

**DRAFT MINUTES OF ANNUAL PARISH MEETING
of Hindlip, Martin Hussingtree & Salwarpe held at 7.00pm on 20th March 2023,
Main Hall, Salwarpe Village Hall**

Present: Cllr P.Oakley(Chair), Cllr A.Thawley, Cllr M.Armitage, Cllr J.Clarke
Cllr D.Luscombe, Cllr A.Phillips
Cllr B.Meddings (temp clerk),

In attendance: District Councillor N.Wright
Prospective District Councillor D.Birch

Public Attendees 2
Police Representation None

MINUTES

The meeting convened at 7:00pm.

1. Apologies:

E.Gallagher (Clerk) Unexpectedly delayed.

Cllr J.Brodrick, Cllr J.Hill, Cllr C.Hughes, Cllr.A.Thomas, County Councillor M.Bayliss,
District Councillor T.Miller. Path Wardens M.Griffiths, L.Houlston, R.Bradley. Tree Warden R.Bradley

2. Minutes:

The Annual Parish Meeting minutes held on 21st March 2022 were approved and signed as a true record.

3. Chairman's Report:

The Chairman gave the report at appendix 1 to the minutes of the Annual Parish Meeting 20th March 2023.

4. Reports of Volunteer Parish Path Wardens:

i). Mr M, Griffiths appointed in 2020 to work within Martin Hussingtree parish had now transferred to work within Salwarpe Parish. A submitted written report had been circulated to councillors.

ii). Ms.L.Houlston. The interview and induction training had been delayed due to unavailability of the County Council's Public Rights of Way Officer. The Path Warden reported completion of the interview and induction training in 2023 and was now able to commence work within Martin Hussingtree parish.

iii). Ms.R.Bradley appointment had been delayed and recently confirmed that the induction training had now been arranged to enable working within Hindlip parish.

All Parish Path Wardens formally appointed are covered under the County Council's insurance.

5.Report of Parish Tree Warden:

Ms R.Bradley was appointed in 2022 for work within the three parishes. A submitted written report had been circulated to councillors. See appendix 2

6.Public Question Time:

i). Report from Headteacher J.Uren and Executor Head A.Gromoski of Hindlip First School.

Mr Gromoski outlined the needs of children attending the school and the level of deprivation of families due to the cost-of-living crisis resulting in low income families unable to provide sufficient food to sustain their children throughout the school day.

The provision of a Breakfast Club does not attract central funding support and the school had set up a Pre-school breakfast club that commences before the start of the school day however availability of funds limited the number of identified children that could receive not only a hot cooked breakfast that might possibly be their only substantial meal of the day but the additional activity of extra learning time to aid their education.

The school has 87 pupils of these 37 are from the parishes of Hindlip, Martin Hussingtree & Salwarpe. Consideration by the Parish Council of a grant would enable extending the Facilities, Activities and Supervision enabling the school to fund up to 20 pupils that would more than double the current number attending the 'Before School Breakfast Club' that is provided within the school premises during term time only.

The local Baptist Church provides meal food parcels during school holiday periods.

The Chairman thanked both representatives of Hindlip First School for their report , of which the full details and costs would be considered under the Parish Council Meeting Agenda Item No.7(a).

The Annual Parish Meeting closed at 7:15pm.

Appendix 1

HINDLIP, MARTIN HUSSINGTREE & SALWARPE PARISH COUNCIL

ANNUAL PARISH MEETING 20th MARCH 2023

CHAIRMANS REPORT

Introduction.

As the Covid epidemic appeared to be drawing to an end, another disaster has taken its place with the terrible events in Ukraine.

The knock-on impact of rising energy, food and fuel prices; directly attributable to the Russian invasion, have affected virtually everyone in the country.

Stories about food poverty, food banks and energy costs continue to dominate the media; not only in the UK but in most other European countries.

Following her amazing Platinum Jubilee in June with celebrations nation-wide, the country was shocked and saddened to hear that Her Majesty Queen Elizabeth II had passed away just a few months later. She was the only monarch that most UK citizens can ever remember and having served the nation for seventy years and through many difficult times, she earned and truly deserved the admiration and respect of her people.

Planning: Applications and Enforcements.

During the twelve months to March 2023, the Council has throughout the three Parishes been consulted and commented on **35** Planning Applications, this is 16% less than 2022/23 and still significantly below pre Covid levels.

26 applications have been determined and there have been **8** Enforcement Actions, **3** Licensing applications, **1** appeal and **1** Temporary application.

Local Government Boundary Commission review

The Commission completed and published its review of Wychavon in September 2022 and the Order for the new electoral arrangements will be implemented at the Local Elections in May 2023. My thanks are expressed to Cllr Barbara Meddings for compiling our submission to the Boundary Commission; her summary of the review will be presented during the Council meeting.

