

BROADWAS AND COTHERIDGE PARISH COUNCIL

MINUTES OF AN ANNUAL MEETING OF THE PARISH

HELD ON MONDAY 13th MAY 2019 AT BROADWAS VILLAGE HALL at 7pm.

PRESENT: Councillors Dales, Pearce, Guest, Burrows, Mrs Carole Hirst the Clerk.

IN ATTENDANCE: District Councillor Chambers and Walton and 26 members of the public.

WELCOME: The Chairman welcomed everyone.

1.ANNUAL REPORTS:

COUNTY COUNCILLOR: Phil Grove was unable to attend due to Purdah for the forthcoming European Elections and a pre-arranged holiday. Report attached.

DISTRICT COUNCILLOR: A copy of this report is attached to these minutes.

CHAIRMANS REPORT: A copy of this report is attached to these minutes.

VILLAGE HALL COMMITTEE: A copy of this report is attached to these Minutes.

VILLAGE HALL DRAFT ACCOUNTS: A copy of this report is attached to these Minutes.

BROADWAS SCHOOL: A copy of this report is attached to these Minutes.

PATH WARDEN REPORT: A copy of this report is attached to these Minutes.

FOOTBALL CLUB: A copy of this report is attached to these Minutes.

BROADWAS SPORTS CLUB: A copy of this report is attached to these Minutes.

NEIGHBOURHOOD DEVELOPMENT PLAN PREGRESS REPORT. A copy of this report is attached to these Minutes.

2.DISCUSSION REGARDING THE DEVELOPMENT OF THE VILLAGE HALL

Cllr. Dale asked the community how they felt the village hall and activities could be improved. A resident from Berryfields felt that a Youth Club would be very good for the local youngsters. Cllr. Dale asked if there was any interest from a volunteer within the community to explore this and engage with the community to set this up. Mr. Waller from Berryfields agreed to volunteer and speak to the local school to get feedback to see whether it was viable. He commented that there were around 100 children at the school who often use Berryfields before and after school for recreation and play.

A further discussion took place regarding summer activities for young people. Ms Worrall volunteered to explore this. Cllr. Chambers suggested that Rachel Venn from MHDC Community Services be contacted to offer advice and support.

3. FIBRE BROADBAND (Gigabyte scheme) PRESENTATION AND CONSULTATION RE BROADWAS AND COTHERIDGE PC MAKING AN APPLICATION.

The Village Hall Management Committee and the Parish Council have for some time been exploring the desirability of wi-fi being available in the Village Hall.

Various evaluations have been undertaken, and a potential barrier has been the cost of connecting the village hall to the local “cabinet” as the hall does not have a phone line.

During the course of these enquiries we became aware of a government funded Gigabyte scheme, which is coordinated locally by the County Council.

As a result, the Parish Council agreed to launch a consultation to see if there was sufficient interest from local residents and businesses to make an application.

If an application is made subject to the number dwellings and premises that express an interest BT Open Plan provide an estimate of the cost for providing fibre optic connections from the cabinets to the relevant premises. The advantages of this would include faster speeds and future proofing regarding the continued reliance on the Internet for services and recreation.

Dependent on the cost of installation and the scale of response then the available grant could cover the cost or mean that there would only be a small cost for each new connection.

We held a presentation at the Annual Parish Meeting.

Robert Stepniewski Senior Project Manager from the Worcestershire County Council Broadband and Connectivity Team gave a presentation about the project and funding opportunity for Broaddwas and Cotheridge to have Fibre Optic connections from the local cabinets to the premises. This would mean faster and more reliable download speeds and help ensure that premises were future proofed as use of the internet grows.

Robert answered a number of questions from the public and based on the interest expressed at the meeting the Parish Council agreed to conduct a wider consultation with a view to getting an estimate of cost and scale of grant. This would enable the Parish Council to come back with a final proposal for people to sign up to.

Cllr Burrows thanked Robert for the presentation.

We need to consult further as not all people will need or see the advantage of a faster connection, and of course some do not use the Internet.

