

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 2nd July 2026 at 7pm

Present: Cllr. David Nuttall (Chair), Cllr. A Jeanes, Cllr. P Jeanes & Cllr. Betteridge, Cllr. B Lomax, Cllr. A Nuttall

Also present: Clerk, Carole Hirst; (WDC) Cllr L. Tucker, Cllr. D Boatright (WCC) and 6 members of the public.

1. Apologies: Cllr. P Stone,
Absent: None

2. Declarations of Interest:

Cllr. P Jeanes and Cllr. A Jeanes item 9 A- A payment for reimbursement to P Jeanes for fuel to the mower. Pecuniary Interest. Both Councillors declared an interest and left the meeting for the vote

The meeting was adjourned for Public Question Time

Notes

Grass being left on the steps on the field when grass cutting is being undertaken. Cllr. P Jeanes to chase Smart-Cut.

A parishioner raised the issue about the village becoming a 20mph limit. Cllr. Boatright commented that reducing from 30mph to 20mph won't necessarily reduce speeding from those who are speeding around the village. There is also lots of heavy machinery flying around the village.

A parishioner enquired about a "Neighbourhood Plan". A discussion took place around this and it was suggested that this be put on the next agenda.

3. To consider approval of the minutes of the Annual Meeting of Hill and Moor PC 2026- 7th May

2026: It was agreed that the Minutes of the Annual Parish Council Meeting of the 7th May 2026 were a true and accurate record. Proposed by Cllr. D Nuttall and seconded by Cllr. A Jeanes that the Minutes be approved. All in favour.

4. District Councillor report: Cllr. Liz Tucker –

Busy times at the council - Local Government Reform, another planning bombshell from government, start of the process for the next Local Plan just 7 months after the SWDPR was eventually approved, the We Are Wychavon Support Fund

Planning applications and enforcement issues:

Pending W/ 25/02498/FUL The Springs – 5 holiday lodges and re-orientating an existing lodge.

Pending W/00476/PIP Church Lane (top down to Wayside) 5 bungalows. Comments re Biodiversity.

Duffledown Farm - enforcement investigations re 2 brick buildings and extension of the traveller site with caravans outside the permitted site. - investigations, and potential enforcement action

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being considered.

Duffledown View – enforcement investigations re erection of a building on a trailer site.

Investigations, and potential enforcement action being considered.

As far as I can find out, there are no grant schemes open at the moment apart from business grants. Next week the Wychavon Resilience grants are expected to go live and will be well advertised with its own web page. There will be a £400k pot split into Biodiversity £50, Community Buildings £50 and Resilience.

Local Government Reform: Wychavon Council will end on 31st March 2028 and be replaced by either 2 unitary councils, South Worcestershire (local preference) and North Worcestershire, or one unitary council for Worcestershire. The government will decide and tell us which one around the 3rd week in July, and then there is an enormous amount of work to be done to prepare for hand over to the new authority, while continuing normal council services. Elections for the new council will take place next May 2027, giving the elected councillors until April 1st 2028 to get their ducks in a row before taking over, while the existing Wychavon councillors have their term of office extended for that time.

Planning bombshell:

The Government has sanctioned Wychavon under Section 62A of the Town and Country Planning Act because, over a two-year period from 2023 to 2025, 10.7 per cent of major planning applications refused by the council were later allowed on appeal. This is slightly above the Government's accepted limit of ten per cent. This means developers submitting certain major planning applications can choose to bypass the council and instead apply directly to the Planning Inspectorate, which will decide on the council's behalf.

Wychavon strongly disputes the Government's decision and is now considering all options available to challenge it. The council acknowledges that while historically there have been some performance issues, the position is now much improved. Data from 1 April 2024 to 31 March 2026 shows just 5.2% of applications the council refused were allowed on appeal, while current performance is well below the 10 per cent designation threshold.

The next Local Plan:

Just 6 months after the long awaited SWDPR was adopted, Wychavon has submitted its draft timetable for the next Local Plan to start in the autumn. New rules mean the plan must be completed within 30 months and should be submitted for examination October 2028.

Throckmorton New Town continues to be an “area of search” and Wychavon has employed consultants to work on this.

Wychavon is progressing their Wychavon Support Fund – a £5 million fund to help residents, businesses and communities. The first phase was outlined at the June Executive meeting and I am sure will be well publicised. It includes reducing the On Demand bus fare to £1 and free swimming for under 16 yrs and over 60 yrs.

5. County Councillor report: Cllr Boatright

Local Government Reorganisation July 16th – Its likely to be 2 councils

Its Looking likely we will not have a regional Mayor.

Police and Crime Commissioner survey came back against us merging with other forces.

