



HALLOW PARISH COUNCIL

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Chair: Hazel Kemshall

Parish Clerk: Julia Hixson

Minutes of the Parish Council Meeting of Hallow Parish Council held on Monday 13th January 2025 at Hallow Village Hall

PRESENT: H. Kemshall; J. Walker, L. Ambury, S. Nall, A. Holmes, J. Hixson (Clerk). No members of the Public were present.

AGENDA

- 1. Apologies for Absence** were received from Cllr Marson, Cllr Grange, Cllr Shelton-Smith and Cllr Sylvester
- 2. Declarations of interest and applications for Councillor Dispensations subject to the Localism Act 2011.** Cllr Kemshall advised that she did not have an interest in item 6.4 but would leave the meeting for that item. Cllr Holmes declared an interest in item 6.2 but that it was a planning approval notice to note rather than an application.

3. Public Question Time

Members of the public are invited to give their views and question Parish Councillors on issues which are part of this Agenda, or to raise issues for consideration by the Parish Council at a future meeting. Please note that individual questions, or statements will be allowed at the discretion of the Chair, they must be concise and are limited to a maximum of 2 minutes per person. Public time should NOT be used to raise issues of general maintenance or other routine matters- queries/comments should be addressed to the Clerk at hallowparishcouncil@gmail.com

PLEASE NOTE THAT MEMBERS OF THE PUBLIC WILL NOT HAVE AN OPPORTUNITY TO ASK QUESTIONS, OR MAKE COMMENTS AT ANY OTHER TIME DURING THIS MEETING AND SHOULD REFRAIN FROM DOING SO.

No questions raised.

4. Minutes of the previous Parish Council meeting November 4th 2024.

Approval of the minutes was proposed by Cllr Ambury and seconded by Cllr Kemshall, all agreed.

5. Neighbourhood Development Plan and South Worcestershire Development Plan Matters.

The Chair explained the recent report containing appraisal of the Govt. plans and noted that the SWDP would be put forward for examination. All agreed that it had been a prudent decision by Hallow Parish Councillors not to invest any further money or resources on the existing NDP.

6. Planning Applications:

Update and review of:

- 1. Revised solar farm application- Location of the Substation & Modification of the Planning Application Ref –[M/23/01698/FUL]**

Cllrs reviewed and discussed the updates and raised further questions regarding missing and incomplete information, to be submitted formally to MHDC Planning.

- 2. Decision notice to note: Planning Application M/24/00444/FUL - Hallow Tennis Club, Main Road Hallow Worcester WR2 6PW.** Noted..

- 3. Decision notice to note: Planning Application M/24/00450/TDC5 - Park Acre Church Lane Hallow Worcester WR26PF.** Noted

- 4. Planning Application Consultation M/24/01567/HP Rose Cottage, Moseley Road Hallow WR2.**

The Chair handed control of the meeting to Cllr Walker and left the room. Cllr Walker led a discussion regarding the proposal. Cllrs agreed not to make a comment.

7. Governance and Financial Matters

7.1 **Bank Reconciliation. Nov and Dec 2024 duly checked and signed.**

7.2 **BACS list for approval.** Nov and Dec 2024 checked and duly signed.

7.3 **Re-sign bank mandate form for submission.** Cllrs signed.

7.4 **To review MHDC precept –advice letter received Dec 2024.**

Cllrs discussed current finances, the economic situation and viability of leaving the precept the same or making an increase, performance against budget, possible areas where more volunteering might ease financial costs and acknowledged 2025 increases in PAYE and supplier costs. A proposal to keep the precept at the same level for 2025 was proposed by Cllr Kemshall and seconded by Cllr Ambury. All agreed.

8. Parish Matters

1. Consider quotes for tarmac repairs on Parish Hall Drive, hedge cutting Parish Hall Car park, and repair of major potholes in gravel road around The Green.

Cllrs discussed the 2 quotes obtained for professional repair, the shared responsibility/apportionment of costs across other users of the access road; for repair of the areas of tarmac in question, and the longevity of repairs. Cllrs agreed to make the repairs necessary and bear the full cost this time without setting any precedent for future repair costs, proposed by Cllr Holmes and seconded by Cllr Walker.

Cllrs discussed the ownership of the road around The Green. Ownership appears unclear. The Parish Council had previously shared the cost of re-stoning with the residents of the houses around The Green. 2 quotes reviewed. Concerns to avoid back flooding of The Pinch were aired. Cllr Kemshall agreed to contact various residents around The Green for further information. Cllrs agreed to defer.

2. Review of Councillor responsibilities.

The Chair proposed to draft a list to circulate to Cllrs inviting them to voice interest in certain areas and responsibilities within the Parish. This would then be discussed at another meeting. All agreed.

3. Proposal to consult Hallmark and Hulme for advice on Freedom of Information requests.

Cllrs discussed making provision for professional services should FOI's or Subject access requests be received in future. All agreed, proposed by Cllr Kemshall and seconded by Cllr Walker.

Added at Chair's discretion:

Cllrs discussed the proposed **phone mast** proposed for Grimley and its potential positive impact on communication improvement within parts of Hallow. Cllrs agreed to write to the phone mast provider Atlas, to show support in principle subject to knowing the exact mast location and advise of Hallow Parish Council's offer to host public consultations within Hallow.

Cllrs also discussed the issue of very poor internet provision within Hallow when all other areas of Worcester appear to have strong connections and fibre installations. Cllrs stated that there are a significant number of businesses, new homes and an increasing number of residents working from home which should justify improved connectivity.

Pavements – Chair Cllr Kemshall highlighted the poor state of repairs of pavements within the village. Cllrs agreed for the Clerk to walk the pavements, take photos and submit a report to WCC. and our County Cllr Scott Richardson-Brown.

Cllr Holmes advised of fallen trees in The Pinch blocking the PROW. Feedback from WCC states that the path clearance is of low priority and overstretched resources following recent storms. Cllrs agreed to seek quotes with a view to taking action to remove the obstructions.

4. Motion to move into private time for Staffing matters.

Meeting closed 8.40pm

NEXT MEETING: 10th February 2025