As a part of this process, we are also obtaining an estimate for connecting the village hall so that we can move forward with making wi-fi available for users.

Cllr. Walton suggested the Parish Council could ask residents what broadband speeds they get. Cllr. Dale suggested that an advert or article be put in Footprints Magazine to request the information from the community.

4. DISCUSSION REGARDING THE DEVELOPMENT OF BERRYFIELDS

This last year the Parish Council applied for funds for additional play equipment for youngsters, a new surface for the track and outside fitness equipment. The application was successful, and the equipment has been installed and the resurfacing has been completed. RJC are the grounds maintenance contractors appointed to maintain Berryfields for the forthcoming year.

Cllr. Burrows commented that it is very important that we look at leisure activities for children and young people.

5. HOW DO YOU WANT THE PARISHES TO DEVELOP. Cllr. Dale observed, members of the public had expressed a range of views on a number of issues.

6. BECOMING A PARISH COUNCILLOR.

This year's team has dwindled to 4 councillors and a clerk. The minimum number of councillors that allow us to operate is 3. We need more volunteers to serve. So, if you feel you can help, then please let any of the councillors know. There are 10 meetings through the year, and it would be a great loss if the community did not have its own Parish Council.

Cllr. Chambers reiterated how important it was that the Parish Council thrives and continues. Especially in light of the fact that since the election the Parish Council had dropped to 4 Parish Councillors. Cllr. Chambers encouraged local people to come forward for co-option on to the Parish Council and if interested Cllr. Dale asked that they contact him directly.

7. ANY OTHER BUSINESS: None.

The meeting closed at 7.45pm

Signed.....dated.....

County Council Report – Cllr. Phil Grove

Economic,

The Worcestershire 5G Consortium has won 'Most Commercially Viable Use Case' at the inaugural 5G Realised 'Use Case Awards'. The Consortium led by Worcestershire County Council and the Worcestershire LEP picked up the award at the recent 5G Realised Event. The programme of improvement works to relieve congestion on the A38 in Bromsgrove started last month. We are working with partners Highways England, Bromsgrove District Council, Worcestershire Local Enterprise Partnership and the Greater Birmingham and Solihull Local Enterprise Partnership to deliver the programme. The first phase of works includes improvements in three key locations: Barley Mow Lane, M5 Junction 4 and M42 Junction 1. The first of these locations to see improvements is the junction of the A38 with Barley Mow Lane.

Children and Families,

Worcestershire Children First has now entered its phased shadow period with less than five months until the company officially launches. This shadow period gives the company the opportunity to 'test and learn' ways of working and day-to-day operations. It also allows time to review amended roles and responsibilities and monitor and maintain business-as-usual as much as possible. The new Worcestershire Children First website www.worcschildrenfirst.org.uk is now live.

For the third year in a row, over 90% of children in Worcestershire will be starting school in September at their first-choice school.

This year saw the County Council receive just over 6,100 applications, 100 more than in 2018. Over 5,600 children (92.3% of applications) in the county will be attending their first-choice school. A social prescribing pilot in Worcestershire launched in March 2018 is showing success. Since launching, the scheme has

received more than 1000 referrals and resulted in reduced reliance on medical services and high levels of customer satisfaction. It enables GPs, nurses and other primary care professionals to refer patients to a social prescriber to link them with non-medical services locally to improve their health and wellbeing.

This summer the Council's Adult Social Care Teams will be holding events across the county to help Worcestershire's residents make the right decisions about their future. The first "Making Decisions About Your Future" event will take place on Thursday May 9 at Tesco in Kidderminster (Castle Road, DY11 6SW), before moving on to outside Kidderminster Town Hall on Friday May 17. For more information and the full list of dates, go to – [Making Decisions About Your Future](#).

Environment

We've held on the title of Council of the Year at this year's West Midlands Energy Efficiency Awards. The award recognises the hard work over the last year making Worcestershire a more environmentally friendly county, as well as financial savings and carbon emission figures.

