

BARTESTREE WITH LUGWARDINE GROUP PARISH COUNCIL

Clerk to the Council David Hunter-Miller, 35 Benbow Close, Malvern Wells, WR14 4JJ

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**The Annual Parish Meetings for the parishes of Bartestree and Lugwardine held at
7:00PM on Tuesday 10th May 2022 at Bartestree Village Hall, HR1 4BY**

Bartestree Parish Minutes

Present: Geoff Davies (Vice-Chair of Parish Council)

In attendance: David Hunter-Miller (Parish Council Clerk)

Parishioners: 2

1. Chairman's welcome

Geoff Davies opened the meeting and welcomed residents.

2. Apologies for absence

Wendy Soilleux (Chair of the Parish Council) had sent apologies.

3. To approve the minutes of the Annual Parish Meeting held on Tuesday 4th May 2021

It was resolved to adopt the minutes as a true record and they were duly signed by the Vice-Chair.

4. Matters arising from those minutes (if any)

No matters arising.

5. To receive the Annual Report of the Parish Council by the Chairman

Wendy Soilleux had provided a report as follows:

COVID-19:

During 2021-22 the presence of COVID-19 was still hanging over us, which meant that our Annual Parish and Annual Parish Council meetings took place on-line. However, the situation improved somewhat and all subsequent meetings were held in person in Bartestree Village Hall, thus getting us back to some semblance of normality.

Neighbourhood Development Plan:

The NDP Review has forged ahead this year. It has been very much easier with an experienced planning consultant, David Nicholson, to guide us and to use his expertise to modify the plan using the correct terminology. We have reviewed and improved the existing policies and added some important new ones. The result is a more precise yet still concise document that will be better fit for purpose.

Planning & Housing Development:

The development of new housing has moved from one extreme to the other with no approval for new build properties in our parishes this year due to the restrictions in place because of high phosphate levels in the Rivers Wye and Lugg. The number of new properties approved since April 2011 remains at 169.

Highways:

We have had to devoted far too much time to trying to get Herefordshire Council Highways Department to communicate with us let alone actually move forward on the s106 project that it has elected to carry out. The new crossing outside St. Mary's School and new footway from the school to

the Lugwardine Court Orchard bus-stop are due to be installed during the school summer holiday this year. I wonder what next year's report will have say about it!

On the other hand, the Highways Working Group is dynamically forging ahead with new ideas for introducing highway safety measures such as 'Operation Snap', installing white gates at the eastern entrance to the group parish, dragon's teeth and enhanced gateway road markings, traffic scarecrows and hosting a Community Speed Watch public event. It is also looking into to saving money in the longer term by buying our own Speed Indicator Devices instead of renting them.

Foot & Cycle Bridge across the River Lugg:

Thank you to Alan and his group for developing an initial proposal for a foot & cycle bridge. It is a complex project that will be very expensive, but it is very good to know that the planning of it is in progress.

Play Areas:

The two play areas continue to be well used and enjoyed. Thank you to Rob Francis, who very stringently checks the equipment at both sites every week.

The Community field:

The Community Field has been maintained this year by topping and grazing. A grant has been obtained for some outdoor gym equipment. It is now on the brink of moving forward into the next phase of surveying and draining so that it will be ready for major fund-raising and the laying of the football and cricket pitches. This will be a time when effort and support from members of the community will make a huge difference to the speed at which this major project can move forward.

The Eco-Friendly Working Group:

Thanks to the hard work put in by this group, the recycling of aluminium foil continues to be well-supported and there has been much planting of spring bulbs, wildflowers and hedging, sometimes during adverse weather conditions, through which they remained undaunted. They have also been very successful in obtaining grants to buy a very sturdy and attractive all-ability picnic bench and table for Beech Meadow and three very smart benches to go alongside the Play Area at Bartestree Village Hall.

The Community Police:

Constable Josh Kitchen and his team are very pro-active in engaging with the local people. They are much more accessible by telephone and hold monthly 'surgeries' in our group parish, which from now on will link in with the Community Cafes held in St. Peter's Church and the Village Hall.

Personnel:

There have been several changes of personnel this year.

Parish Councillors:

Fiona Matthews resigned in November 2021 for personal reasons. I would like to thank her for time on the Parish Council, during which she was and still is part of the Eco Group and played a major part in establishing a defibrillator at the VH site and for managing it and its batteries.

Scot Garner resigned in April this year due to work commitments, which keep him away from the group parish, although he still has his home here. He joined in 2015 and was involved in setting up our website, being its first 'webmaster' – so called because of a spelling mistake on the part of the web designer! He played an active part in council business and he and his wife Pauline made a

major contribution to the planning of the new play area at Frome Park. He also watered the new trees there and kept them alive during the Spring drought of 2021.

I thank them all for their valued contribution.

We have been pleased to welcome a new Councillor Andy Thomas, who has already got stuck in and is playing an active part in many areas.

Parish Lengthsman:

I would like to thank the other Andy Thomas, lengthsman, for all the good work that he did for us, always very cheerfully. We are very sorry that he is unable to continue as our regular lengthsman and hope that he may be able to resume the task at some point in the future.

Parish Clerk and RFO:

We were very sad to say goodbye to Emma after five years. I thank her for her hard work, for putting up with all our foibles and for her lovely personality. We have been very fortunate to welcome in her place David Hunter-Miller, who is already proving a great asset in terms of his additional expertise on highways matters and running major projects.

Thank you for your support and all that you do in such a variety of different ways. There have been quite a number of consultations this year that required a delivery to every one of the 1003 households. A very big thank you everyone who has delivered leaflets. The process has developed into a well-oiled machine.

6. To receive a report from the Diana Caroline Hopton Charity

A report was received as follows:

The Diana Caroline Hopton Charity owns two almshouses, which continue to provide accommodation for two sets of residents who have been in occupation for some years. The Charity's reserves remain high and the financial base is sound. John Baldwin has resigned after many years of excellent service to the charity but we are pleased to welcome Jonathan Jackson as a new Trustee and Treasurer.

The Trustees are:

<i>Dr. Richard Henderson</i>	<i>Chairman</i>
<i>Mr. Jonathan Jackson</i>	<i>Treasurer</i>
<i>Mrs. S W Soilleux</i>	<i>Secretary</i>
<i>Revd. Simon J D Tarlton</i>	

7. To invite the public to raise any matters of interest

No questions were received.

Lugwardine Parish Minutes

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In attendance: David Hunter-Miller (Parish Council Clerk)

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6. To receive a report from The Lugwardine Charity

A report was received as follows:

The Trustees have met on three occasions during the past year. John Baldwin has resigned after many years of excellent service to the charity but we are pleased to welcome Jonathan Jackson as a new Trustee and Treasurer.

There has been only a single application for a grant during the past year despite efforts to publicise the charity. These efforts will continue.

The Trustees are:

<i>Dr. R Henderson</i>	<i>Chairman</i>
<i>Mr. Jonathan Jackson</i>	<i>Treasurer</i>
<i>Mrs. S W Soilleux</i>	<i>Secretary</i>
<i>Revd. Simon J D Tarlton</i>	

7. To invite the public to raise any matters of interest

No questions were received.

The meetings closed at 7:15PM.



David Hunter-Miller
Clerk and RFO