

Minutes of Bartestree Annual Parish Meeting

held at 7:00pm on Tuesday 30th May 2023 at Bartestree Village Hall, HR1 4BY

Present: Cllr Lin Hoppe – Chair of Bartestree with Lugwardine Group Parish Council

In attendance: Mrs Emma Thomas – HALC Clerk Cover
Mr Roy Fullee - Speaker

Public: 30

1. Chair's welcome.

The Chair welcomed everyone to the meeting.

2. Apologies for absence.

None

3. To approve the minutes of the Annual Parish Meeting held on Tuesday 10th May 2022.

The minutes were APPROVED and duly signed by the Chair.

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

The Chair gave the following report:

I would firstly like to introduce our Parish Councillors, some of whom you will know already, but we do have some new Councillors.

Cllrs: Lin Hoppe, Chair of the Parish Council; Polly Smith, Vice-Chair; Ron Williams; Alan Long; Paul Wargent; Siobhan Green; David Evans; Jenny Karayiannis; Wendy Soilleux; Paul Hodges and Fiona Harris all introduced themselves.

We have had a busy Council year, which runs from May 2022 through to May 2023 and in that time we have achieved the following:

- Many of you will be familiar now with the new pedestrian crossing outside St. Mary's School. This has proved very successful in keeping the children safe and has been welcomed by many residents. A new footway from the school to the bus shelter is yet to materialise, but we maintain contact with Herefordshire Council.
- The new bus shelter was installed at Bartestree crossroads, and is now providing some much needed weather protection there for residents.
- We have also requested dropped kerbs at the entrance to Malvern Place in Bartestree to stop those with prams, scooters or wheelchairs having to go into the road. Once again, we are mindful to keep our residents safe. Work is ongoing.
- We have a very successful Highways Working Group who are responsible for getting Roy along, a Consultant on Highways, and we have heard his recommendations this evening. The working group will be itching to start discussing some of his recommendations.
- A lot of work is going on behind the scenes for developing a foot and cycle bridge across the River Lugg. However, with the recent changes in Herefordshire Council we may have taken a couple of steps back, but we will continue to push forward with this programme.
- The Highways Working Group are also instigating a Speed Watch programme, and we have volunteers currently waiting for training. So watch out!!
- The Parish Council have applied for the re-instatement onto the Definitive Public Right of Way map, of the path behind Hagley Park. This process notoriously takes years, nevertheless, the application is in the system and will hopefully, one day, come to fruition.
- Our revised Neighbourhood Development Plan is now in its final stages for approval and implementation. There will be a referendum held here, in the Village Hall on Thursday 22 June. Please come along on that day, if you can and vote. This has been an arduous task and taken Councillors a long time to get to this stage.

- Our Eco-Working Group has been busy with recycling foil at the Village Hall. They are also continuing to develop Beech meadow (at the entrance to the Village Hall) into a joyful place to sit and relax under the newly planted trees.
- Glebelands (Bartestree Cross Roads) has been planted with hedgerows and wildflowers and I think the results are now beginning to materialise.
- Our Community Policing team regularly pay us a visit, and their presence is very much appreciated.
- This year we welcome a new Ward Councillor, Ivan Powell who has a wealth of community experience we fully intend to take advantage of. However, we must thank our outgoing Ward Councillor, Paul Andrews, who spent a lot of time getting to know us and doing his utmost to progress our ambitions.

We have a few changes in Parish Council personnel this year:

- I would like to thank the out-going Vice-Chair, Alan Long, for his support over the past year.
- Mike Wilson, who was also a Ward Councillor for a time, sadly passed away. We thank him for all his hard work to keep us on the straight and narrow.
- Geoff Davies stood down and did not go for re-election. We thank him enormously for his many years of service, not just as a Councillor but also for his major contribution to the Planning Committee.
- We say thank you to Andy Thomas, who had been a Councillor for only a short time. I am happy however, to report that he remains our Public Rights of Way Officer.
- Nigel Shore resigned earlier in the year after many years as a Councillor. He has worked long and hard to establish the playing fields in the village and our grateful thanks are extended to him for helping to develop a hugely successful facility.
- Our Clerk, David Hunter-Miller was with us for just a year, and has moved onto pastures new – we wish him all the very best.
- Of course, I would just like to welcome our new Parish Councillors, Paul Wargent, Siobhan Green and Paul Hodges. We look forward to working together as a team.

Lastly, we have worked hard to put together a Community Field Consultation document which will be delivered to every household in the two villages so you can have your say in how it is developed. We would ask for your support in completing that form and returning it in the Freepost envelope provided. We genuinely want to hear from you!

So - As you have heard this evening, your Parish Councillors are working together to provide, you the residents, an enhanced environment in which to live and bring up your children. There are many things we would like to do, so it is important to us that you continue to communicate and show us your support.

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

Cllr Wendy Soilleux gave the following report:

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. Revd. Simon J D Tarlton has resigned as Trustee to take up a new post elsewhere and a new Rector has not yet been appointed.

In addition to the regular maintenance of the cottages, the energy efficiency is being brought up to the current standard with improved heating and cavity wall insulation.

The Trustees are:	Dr. Richard Henderson	Chairman
	Mr. Jonathan Jackson	Treasurer
	Mrs. S W Soilleux	Secretary

6. To invite the public to raise any matters relevant to the parish.

None raised.

Minutes of Lugwardine Annual Parish Meeting

held on Tuesday 30th May 2023 at Bartestree Village Hall, following on from Bartestree Annual Parish Meeting

Present: Cllr Lin Hoppe – Chair of Bartestree with Lugwardine Group Parish Council

In attendance: Mrs Emma Thomas – HALC Clerk Cover
Mr Roy Fullee - Speaker

Public: 30

7. Chair's welcome.

The Chair welcomed everyone to the meeting.

8. Apologies for absence.

None

9. To approve the minutes of the Annual Parish Meeting held on Tuesday 10th May 2022.

The minutes were APPROVED and duly signed by the Chair.

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

The Chair gave the following report:

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11. To receive a report from The Lugwardine Charity

Cllr Wendy Soilleux gave the following report:

The Trustees have met on five occasions during the past year. Revd. Simon J D Tarlton has resigned to take up a new post elsewhere and a new Rector has not yet been appointed.

Eight applications for grants have been made this year and the Trustees have agreed to grants for each of them.

The Trustees are:	Dr. R Henderson	Chairman
	Mr. Jonathan Jackson	Treasurer
	Mrs. S W Soilleux	Secretary

12. To invite the public to raise any matters relevant to the parish.

None raised.

The meetings closed at 7.19pm

Mr Roy Fullee of ARF Highway Services was welcomed and asked to give a presentation on the Draft Highways Aspirational Plan for Bartestree and Lugwardine.

Following the presentation, all those present were encouraged to stay and enjoy a cheese and wine get together.