Several projects have helped to contribute towards us holding on the top prize including Warmer Worcestershire, Worcestershire Energy Switch and the Business Energy Efficiency Programme.

Our winter service season on the roads officially ended on Monday April 15. Our fleet of 32 gritters will now be serviced throughout the spring and summer and our 33 'Snow contractors' (mostly small-scale farmers), who clear roads during any major snow event will be reconfirmed ready for next season.

This winter has been very mild compared to that of last year with a high number of marginal nights across the affected period. We undertook 29 primary and 15 secondary precautionary treatments across the network whilst actively monitoring it using a forecast specific to Worcestershire. Two County Council projects have been celebrating successes in the MJ Local Government Achievement Awards.

The Battenhall Railway Bridge extension project has been shortlisted for the final. The project is one of only four finalists in the Highways Management category.

Meanwhile, the 'Technology Enabled Lives' project in Adults Social Care, which equips older and vulnerable adults with technology to ensure they live independent lives for longer, was commended in the Transforming Lives category after the judges said that the quality of the entry was so high.

Staff volunteers continue to be engaged in the Council's Organisational Redesign. Monthly updates are being held by Director Andrew Spice. A Steering Group has been established to endorse any short-term ideas and feed medium/longer term ideas up to Transformation Board. Redesign experts C. Co continue to support the redesign and provide challenge to the process.

District Councillor Report – Cllr. David Chambers and Douglas Godwin.

This has been another crucial year for Malvern Hills District Council, with further cuts from central government funding. We are pleased to report however, that unlike many councils across the country, Malvern Hills District Council has been able to continue to make savings, increase its services to residents, build on its reserves, work to a balanced budget at the same time maintain one of the lowest Council Tax rates in the country.

Your two District Councillors have played key roles in the Council during the last year with David as Leader of the Council and specific responsibility for Economic Development and Douglas as Chairman of the Audit Committee and Vice Chairman of the Overview and Scrutiny Committee.

The following is a summary of the last year at Malvern Hills District Council

1. Our financial position is strong and stable. Despite having to make savings of £1.45 million between 2017/22, due to central government cuts, we are building our reserves, investing in land and property, which will not only deliver us appreciating assets but also an annual income return.

2. Council tax is increasing by just £5.00 on a band D property again this year (that's £5.00 for the whole year). Less than 10% of the amount you pay for your overall council tax stays with Malvern Hills District Council – the remaining 90%+ goes to the County Council, West Mercia Police, Hereford & Worcester Fire Authority and to Parish or Town Councils
 3. The new extension to the Council House is now open. We will be bringing all our telephony back in house and for the first time in over 10 years the Council House will have a reception to welcome residents and visitors to the Council. This will save the Council in excess of £100,000 each year.
 4. Led by Malvern Hills District Council, the six District Councils in Worcestershire have secured a government Business Rates Retention pilot for one year. This will generate an estimated £4.9 million pounds which we are allocating to help the County Council's budget deficit. The money will be ring fenced for specific projects to help with Adult Social Care and Children's Services
 5. Our 5 Year Strategic Plan and 5 Year Business Plans are now well established and enable Councillors, officers, residents, businesses and partner organisations to have a clear understanding of the Council's priorities for the five years ahead, at any one time.
-
6. We implemented the "Alternative Weekly Waste Collections" in April last year which seems to have been a huge success. With general waste being collected one week and recycling waste the following week, we have seen the amount of general waste reduce and a substantial increase in recycling waste.
 7. We all know that changes to our town centres and high streets are inevitable, with more and more people buying goods and services on-line. The Council has just placed a multi £million bid into central government and are commissioning future prospectuses for all of our town centres in the District to ensure we are at the very forefront of any developmental changes.
 8. This year we have engaged with more residents, business, partners and schools than ever before, to help us ensure our priorities are the same priorities of the people we serve.
 9. Planning is always a contentious subject and we all understand why. With the SWDP Review now happening, which will take us to 2041, we have done everything we can to protect the villages and hamlets we serve, whilst appreciating that new homes are need, not least for the young residents in our community.
 10. And there is so much more: We are delivering affordable homes, bringing empty homes back into use, working with partners to help those with mental health issues, loneliness and rough sleeping; provide £50,000 each year to help with Community Transport; have set up a £30,000 fund to help with food banks; are working closely with our schools, colleges and business to provide skills training, apprenticeships and creating job opportunities; promoting healthier communities for the young and not so young alike.

