

Hill & Moor Parish Council

Clerk: Carole Hirst Address: 1a Church Walk, Stourport on Severn, Worcestershire. DY13 0AL
Email: clerk@hillandmoorpc.org.uk

Minutes of the Parish Council Meeting

Held at Lower Moor Village Hall

Thursday 4th April 2024 at 7pm

Present: Cllr. T Betteridge (Chair), Cllr. D. Nuttall, Cllr. A Heath.

Also present: (WDC)Cllr L. Tucker; Cllr D. Boatright (WCC); 11 members of the public.

1. Apologies: Cllr. P. Jeanes, Cllr. A. Jeanes, Cllr. P. Stone.

Absent: N/A

2. Declarations of Interest: None

The meeting was adjourned for Public Question Time

Notes can be found at the end of these minutes.

3. Consultation on Lower Moor Church

The PCC said that due to dwindling numbers, the PCC are intending to consult with the Parish on future arrangements for worship in Lower Moor. They have provisionally booked the village hall for a public consultation on 10th June. Rev. Sarah Dangerfield and Rev. Alison Maddocks were in attendance. The Chair agreed to put an item in the next PC newsletter.

4. To consider the approval of the minutes of the Ordinary Meeting of the Parish Council on the 4th January 2024: It was agreed that the minutes of the Parish Council meeting of the 4th January 2024 were a true and accurate record. Proposed by Cllr A Heath and seconded by Cllr D Nuttall that the Minutes be approved. All in favour.

5. District Councillors report:

Cllr. Tucker gave an overview on current planning. Most of it covered under planning.

23/01678 Duffledown Farm – 12 residential pitches and 3 transit – Planner is now Adam White.

24/00392 – Severn Trent – Lower Moor Sewerage Works Control Kiosk – Pending.

ENF/22/0407 Hill & Moor Meadows – More caravans on site than approved

SWDPR

The Planning Inspectors have asked for a lot of the submitted information to be uploaded and for the missing Transportation Sensitivity analysis. This is likely to be completed before August, then verified, submitted, then time needed for Inspectors to read and assess. The Examination in Public is unlikely to be before January. The new Head of Planning at Wychavon is Ian McLeod. He comes from Birmingham City Council.

After 6 years of freezing its own Council Tax levy, Wychavon increased its Council Tax by 2% at Band D this year.

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The 50th birthday of Wychavon Council on the 1st of April. Last May the Chairman of Wychavon, Robbie Raphael, set himself the task of visiting every parish in Wychavon to mark this event. For Hill and Moor he visited the landfill site - a lot of muddy walking, his planned river trip on the Avon at Wyre Piddle, Hosted by ANT, to be cancelled earlier this year because of heavy rain and flooding, has been reinstated for the 11th of April.

The "White Water" application has been withdrawn by ANT and it no longer features in Wychavon "Signals of Success". No information yet about what next but interest is still there plus 106 money.

There is strong encouragement for all parish councils to prepare neighbourhood plans. Wychavon Urban Design Code was published in March.

The election for the Police and Crime Commissioner takes place on the 2nd May and the vote will be "First Past the Post" this time, changed from the supplementary vote system used last time. We don't have local council elections here in Wychavon unless there is a Bi-election. Store and proxy vote applications can now be made online WWW.GOV.UK

New out of hours contact number for Wychavon is 01527 912966 But it is only for serious emergencies.

6. County Councillor's report: Cllr Boatright –

September through March has just been wet. Life has centred around drains, ditches and flooding. The county council are currently reviewing the response to the recent floods but then another flood happens! This is always a complex process as several agencies have to work together, including the Environment Agency, so we are all keen to improve the action we need in this area. If you have comments on what could be improved, please let me know. The plan is to collect all of the issues and work with the Environment Agency and the different council departments to ensure we can get to trouble spots more quickly and ease pressures where we can.

The easiest thing we can do is keep the drains clear. There is a dedicated team who are out clearing the drains and gullies. If you know of any drains that need clearing please report on:

<https://www.worcestershire.gov.uk/council-services/travel-and-highways/report-road-or-path-issue/drainage-and-flooding-highway>

And let me know so I can chase it up. If you have already reported an area that isn't draining and there hasn't been any action, please email me.

The fire service has completed its spending review and the proposals included changing some of the on-call fire service. The document can be read here:

[Consultation | Hereford & Worcester Fire and Rescue Service](#)

The review has already changed, with Malvern's vehicle being kept on. This has caused some arguments about the validity of the consultation. This is likely to be discussed at length in the coming months.