Highway works

The A38/Copcut Lane/Pulley Lane junction improvements are, following a number of accidents and many near misses deemed 'not fit for purpose' from a design aspect.

Proposals and work to correct this situation are awaited from Worcestershire Highways but in the meantime several dozen road cones have been gainfully employed to aid traffic separation.

Copcut Rise and Yew Tree Hill developments

Work on construction of houses at both sites continues with further properties having been completed, sold and occupied.

Parish Lengthsman Scheme

The Lengthsman Scheme has again operated successfully throughout the three Parishes with only relatively minor incidents to deal with.

My thanks and appreciation go to Daniel Lovatt of Topcut Services and his team for their hard work, prompt attendance when needed and incident/accident-free management.

County & District Councillors

I would like to express my gratitude to Councillors Marc Bayliss, Tony Miller and Nicolas Wright for their ongoing support and assistance regarding Highway issues and other matters taken up on our behalf.

Tree Warden

Our new tree warden, Rose Bradley, has been very proactive and enthusiastic in her volunteer role. She has been working her way around the three parishes reporting on our current tree stock and highlighting any potential problems or issues. Her annual report will be circulated prior to our Council meeting.

Path Wardens

The change implemented by Worcestershire County Council to the way the Path Warden scheme is operated seems confusing to say the least. With no involvement in the selection or appointment of Path Wardens, the Parish Council has also been told that we have no input regarding their activities and must not even contact them about path problems. However, these directives appear to be contradicted whenever we speak to the scheme administrator.

Currently, we believe we may have two path wardens, Malcolm Griffiths for Salwarpe and Lesley Houston for Martin Hussingtree but are unsure of Lesley's present status. On a brighter note, our new tree warden Rose Bradley has applied for and been accepted as Path Warden for Hindlip and is booked for training later this month so we trust that she gets the necessary support going forward.

Notwithstanding the above, our appreciation and thanks go to the volunteer wardens, past and present, for their invaluable service to the community.

Parish Councillors

I would like to express my thanks to each of those Councillors who have contributed to the numerous issues we have been involved with over the past twelve months. These may have included reporting breaches of planning and fly tipping, carrying out risk assessments and engaging in and compiling planning consultations; a special thank you to Cllr Barbara Meddings for this.

My thanks also to Deputy Chair Cllr Alan Thawley for his constant hard work and invaluable support throughout the year.

Finally, my thanks to Elizabeth Gallagher for her continued diligence and care in performing her duties as Clerk and Responsible Finance Officer to the Parish Council.

Philip Oakley
Chairman

20th March 2023

Appendix 2

Tree Warden Update Report for Hindlip, Martin Hussingtree & Salwarpe Parish Council Meeting to be held on 20th March 2023.

Tree Warden Activity December 2022 to March 2023

This has been a relatively quiet period in terms of activity although the few times I have been out and about have provided opportunities to inspect the health of trees without the obscuring foliage. The early flowering blossom on the cherry plum trees has been particularly good this year and provide hope that spring isn't too far away.



Cherry Plum Blossom Smite

Biodiversity Enhancement Assessment Hindlip, Salwarpe and Martin Hussingtree Parish Council 2019

This document was forwarded following the Parish Council Meeting in November and has been useful in providing a background to and understanding of previous biodiversity enhancements undertaken by the Parish Council. Thank you.

Tree Planning Applications within the parishes

There have been no applications within this quarter.

The Green at Martin Hussingtree

The preventative care last year (clearing grass away from the base, spraying etc.) appears to have been beneficial in giving these trees a better start to their growing season. There are signs of buds developing and opening on the fruit trees. There are buds on the more recently planted oaks but the leaves from these are unlikely to emerge until April, May time.

National Tree Week

National Tree week runs from Saturday 25th November to Saturday 3rd December this year. I am keen to be able to celebrate this in some way. I have approached Worcestershire Wildlife Trust

about possible support with this and I am meeting with Liz Yorke, Wilders Communities Officer on 15th March.

The event would be to promote the importance of the trees in the Parish as well as encouraging people to plant more trees (in their gardens). Possibly a guided short tree walk. These are all currently ideas in my head and I would need to put together a more thought out proposal for the Parish Councillors at a later point. I would value any initial views, ideas.

TPO Oak Copcut Lane



This tree lies along the boundary hedge of Copcut Lane and the Copcut Rise Development. Although whilst I had previously noticed vegetation around the base, winter has revealed the extent of this. There are large brambles which have started climbing up into the tree canopy reducing the light and I have been cutting these back, uprooting where I can. Once cleared I think this might be a good area to plant wild daffodils in the future increasing biodiversity.

Rose Bradley Parish Tree Warden March 2023

Hindlip Parish Footpath Warden Update

I applied for this role on the 24th January and had an informal interview with Patrick White Senior Public Rights of Way Officer on 7th March. I have now been booked onto the 'Volunteer Essentials' course on the 27th March being run by Will Saunder.