David and Douglas have enormously enjoyed representing Broadwas and Cotheridge and would like to thank, in particular, the Chairman and Councillors of the Parish Council for working with us in such a supportive way.

Chairman of the Parish Council- Cllr. Eric Dale.

The Chairman's report is a brief summary of the year's activity of the Parish Council with the emphasis on the word brief. It would be remiss of me if I did not also recognise the efforts and support, I have received from the whole team, both present and retiring members. The Parish Council has been supported by two lady Parish Clerks; Helen Plevey and latterly Carole Hirst. So, my thanks to them all.

1. The NDP process

NDP is the acronym for Neighbourhood Development Plan which provides communities with a means of having more of a say in how they want their local area to progress. It also helps provide a defence against developers who may be more focused on money than on the health and wellbeing of the inhabitants. Hopefully the process is entering its final stage and the parish will be able to vote on its acceptance or not.

2. Closer relationship with police regarding speed awareness

I have had several meetings with interested parties concerning the problems of the A44. Data is being gathered and there is a move to add more warning symbols on the approaches to Broadwas.

3. The Parish Website

New this year, the website <https://www.broadwas-cotheridge.com> has generated a lot of interest. It allows for easy access to; Parish Council minutes and agendas, MHDC Planning portal, village hall booking, and much more. It is regularly updated.

4. Section 106 request for funds for developing Berryfields sports area

The PC applied for funds for additional play equipment for youngsters, a new surface for the track and outside fitness equipment. The application was successful, and the equipment has been installed and the resurfacing has been completed.

5. The Parish Council

This year's team has dwindled to 4 councillors and a clerk. The minimum number of councillors that allow us to operate is 3. We need more volunteers to serve. So, if you feel you can help, then please let any of the councillors know. There are 10 meetings through the year, and it would be a great loss if the community did not have its own Parish Council.

Eric Dale

Village Hall Committee Report – Geoff Winkworth

The past year has been very much business as usual with regular bookings holding up well and annual events such as Quiz and Christmas Fare once again a success. The regular users include LINC, Pilates, Yoga, Sewing Club and this year the Table Tennis group have had particularly well supported Thursday evening gatherings. We recently welcomed a new fitness activity called Clubbercise on Saturday mornings.

In addition, the Hall provides the venue for important community activities such as elections, Parish Council meetings and public displays in connection with Neighbourhood Planning.

Timesavers Concierge have continued to manage the booking system and also the Hall cleaning and Natures Way looks after the grass and shrubs etc outside. The Management Committee are particularly grateful for the services they provide.

Progress has been made towards the planned building extension work with three potential builders having been briefed. We await comprehensive quotes from them all but in order to preserve the planning permission initial foundations work has been started.

The Village Hall is a charity which is managed by a Management Committee in accordance with a comprehensive constitution. Members of the Committee are Trustees registered with the Charities Commission. Currently there are vacancies on the committee and expressions of interest from anyone prepared to help on the committee are very welcome.

In accordance with the constitution the Annual General Meeting will be held in the Village Hall in early June, date to notified.

