing field supply December 2022	14.37
03/02/2022	Npower	Streetlighting elec	147.33
31/01/2022	Tower Trophies	WI plaque	100.00
30/01/2022	Shaun Strange Gardens	Christmas tree/moles	66.00
30/01/2022	Shaun Strange Gardens	Ditch	35.00
16/02/2022	EON	Playing field supply January 2022	13.68
31/01/2022	J. Adams	Salary Jan '22	257.03

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31/01/2022	J. Adams	Phone/computer Jan '22	17.50
31/01/2022	WCC Pension Scheme	Pension contributions Jan '22	104.70
28/02/2022	J. Adams	Salary Feb '22	256.83
28/02/2022	J. Adams	Phone/computer Feb '22	17.50
28/02/2022	WCC Pension Scheme	Pension contributions Feb '22	104.70
23/02/2022	Ron Smith	Mower Service	473.67

Current account - Lloyds - A/c 01865441

Balance as at 24/02/22 20,963.87

Savings account - Lloyds - A/c 07578509

Balance as at 24/02/22 20,403.04

Total cash assets **41,366.91**

Ringfenced		
Flood alleviation		10,000.00
CIL		0.00
Grant funds	Village Hall improvements	4,730.00
Bonfire funds		2,095.60
Total Ringfenced		16,825.60

Earmarked Reserves		
Asset Maintenance / Replacement / Disposal		2,000.00
Purchase Asset		0.00
Total Earmarked Reserves		2,000.00

General Reserve **22,541.31**

(Total cash assets less Ringfenced funds and Earmarked Reserves)

Lengthsman Expenditure to date including items on this document: £1,937 from a £1,937 budget.

Total of the **Open Spaces maintenance** items on this sheet: £201.00, which would make total expenditure for this budget £3,070.60 from an annual budget of £4000.

It was resolved to approve the items for online payment. The reports and bank reconciliation for January 2022 were noted.

10. To discuss a proposed development in Lower Moor: There had been a proposal for houses to be built on the field behind Maytree Close. The landowner was keen to engage with the village. To this end, there would be an event in the Village Hall on the 31st March where people could look at the proposals. No Planning application had yet been made.

11. To discuss a Village Volunteer Group: Following the recent bulb planting event, it had been suggested to the council that a volunteer group be set up, where people got together to carry out community tasks to help tidy up the village's open spaces. The idea was that a regular date was set

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and people could come along when they were free and help out. As many people weren't available during the week, the day was set as the second Saturday of the month, with the first taking place on the 9th April from 2pm to 4pm. This would be advertised in the newsletter, on social media and by email. Cllr Jeanes would put together a list, in conjunction with the field grasscutting volunteer.

12. To discuss a sign at Haigh Villas: Cllr Jeanes had been contacted by a resident who had reported problems with deliveries; often couriers would end up at the top of Throckmorton Road looking for the Haigh Villas addresses which were located at the foot of the hill. Currently the group of houses was known as Haigh Villas but the road these were on was Throckmorton Road. In order to get the location onto maps, a new road name would have to be created with its own postcode. The location couldn't be called simply "Haigh Villas" as the District Council did not deem this suitable as a road name; they had suggested "Haigh Villas Close". The residents would have to be consulted and be in favour to move this forward. Alternatively, an unofficial sign could be put up saying "Haigh Villas" in a prominent position. This would be simpler but would rely on couriers seeing the sign itself, as it would not be added to local maps. Cllr Jeanes would go back to the resident with the information.

13. Correspondence for Information

The following correspondence had been received and circulated:

- Notification of a vacancy on the school's appeal panel.
- Notification of an increase in prices for grass cutting.
- From Npower, links to short videos showing giving monthly updates on energy prices

14. Clerk's report:

- Pershore schools review: the next steps had been delayed as there was a shortage of Year 7 places as a result of the proposed changes. When resolved the matter would go to the WCC cabinet for review.
- The owner of the land behind Gibbs Close had been contacted by email regarding the recent surveys on the field behind. A reply was awaited.
- An application for funding for the vehicle activated sign had been sent to the Police and Crime Commissioner.
- The contractor would start on the path works on the 7th March.
- The Bridge Street streetlight was now working although others in the village had not been repaired.
- The County Council had replied via email that the uneven path in Bridge Street was not a cause for concern and it would be monitored. However they had confirmed to a resident of Bridge Street that it would be scheduled for resurfacing.

15. Summary of Councillors' agreed actions: Cllr A. Jeanes would circulate the list round in due course.

16. Date of next meeting and items for next agenda: Thursday 7th April 2022.

The meeting was closed at 9.20pm.

Public Questions

A resident asked about recent published information about the proposal for a new town at Throckmorton. It appeared that a local consultation would take place after a decision had been made about the development. Councillor Tucker replied that there had been some confidential meetings at Wychavon about the new town, and that documents would be made public when the proposal went for approval at the first South Worcestershire Council, which would be Worcester City. The proposals would

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then be discussed and agreed at Wychavon and Malvern Hills district councils too. If the proposal, and the rest of the Plan*, was approved by the three district councils, the documents would then be sent to the national Planning Inspector. The public could submit comments directly to the Planning Inspector and these would still be taken into account, but public comments would not be able to shape the proposal itself.

A resident reported that the streetlight in Bridge Street was now working and thanked the council and Cllr Boatright for this. He also reported that he had been informed by the County Council that pavement resurfacing works were planned in Bridge Street.

A resident asked if the council's Facebook posts could be shared to the local community Facebook group. she said that it would also be very useful if the Village Hall had a Facebook page that could do the same.

*South Worcestershire Development Plan, the planning blueprint for South Worcestershire to 2041.