Council Tax 2024-25: The county council will be increasing the council tax for next year by 4.99%. Much of the pressure is on adult social care and children's services. The council is currently undergoing a

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restructuring of the management structure of the council, which will result in some savings for the coming year.

New school in Worcester and new school in Malvern for those with Autism are taking hold. Still a long way to go and there is still a shortage of SEND places so a lot of work to do.

The change from three tier to two tier in Pershore remains stalled- meetings being held with various stakeholders. Timetable should be seen in the summer. There was a consultation by Pinvin Federation about remaining Middle School age range so the situation is fluid.

Back in November 2023 Rishi Sunak announced £8 billion for improving potholes in the country. In December 2023 local MPs informed us we would get £139 million for Worcestershire over 8 years. We have currently received £2.6 million and I will pursue for every penny! There has also been an announcement of £209 million of redirected HS2 money for the county but no rules on how it can be spent are yet available. Some people are getting excited about raising roads to limit damage caused by flooding. Others have suggested dualling the railway. We shall see what comes to pass.

New head of children's services from June as current one moves to Herefordshire. Children's services being brought in house and WCF disbanded.

RAAC at county hall... the saga continues! Still no sign of what is happening and awaiting report on what needs to be done. I ask every time I am in the building.

Landfill liaison committee: we have requested further information on fly tipping as it seems to have doubled in tonnage in the last 12 months.

Highways contributions to planning meetings: I have concerns after the previous planning meeting when the Highways contribution was poor. I am pursuing this with the county council as we need to ensure that decisions are made appropriately. I am also planning to speak to Wychavon about the issue when highways are not available or do not know the area it becomes difficult for decisions to be made.

I have sent a request an update on the progress of scheduling Throckmorton as a monument.

VAS sign issue – Posts will be moved once the drainage issues are sorted following the recent flooding.

7. Parish Councillors reports

Loose dogs. Dog Warden says they cannot do anything unless the dogs are detained by the public.

8. Progress reports

(a) Playing Fields – Mole Barriers are being considered. Grass cutting has commenced. Seeding needs to be done and ruts repaired. Play area, everything ok at present.

(b) Flood Drainage – no issues at present.

(c) Footpaths – nothing to report

(d) Village Hall- Cllr. Stone.

Following a presentation by a representative from Community First, we have looked into the funding of several projects via grants available to parish halls.

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We have no regular hirings apart from the Post Office at present, but hopefully a weekly Pilates class starting soon. We have some birthday parties booked.

Our accounts are still looking healthy. The football teas have brought in several hundred pounds and the bingo evening raised over £200, attended by nearly 50 villagers. We have a quiz & supper evening on 13 April at 7pm for 7.30pm.

We have installed a screen, projector and sound system which will be available for use by hirers and we plan to have film evenings. Hopefully this will make the hall more attractive for business presentations etc.

We have our AGM coming up on 30th April in the hall at 7.30pm and the public are welcome to attend.

Our annual fete is on the 13th July 12-4pm and the bonfire & fireworks evening will be on 2nd November from 6pm.

Our new website is almost up & running and will hopefully bring in some more bookings.

- (e) Flooding – Nothing to report.
- (f) Landfill site – Liaison group have asked about fly tipping volumes.
- (g) Lengthsman – Cllr. Jeanes to meet with Lengthsman shortly.
- (h) Newsletter – Newsletter information being collated.
- (i) SWDP – Covered in the District Councillor report.
- (j) Urgent Decisions Group - None

9 Planning

a) New planning applications:

Application Number	Address concerned	Description of works	DEADLINE	
W/24/00036/HP	The Cottage, Church Lane, Lower Moor	Single storey extension to rear of property NO OBJECTION	20th Feb	APPROVED
24/000006/CM	Former Valecrest Site, Evesham Road, Fladbury, Worcestershire, WR10 2QR	The carrying out of development pursuant to planning permission reference number: 20/000043/CM dated 26 October 2021 without complying with conditions 3, 12, 16, 17 and 32 of that permission, so as to enable amendments to the proposed acoustic fencing and landscape bunding.	16 th April	
24/000003/CM	Lower Moor Sewage Treatment Works, Bridge Street, Lower Moor,	Proposed installation of a motor control centre (MCC) kiosk	21/3/24	No comment

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b) To receive Decision Notices:

Application Number	Address concerned	Description of works	Hill & Moor PC response	Wychavon Decision
W/23/01925/PIP	Land at (OS 9775 4746), Evesham Road, Upper Moor, Pershore	Permission in Principle for the construction of up to 9no. dwellings		REFUSED
W/23/00407/FUL	Holly House, Manor Road, Lower Moor, Pershore, WR10 2NZ	Erection of 3 bed house at the bottom of the garden at Holly House		APPROVED
W/24/00036/HP	The Cottage, Church Lane, Lower Moor	Single Storey extension to rear of property	No Objection	APPROVED

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

Application Number	Address concerned	Description of works	Hill & Moor PC response	Wychavon Decision
W/22/02389/FUL	Land At (Os9826 4722), Salters Lane, Lower Moor, Fladbury	Residential development consisting of 56 No. affordable dwellings and associated infrastructure		WITHDRAWN

10. Finance: To report on the financial situation of the Parish Council and to approve invoices for payment.

A To note receipts and approve invoices for payment to 4th April 2024. Cllr a Heath Proposed and Cllr. D Nuttall Seconded that all payments be approved, and receipts noted. All in favour.

Receipts	Detail	£
Pershore Rugby Club	Playing Fields Hire	25.00
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WCC	Lengthsman Re-imbusement	122.80
WCC	Grass Cutting 2023/24	940.71
WCC	Lengthsman Feb	122.80
TOTAL		1,236.31

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Payee	Detail	£ inc VAT
EON	Playing field energy	29.06
C Hirst	Expenses Nov and Dec	60.00
Ron Smith & Co	Mower repairs	930.28
C Hirst	Jan Salary	494.00
HMRC	Jan Tax	123.40
Online Playground	gate parts	236.40
NPOWER	Streetlights	201.31
EON	Playing Fields	27.76
NPOWER	Streetlights	214.00
Avonround	Repair and refit gate	300.00
WDC	Annual cleanse and weekly empty of litterbin	110.24
Strange Garden Services	Jan Lengthsman	122.80
Strange Garden Services	Jan Handyman services	71.50
C Hirst	Feb Salary	493.80
HMRC	Feb Tax	123.60
P Jeanes	re-imburement for petrol for mower	52.12
E-ON	Playing Fields Energy	25.43
Parish Online	Mapping Software	45.00
NPOWER	Streetlights	185.03
Strange Garden Services	Feb Lengthsman	122.80
P Jeanes	re-imburement for petrol for mower	50.11
EON	Playing Field Energy	22.69
NPOWER	Streetlight energy	190.40
C Hirst	March Salary	494.00
HMRC	March Tax	123.40
C Hirst	Expenses for Jan, Feb and March	154.95
		5004.08

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B To consider the Budget Monitoring Report to 31st March 24. Noted.

C To note the Bank Reconciliation to 31st March 2024. Noted.

D To consider the quote for Mole Barriers and reinstatement of footpath to playing field.
Deferred to the May PC meeting.

11. Section 106 – W/16/00779/PN – Land on the West Side of Blacksmiths Lane, Lower Moor. S106 Contributions and what they could be spent on (details circulated). Noted.

12. Correspondence for Information

All correspondence received has been circulated.

13 Summary of Councillors agreed actions: to be agreed.

Item for future agenda – Bat boxes under finance.
Community Transport

14 Date of next Ordinary Parish Council meeting and items for next agenda: Thursday 9th May 2024.

The meeting closed at 8.35 pm.

Public Questions

Mr Guy gave an update on W/22/02040/OUT- Land at Evesham Road, Lower Moor- Outline Planning Permission for the construction of up-to 31 dwellings and associated infrastructure with all matters reserved (apart from access). The Planning Officer has left and has been replaced by Andrew Smith.

A Parishioner asked is the CCTV Cameras on the village Hall working? An incident happened on Good Friday 1.30pm to 1.45pm.

2 motor bikes (anti-social behaviour) reported by a Parishioner. The PC agreed to keep an eye out.
Footpath by the bus shelter overgrown with thorns.

A parishioner asked “Is there any update on the post-office”.

Why has the seeding of the green following the bonfire not been undertaken and sorting out of the ruts. The PC will sort this out with the village hall who are responsible, once the conditions are suitable.

Pick up your dog poo signs – are more signs available. The Chair agreed to raise this in the next newsletter.

Upper Moor Post Codes. A parishioner expressed confusion over postcodes and boundaries.