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Highways – lots going on in Lower Moor- Severn Trent, British Gas and Highways Maintenance are very busy which is causing disruption on the roads but the works are necessary.

Roundels on Salters Lane – remind Barry Barnes that this work needs to be done.

6.Parish Councillor reports:

- Village hall request for a copy of the easement surrounding access to the rear of the village hall through the neighbouring property – Cllr. Betteridge has visited Worcester Hive to check out the archives of the Parish Council. Easement was done in 1964. Nothing was yet found. Cllr. Betteridge has made an application to Business E Services which will take around 20 working days to go through at which point a search for details of the easement will be undertaken.
- Archive of historic documents
- CCTV Policy update – feeds separated – PC has feeds for the PTZ. The Village Hall has the feed to the others.
- Tree Survey quotes progress: Report from Cllr. A Nuttall
We have instructed Nick Bolton of Tree Frontiers in Chipping Norton to carry out the survey. I am hoping the survey will take place on 5th August but I am waiting for confirmation. Undoubtedly works will need to be carried out. Once we have the report, we will need to send it out to 3 tree surgeons to quote with a view to having the works done as soon as bird nesting season is over. Quote was £570 plus vat.
- Website booking form draft was circulated. Everyone seems happy with the draft.
- Dog Poo Bin – See 9 - E

7. Progress reports

- a) **Playing Fields and Mowing** – Areas of long grass were left for wildflowers etc. A Parishioner says it would be worse for dogs pooing in the grass if grass is left wild. After further discussion it was felt to include this in a future Biodiversity policy. More discussions to be had at the next meeting.
 - b) **Play Area:** Clerk to chase annual inspection- Dog poo around children's swings on play area
 - c) **Footpaths** – nothing further to report.
 - d) **Village Hall-** Cllr. Lomax reported that the Village Hall are looking at the booking systems. Crowle Football diary has been requested. A review of the new contract before the September meeting should be looked at.
Cllr. A Nuttall Report.
- I have so far attended two meetings.
 - There are a number of positives that can be taken from those meetings. First the village hall finances seem to be in good order at the moment. With that being said there will

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need to be substantial expenditure on repair works and I have strongly recommended that the hall look into applying for external grants.

- Additionally there appear to be a number of events being put on by the village hall events group which includes the field day, a scarecrow trail and Halloween. There are also monthly coffee mornings. I have attended one but due to being away did not attend the other. The first seemed to be well attended.
- Turning to the more contentious areas being the car park and also the village hall's interpretation of the charitable trust deed.
- Taking the latter, first – I refused and will continue to refuse to sign a document provided at short notice by the chair. Whilst I agree to the behaviours expected, I do not agree to the provisions relating to removal of trustees. In short the document states that the trustees can remove a trustee. This is not correct under the terms of the trust deed. The misconception arises out of the concept of a “representative” trustee. I think the village hall are of the opinion that the representative trustees should be treated as a “class” as opposed to an individual. This clearly is not correct.
- Moreover, if the trust intended to operate in this manner, ie the trustees could force the parish council to change their representative trustee, then it would have said so explicitly. It does not.
- As regards the car park, I consider that there are options available and it is possible for a settlement to be reached.

e) **Flooding**- nothing to report

f) **Landfill site** – Next meeting is 13th July

g) **Lengthsman** – On holiday

h) **SWDP**: nothing to report

i) **Urgent Decisions Group**:

j) **Explore a bi-annual survey**

k) **Defibrillator training update** – 9 registered for training on July 18th 2pm to 4pm

8 Planning

a) New planning applications:

Application Number	Address concerned	Description of works	DEADLINE	
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b) To receive Decision Notices:

Application Number	Address concerned	Description of works	Hill & Moor PC response	Decision
W/26/00929/HP	Old Police Station, Salters Lane, Lower Moor, Fladbury	Construction of a single-storey wrap-around rear and side extension	22 nd May	APPROVED

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

Application Number	Address concerned	Description of works	Hill & Moor PC response	Planning Inspectorate Decision
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9 Finance:

A To report on the financial situation of the Parish Council and to approve invoices for payment. To approve all payments not previously approved up to 2nd July 2026. Cllr. D Nuttall proposed and Cllr. T Betteridge seconded these be approved. All in favour.

