

**MINUTES OF AN EXTRAORDINARY PARISH COUNCIL MEETING  
HELD ON THURSDAY 17<sup>th</sup> APRIL 2025**

**To consider the application by Worcester Board of Finance Ltd for  
'Permission in Principle for the construction of up to 6 no. dwellings'**

**Present**

Councillor	Mr M Huskinson	Chairman
Councillor	Mr M Simpson	Vice Chairman
Councillor	Revd P Hughes	
Councillor	Mrs M Newport	
Councillor	Mrs A Johnson	
Councillor	Mr D Fellows	
Councillor	Mr A Medcalf	
	Mrs G Hollick	Clerk

**1. Apologies**

There were no apologies for absence

**2. Public Question and Answer**

There were no members of the public present

**3. Code of Conduct and Declarations of Interest**

Parish Councillors were reminded that, as required by the Parish Council Code of Conduct Order 2001, as revised, they should notify the MHDC Monitoring Officer of any changes to their Register of Interests or the receipt of any unrecorded gifts or hospitality. They should also declare any personal or prejudicial interests in any of the items of this meeting.

The Chairman Councillor Huskinson and Councillor Fellows both declared a conflict of interest relating to the item for discussion as both owned property adjacent to the proposed development site.

Both Councillor Huskinson and Councillor Fellows agreed to make their individual representations as residents at the start of the meeting before leaving the proceedings.

**4. The Race Relations and Crime and Disorder Acts**

Parish Councillors were reminded that all the business carried out and decisions made at this meeting must observe the requirements of the above Acts.

**5. Councillor Huskinson addressed the meeting with his concerns about the 'permission in principle' application.**

- a) Rectory Lane is narrow with no footpath and used regularly by walkers accessing the footpaths which lead off from the lane.
- b) Development of the land would obstruct the magnificent views of the hills for both pedestrians and local residents
- c) The land has a historical connection with St Marys church and the adjoining war memorial which must be considered

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- d) The site is not within or adjoining a development boundary but sits within open countryside.
  - e) There are no local facilities making this an unsustainable site.
  - f) Previous applications for ‘permission in principle in this area have been refused as the area is open countryside
6. Councillor Fellows addressed the meeting with his concerns
- a) The area in question is Glebe land and of significant historical interest but this is not mentioned in the planning application
  - b) The field has a history of use as a community asset
  - c) Guarlford is a small village and does not have a development boundary as stated in the planning application
  - d) There has been a lack of information and insufficient time to consult with the local community
7. At this point in the meeting the Clerk asked Vice Chairman Councillor Simpson to take the Chair. Councillor Simpson thanked Councillor Huskinson and Councillor Fellows for their contributions after which they both left the meeting
8. Councillors discussed the planning application in detail and were mindful that they should respond taking into consideration the opinions of the whole local community. Because of the lack of information on the application and short timescale before responses needed to be submitted, Councillors agreed that they had not been able to consult fully with local residents and therefore did not feel that they were in a position to support the application.

Councillor Simpson proposed that Guarlford Parish Council should register an objection to this application and make the following comment to the Planning Department. This was seconded by Councillor Johnson and agreed unanimously.

“Guarlford Parish Council is not opposed to small scale development within the village of Guarlford but feel that to make a decision on this application, the Parish Council would need time to consult local residents. Because this is an “application in principle” it does not give enough information to comment on such a sensitive and prominent site. Furthermore, we question whether Guarlford, being such a small village, has a development boundary as claimed in the application. We understand that access to the site would be across land owned by Malvern Hills Trust, has permission been sought for this? Due to the above reasons we are unable to support this application”

**Signed** ..... **Date**.....  
**Cllr Michael Simpson**  
**Vice Chairman**