



HALLOW PARISH COUNCIL

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DRAFT Minutes of the Annual Meeting of Hallow Parish Council held on **Wednesday July 21st 2021** held in Hallow Parish Hall.

PRESENT: Hazel Kemshall, Malcolm Silvester, Lorna Marson.

In Attendance: Members of Worcester Environment Group and colleagues to discuss agenda item on Tinkers Coppice Farm

Apologies for Absence: Councillor James Rose

1. Declarations of interest and applications for Councillor Dispensations subject to the Localism Act 2011.

The chair noted that the dispensation to all Councillors for Neighbourhood Development Plan matters had ended on July 20th with the formal making of the plan by the District Council.

The Chair proposed a renewal of the dispensation for the NDP as NDP matters were continuing particularly with reference to the NDP housing site. Seconded MS, unanimously agreed.

The Chair proposed a dispensation for all councillors with regard to the South Worcestershire Development Plan revision to enable all Cllrs to participate in the formal consultation process. Seconded MS, unanimously agreed.

2. Public Question Time

5 members of the public were present, plus visitors who were presenting.

A member of the public asked a question about financial support and siting of adult gym equipment on the playing field and Hollybank. The Chair re-iterated her emailed answer to the HVCG and explained the recent safety inspection process by ROPSA, and the assessment of the whole area by two specialist play equipment companies, and the need to replace and repair existing equipment from low funds; and the safety issues that prevent location of additional equipment. The matter was then further taken at agenda items 10 (b) and 10 (c).

3. Minutes of the Parish Council Meeting of the meeting of June 2021

Approval of the Draft Minutes previously circulated. Proposed HK, seconded MS, agreed unanimously. Signed in person by the Chair (Covid restrictions having been lifted).

4. Co-option of Councillor according to current policy and procedures

LM proposed Mr Jason Walker, HK seconded, unanimously agreed.

5. Welcome and presentation by Worcester Environment Group and colleagues including members of the local RSPB on plans to purchase or lease Tinkers Coppice from WCC.

Proposals in the first instance concern the ponds, and improvements of adjacent areas for migrating birds, and restoration of meadow habitat. The presentation comprehensively explained objectives, funding, and the establishment of a community interest company to do this, and confirmed no financial gain to the persons or organisations concerned. The project offers much in terms of improving bio-diversity and carbon sequestration. Benefits to the local community and local school were identified.

The Chair proposed support to the group in this endeavour as per the agenda proposal, seconded Jason Walker, unanimously agreed.



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6. Neighbourhood Development Plan Matters

To note the recent vote: Hallow NDP Referendum: 35% turnout and a 96% yes vote; a turnout and yes vote that was one of the best nationally.

To note that the NDP was “made” by MHDC on July 20th and is now in force.

MS expressed thanks to HK and all members of the NDP steering group. HK reiterated her thanks for the hard work and contribution of the Steering Group, and to Councillor Marson for her work, and to those organisations and members of the public who offered support and venues to make things happen.

The Chair proposed the engagement of *Stansgate Planning Consultancy* to review the planning application on the NDP site once it is formally submitted and notification to HPC for comment is received. This is in line with the previously agreed criteria for activating planning advice to comment on larger development. Seconded MS, unanimously agreed.

The Chair proposed that HPC engage *Planit-X consultancy* to assist with comments under the formal consultation and examination process for the South Worcestershire Development Plan Revision. It was acknowledged that the SWDP contains a lot of evidence and technical documents, and that HPC does not necessarily have the time and expertise to comment robustly and evidentially without professional support. Planit-X have a track record of supporting communities in planning matters and their Terms and Conditions were deemed acceptable. The consultancy process would be actively managed with frequent report back to the PC including on costs. Seconded LM, unanimously agreed.

7. Planning Matters

(a) Notifications, 24 Oakleigh Avenue. Agreed the Chair would respond and this is a straight forward application for an extension.

(b) Decision notices were noted, and a comment on the Crown Inn Lighting that this application was now much improved and acceptable.

8. Finance and Bank Reconciliation

Bank reconciliation postponed until Temporary Clerk from Grimley returns from leave and can complete it. BACS list for payment approved by Cllrs and signed by HK and MS.

9. Parish Matters

The Chair, supported by Cllr Silvester, presented to the group the quotes and options for play equipment repair and replacement, following the outcome of the ROSPA safety inspection in March 2021. It was agreed that a programme of repair and replacement needed to begin.

Councillors unanimously agreed to the proposals to: (i) replace the zip wire as this is a very well used and liked piece of equipment (Playdale quote), and to (ii) accept the Playdale quote to repair all the equipment on the tarmacked area. It was agreed to reconsider the basket swing, and the quote for repair to jungle gym in Spring 2022 depending on financial situation then. It was agreed to take up the annual maintenance plan. The Chair undertook to make an application to use S106 monies.

The Chair confirmed the intention to hold the Annual Parish Meeting in September, and to include an exhibition of the PC's work and of other societies and Hallow groups. The Chair undertook to liaise on dates and venue.

Meeting closed at 8.24pm

Next meetings: DATES AND VENUES TO BE CONFIRMED.

To contact the council: hazelkemshall@gmail.com 01905 641 632