Payments for approval 2nd July 2026				
05/05/2026	e-on	Lower Moor Playing Fields	£ 22.75	1.08
09/05/2026	C HIRST may	PAY PERIOD 2	561.00	
09/05/2026	HMRC	PERIOD 2 tax and employer nic	182.83	

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12/05/2026	Zurich Insurance		£1,200.93	(net amount £913.86)
		2026/27 insurance		
12/05/2026	Zurich Insurance	less £287.07 discount	-£ 287.07	
14/05/2026	Smart Cut	May Grounds Main inv 28352	£ 235.21	39.20
15/05/2026	Paul Jeanes	Fuel Reimburse	£ 54.91	9.15
17/05/2026	Paul Jeanes	Castle Nurseries plant reimburse for cider press	£ 48.00	
19/05/2026	Gill Lungley	Audit 2025/26	£ 178.60	
20/05/2026	Tim Hodges	Handyman April and May	£ 93.75	
20/05/2026	Tim Hodges	Lengthsman April	£ 224.00	
01/06/2026	e-on	Lower Moor Playing Fields	19.91	1.00
04/06/2026	Smart Cut	Running track upgrade vertidrain pitch- From Section 106	540.00	90.00
05/06/2026	NPOWER	Streetlights	121.88	5.80
05/06/2026	P Jeanes	reimburse for mower fuel	51.91	8.65
08/06/2026	BWP Creative Ltd	Website	18.00	3.00
11/06/2026	C Hirst	June pay	554.27	
11/06/2026	HMRC	June Deductions	179.98	
14/06/2026	Tim Hodges	May Handyman	164.96	
14/06/2026	Tim Hodges	May Lengthsman	224.00	
15/06/2026	Wychavon DC	3 X Empty & cleanse litterbins	360.43	60.07
17/06/2026	Smart Cut	grass cutting inv 28697	235.21	39.20
04/05/2026	Hill and Moor Village Hall	2026/27 hall hire payments	96.00	
02/07/2026	C Hirst	Clerk expenses to 2/7/26 - 2 months	196.65	
01/07/2026	EON	Playing Fields Power	22.29	1.06
01/07/2026	Smart Cut	Praxys spray full playing field	930.00	155.00
27/06/2026	P Jeanes	Reimburse fuel for mower	54.14	9.02
TOTAL			6,284.54	

Receipts	Detail	£
WCC	May Lengthsman	224.00
TOTAL	-	224.00

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B To note the Budget Monitoring Report to 22nd June 2026. Noted. Report tabled as Appendix 1:

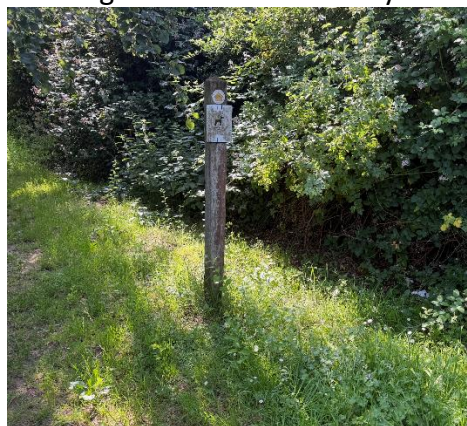
C To note the Bank Reconciliation to 22nd June 2026. Noted. Tabled as Appendix 2

D The H&M Grants Policy. Cllr. A Nuttall Proposed and Cllr. T Betteridge Seconded that the Grants Policy be approved. All in favour.

E To consider Dog-waste Bin

Cllr. P Jeanes reported that he had met with Phil Childs from Wychavon DC and he has identified 2 options for the placement of the new dog waste bin requested by several parishioners. The favoured position is to attach it to an existing pole at the start of the footpath some 30 yards from Bridge Street. See attached picture. The wooden pole is fragile and may need replacing.

They will only place it there if all 4 residents adjacent to the private track give permission to Wychavon DC to reverse a vehicle along the track to the bin each week. Cllr. Jeanes has approached all 4 residents, and they all give their permission and I now await a response from Phil Childs as to the price and the wording of such a document required for residents to sign. Finance for this poo-bin is covered by an approval at a previous parish Council meeting for 2 bins where only one was purchased.



10. Status of Parish Council representatives on the Village Hall Committee

Cllr. Annabel Nuttall raised a concern that she had been prevented from voting at the Village Hall Management Committee's last meeting.

She had been asked to sign a document which purported to give the VHMC the power to dismiss trustees. She took the view that this power was outside of the terms of the Trust itself, and therefore was an unlawful power. Upon refusing to sign the document, the VHMC stated that Cllr. A Nuttall was not permitted to vote at the meeting.

The Chair of the VHMC told the PC that the document required to be signed was provided for at Clause 13 of the Trust Scheme. This stated that a person could not be a member of the VHC trust without signing a "*declaration of acceptance and of willingness to act in the trusts of this Scheme*".

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Cllr. D Nuttall commented that the document which Cllr A. Nuttall was asked to sign appeared to go further than Clause 13 provided, in that it amended the Scheme and expanded the trustee's powers. She was therefore correct in refusing to sign it. Cllr A. Nuttall confirmed that she would sign the document, pursuant to Cl 13, providing it removed the part which appeared to expand the trustees' powers. Agreed that Cllr D. Nuttall would write to the VHMC setting this out.