Geoffrey Winkworth- Chairman

BROADWAS VILLAGE HALL MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE

DRAFT INCOME AND EXPENDITURE ACCOUNT: YEAR ENDING 31ST MARCH 2019

	2017/2018	2018/2019
RECEIPTS		
Cash transfers in from other A/C's	£0.00	£0.00
Hire of Village Hall	£3,607.50	£3,535.17
Electricity Meters	£290.00	£290.00
* Miscellaneous Income & Interest	£203.17	£0.00
Fund Raising Events	£599.65	£432.22
Donations	£45.00	£0.00
	£4,745.32	£4,257.39
PAYMENTS		
Capital Items	£0.00	£0.00
Hall Cleaning	£1,139.20	£1,129.80
Brit Gas Electric	£758.04	£995.17
Timesavers Concierge	£1,210.00	£1,080.00
Water Rates	£147.63	£166.72
Repairs & Upkeep	£147.81	£0.00
Fund Raising Events	£0.00	£0.00
Sundry Expenses	£117.83	£319.60
Gardens & Lawns	£640.00	£640.00
	£4,160.51	£4,331.29
COST OF RUNNING HALL SURPLUS/DEFICIT		
FOR THE YEAR	£584.81	(£73.90)
ACCUMULATED FUNDS		
At 31st March brought f/ward	£3,617.03	£4,201.84
Add/Subtract Cash flow/ Outflow	£584.81	(£73.90)
Bal at Yr End carried forward	£4,201.84	£4,127.94
REPRESENTED BY		
Lloyds Bank Account	£4,083.41	£4,009.51
Petty Cash	£118.43	£118.43
Unpresented Cheques		
Uncleared Bank Deposits		
	£4,201.84	£4,127.94
	£0.00	£0.00
	£4,201.84	£4,127.94

Broadwas C of E Primary School – Report by Kenneth Smith.

Currently, we have 92 children on roll, with 11 pupils due to leave Year 6 at the end of the academic year. The structure of 4 classes remains in place, with a single form Reception age class, then Year 1 and Year 2 being taught together, Year 3 and Year 4 in the next class, with Year 5 and Year 6 as our final grouping. This year we are pleased to have been able to teach Years 2 and 5 in separate classes for maths, meaning that more specialist year group focused teaching can take place.

Achievement across the school continues to be very good. Year 6 pupils will complete their end of Key Stage 2 SATs assessment tests during the week beginning on Monday 13th May, we are expecting strong results across the board from these, all credit to the hard work from pupils and staff throughout the years. The nationally expected standard is high and we expect to be in line with or above this in all areas. Learning across the school continues to be strong, with an exciting and interesting curriculum being taught in all classes and year groups.

This year, we have continued to use some of the Government 'Sports Premium' grant funding to enable us to work with a specialist sports coach for a day in school every week. All classes are benefiting from this, with a wide variety of sports activities being developed, including cricket, boxing, archery, rounders and football. We are able to offer an after-school rounders club for children at no extra cost, due to the Sports grant funding available.

Some of the learning trips and activities that have taken place so far have included:

- Visits from the 'History man' linked to topic work on the Norman Conquest and Ancient Egypt.
- A visit to the Stone Age centre near Telford.
- School hosted a 'Scholastic' book fair during the penultimate week of the autumn term. This was well supported by parents and friends, we received 100% commission for the books sold.
- Reception class have enjoyed a visit to Longlands farm as part of their learning about the Nativity.
- Year 5/6 performed a selection of carols for parents and friends and visited Bromyard Residential Home to sing carols and spend time with residents.
- Year 1/2 have visited Singers Hill Synagogue in Birmingham as part of RE learning.
- Reception class enjoyed a visit to 'Smart Trees' during December.
- As part of our 'reverse advent calendar' appeal, pupils collected donations for Worcester food bank. These were sorted and organised by school House Captains. Many thanks to Mrs Leach for delivering our donations to the food bank.
- A member of the local police force visited school on 21st January to lead our daily worship. The children were encouraged to think about making responsible behaviour choices both in and out of school, particularly after the school day has ended.

Many more exciting activities are planned for the remainder of this term. Our thanks to all the staff and volunteers who work so hard to make these exciting opportunities happen for the children.

Path Warden Report –

Broadwas and Cotheridge Parish Path Warden Report April 2019

Most footpaths and bridle ways have been walked, waymarks checked and replaced if necessary. Recently County have replaced the foot bridge / styles with opening metal gate access to a new bridge in the corner of the Cotheridge Avenue field.