11. Correspondence for Information

All correspondence received has been circulated and noted and where necessary added to the agenda for discussion.

12. Summary of Councillors agreed actions:

Lengthsman to be contacted by Cllr. Betteridge
Cllr. A Nuttall to draft the Bio-diversity Policy
Cllr. P Jeanes to chase the dog poo bin man from Wychavon regarding ordering a new
poo-bin.
Cllr. Lomax to work with Village Hall and PC web-designers re bring policies together.

13. Date of next Parish Council meeting. Thursday 3rd September 2026 at 7pm.

The meeting closed at 8.37pm.

APPENDIX 1 Budget update report

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2026 27 Hill & Moor PC Budget Year to Date 22/6/26

	BUDGET 2026/27	Spend/income to date	% to date
INCOME			
Grass Cutting	£ 988.00	1,037.72	105.03%
Playing Field Hire	£ 800.00	0.00	0.00%
Grants & Donations includes VE grants of "50 from WDC	£ 885.00	443.00	50.06%
Events	£ -	0.00	-
Other Income	£ -	0.00	-
Precept	£ 20,328.00	10,164.00	50.00%
Bank Interest	£ 130.00	13.82	10.63%
Lengthsman Reimbursements	£ 2,460.00	448.00	18.21%
Section 106 playing field improvements	£ -	0.00	-
VAT on income		0.00	
TOTAL	£ 25,591.00	£ 12,106.54	47.31%
EXPENDITURE, excluding VAT			
Staff Costs CLERK SALARY	£ 8,624.00	2,221.91	25.76%
Admin & Clerk Expenses	£ 1,000.00	182.25	18.23%
Newsletter	£ -	0.00	-
CALC/NALC Subs	£ 500.00	495.58	99.12%
Training	£ 300.00	0.00	0.00%
Regulatory	£ 1,200.00	1,092.46	91.04%
Grants & Donations -	£ -	0.00	-
Purchase Asset	£ 1,000.00	0.00	0.00%
Asset Maintenance	£ 1,250.00	0.00	0.00%
Grass Cutting	£ 1,307.00	588.03	44.99%
Open Spaces Maintenance	£ 1,000.00	348.36	34.84%
Street Light Power	£ 1,800.00	431.72	23.98%
Streetlight repairs	£ 1,300.00	0.00	0.00%
Lengthsman Costs	£ 2,460.00	448.00	18.21%
Handyman	£ 1,800.00	258.71	14.37%
Village Hall -	£ 550.00	0.00	0.00%
Playing Field	£ 1,000.00	245.58	24.56%
Other Expenditure	£ 500.00	128.66	25.73%
EARMARKED RESERVES			
CiL funding	£ 173.68	0.00	0.00%
Flood Alleviation	£ 10,000.00	0.00	0.00%
Section 106 playing field improvements	£ 2,011.00	1,625.80	80.85%
SWDP - Throckmorton Campaign	£ 400.00	0.00	0.00%
VAT on expenditure		676.22	-
TOTAL	£ 38,176	8,743	22.90%

APPENDIX 2 Bank Reconciliation

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HILL AND MOOR P.C. BANK RECONCILIATION at 22/6/26			
	£		£
Current Account	15,770.99	COMMUNITY ACCOUNT (Current Account)	4,076.41
Deposit Account	21,032.05	COMMERCIAL INSTANT ACCESS ACCOUNT (Deposit Account)	11,054.80
Closing Cash balance at 31/03/26	36,803.04	United Trust Bank	25,000.00
		HMRC tax leaves bank on 4th July	-179.98
		WCC Lengthsman payment not yet hit the bank	224.00
Add Receipts 2026/27	£ 12,115.47		
less Payments 2026/27	(8,743.28)	Bank Balance	40,175.23
Closing Balance at 24/6/26	40,175.23		
		Reconciled	(0.00)
Current account - Lloyds - A/c 01865441			
Balance as at			4,076.41
Savings account - Lloyds - A/c 07578509			
Balance as at			11,054.80
TRANSACTIONS NOT YET GONE THRU THE BANK			
Total cash assets			40,175.23
Ringfenced			
Flood alleviation			10,000.00
CIL			173.68
Section 106 for playing fields	Playing fields improvements		385.20
Total Ringfenced			10,558.88
Earmarked Reserves			
Asset Maintenance / Replacement / Disposal			996.22
Purchase Asset			500.00
Throckmorton fighting fund			400.00
Total Earmarked Reserves			1,896.22
(Total cash assets less Ringfenced funds and Earmarked Reserves)			27,720.13