We need more volunteers with carpentry skills. John White, Senior Area Public Rights of Way officer W.C.C., has referred some of our outstanding post and style foot board replacement jobs to the Powick based volunteer group.

During the year several volunteers including the Chairman and WI members have assisted in clearing vegetation from several paths. One of the new residents was walked around paths in Broadwas to help us improve signage!

The Bull in field notice off Stoney Ley is a legal requirement, but the farmer commented that the stock was not dangerous except to uncontrolled dogs!

Uncontrolled dogs remain a danger (to horses, cattle and sheep) and the public needs to be urged to keep them on leashes where there might be stock in the fields.

If any residents would like to join us walking the paths or to report maintenance requests, please contact the path warden.

Heather Dale

Lower Teme and Martley Football Club Annual Report – Joe Grange

As I reflect on the last 12 months of the club, I am pleased to say that the club has been growing successfully. We were approached to take over and amalgamate with Martley Spurs the year before last after their club folded and we now have a total of Three men's teams playing on Sunday mornings in the Worcester League.

The first team secured the Southam Trophy last May, with a win against FC Korono. The match was played at Pershore Town Football Club and was quite a big moment for us. The ground was Pershore itself and there were a lot more spectators than we had ever been used to before. The match was very end to end with Korono having the majority of the possession. It was quite a tense match but, in the end, we managed to defeat them 5-2. This really was a pinnacle moment for us especially as we had only been in the division below the unbeaten champions. This was a perfect end to the season.

Our reserves (men's second team) were a group of teens, mostly from the Chantry School who are coming up through the ranks into men's football, just like the majority of our men's first team did when I first started the club. This team are now holding their own in the men's league and have gained promotion after finishing in the top four in the league.

At the beginning of the season our first team were 9th in the table, we are ending the season in 5th position, 1 place off promotion to the Worcester premier division.

This season we had a call from the FA requesting that the club get involved with promoting girls' football through their new scheme known as FA Wildcats. As a Chartered Standard club, we will be delivering football sessions to girls between the ages of 4 and 11 in the local area. We are looking forward

to this opportunity to work with the FA and support them with this new project as girls and women's football is growing in popularity.

Within the next 12 months we hope to introduce 2 new junior teams into the club. Finally, we also hope that there will be a new development centre that will target children ages 4-7 to give them an introduction to football.

Joe Grange.

Broadwas Sports Association Report- Robert Pearce

The Sports Association has an active membership of circa 60 drawn from Broadwas and the surrounding villages. The principal sporting activity is Croquet and the Croquet Club had a successful year in 2018 both in terms of competitions and in attracting new members to take up the sport.

One new initiative was the introduction of Fun Day Fridays which offered a wider range of activities including bowls and table tennis.

In addition, Worcester Nomads Cricket Club and Rushwick Cricket Club shared use of the sportsground on Saturdays for their respective 3rd XIs. Sadly, due to the reduction in the numbers of people playing club cricket, there will be no cricket played at Broadwas during 2019. There is a significant cost, both in finance and volunteer time, to maintain a cricket square and regrettably neither cricket club felt able to continue that commitment at Broadwas particularly when they are both struggling to field 3rd XIs on a regular basis.

During 2018, the Sports Association successfully completed the installation of rabbit-proof fencing around the sportsground the cost of which was met by a grant of £5,870 from Malvern Hills District Council. This formed part of the Section 106 monies received from the developers of Berryfields Close in Broadwas.

The Association is also grateful for the continuing financial support from Broadwas & Cotheridge Parish Council towards the cost of maintaining the two pavilion buildings in good condition.

Robert Pearce

Neighbourhood Development Plan Progress – Jeff Guest.

Since May 2017 the Parish Council has been preparing a Neighbourhood Development Plan.

The process governed by legislation has 43 steps we have had to take. I am pleased to report that the plan is made and is currently undergoing independent examination.

This is step 40, the only remaining items will be step 41, if required, which will be to make any amendments suggested, step 42, a referendum will be held to be voted on by the Parish, and step 43 to publish the final plan.

The process should conclude over the next few months.