

Little Malvern & Welland Parish Council

Minutes of the Parish Council Meeting held on Monday 20th July 2020

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Due to the Covid 19 restrictions this meeting was held online.

Present

Cllrs. Mrs V Nelson (Chair), Miss J Biggs, Mr M Davies, Dr A Davis, Mr P Hancock, Mrs D Jammal, Dr J Mortimer, Mrs M Sumner, Mr M Whaley, Mr J Whitehouse.

In Attendance

County Cllr. Mr T Wells, Mr D Sharp (Clerk) and 5 members of the public.

85/20 Apologies

To consider acceptance of apologies for absence from Councillors: Cllr. Mrs M Purser (accepted).

86/20 Interests

i. Councillors Declarations of Disclosable Pecuniary Interests and Other Disclosable Interests regarding items on the agenda: There were none.

ii. Notification of changes to the register of interests: There were none.

iii. To consider written requests from councillors for the council to grant a dispensation for those with Disclosable Interests to take part in discussions or voting: There were none.

87/20 Planning

i. To consider a response to the following and any late submitted applications:

Application No	At	Details
20/00659/FUL	Elmside Drake Street	Proposed site for holiday accommodation to include 4 No. shepherd's huts, cabin and repositioned mobile home
20/00798/FUL	Old Cider Mill Drake Street	Proposed replacement outbuilding for storage and maintenance of machinery and implements (Retrospective)
20/00799/FUL	Old Cider Mill Drake Street	Proposed repositioning and amended design of holiday cabin (Amendment to 15/01141/FUL) (Retrospective)
20/00622/FUL	Lyndhurst Gloucester Road	Demolition of existing bungalow and erection of 2 no. new dwellings

Cllr. Davies abstained from voting due to his position as District Councillor.

The following decisions were made:

20/00659/FUL - "The Parish Council has no objection to this application."

20/00798/FUL - "The Parish Council has no objection to this application."

20/00799/FUL - "The Parish Council has no objection to this application."

20/00622/FUL - "The Parish Council supports the comments from MHDC Landscape Officer and WCC Highways and has added concerns over the parking arrangements during construction. There should be space for workers vehicles, construction vehicles and delivery vehicles on site so that Gloucester Road does not become obstructed by construction traffic. The objection from the AONB is also noted."

ii. To consider making further written representation to the planning Inspectorate in respect of appeals against planning application ref:19/01345/CLE (Log Cabin At Huntleys, Hancocks Lane) and 20/00290/HP (Myrtle Cottage Drake Street): No further comments were deemed necessary.

88/20 Minutes

To consider for adoption the minutes of the Parish Council meeting held on 15th June: These were accepted as an accurate record and they were signed by the Chairman.

89/20 Progress reports and other matters arising from these minutes

No matters were discussed.

90/20 Reports by District and County Councillors and other Representatives

County Cllr. Tom Wells confirmed that there was a skeleton local bus service at present due to Covid 19. He was also looking into the delay of WCC Highways to adopt both Spring Meadows and St James Green access roads. This was due to certain improvement being necessary prior to handover.

District Cllr. Mick Davies reported that the District Council was undergoing a change in political make up and a full meeting was due on 21st July. The Boundary Commission review had been delayed until 2021 but the SWDP review was continuing although air quality and traffic surveys currently did not provide an accurate picture. MHDC had so far distributed £18M to local businesses for Covid 19 assistance. He urged local organisations to apply for funding from his £500 annual ward budget and he was pleased to see progress on the installation of fibre broadband on Drake Street.

91/20 Committee, Working Party & Other Representative Reports & Recommendations

i. Neighbourhood Planning Working Group:

a. To consider for approval the Local Green Space and Housing Site Appraisal Draft Reports:

These were unanimously approved and the Housing Appraisal was to recommend 22 new homes.

b. To consider application for further funding support: It was agreed to apply for further grant funding of £2,625 to enable the Plan to be submitted to MHDC. It was expected that the Parish Council would have to fund a remaining £1,750.

ii. Communications Working Group: A newsletter outlining the project for the Parish Council to purchase the Pheasant Inn site had been distributed and the feedback from the questionnaire was being collated.

iii. Playing Fields/Open Spaces Working Group:

To confirm appointment of tree surveyor: Mr BJ Unwin's quotation was approved and the Clerk was to arrange a suitable date.

Following central government's decision to allow the reopening of playgrounds on 4th July the Clerk had forwarded a risk assessment which was approved. The playground had been reopened with additional signage and the Clerk was to obtain quotations for sanitising dispensers.

The final house on Spring Meadows was believed to have been sold and the Parish Council's wish to take ownership of the buffer strip with the adjacent SSSI was to be further investigated.

The Clerk was to contact Shotton Landscapes over concerns of poor grass growth on the football pitch.

Dog fouling was becoming a greater issue and new signs were to be sought.

iv. Orchard Working Group: The group was to arrange 'picking days' in the near future.

v. Highways Working Group: The Community Speed Watch Scheme was expected to resume within the next few months. The footways on Giffard Drive were to be resurfaced using a new process and the results were eagerly awaited.

92/20 The Pheasant Inn

A meeting with the Mr George, the current owner, was to take place on 22nd July. He had originally accepted the Parish Council's offer to purchase the site and later withdrew. MHDC had rejected the application for the pub to regain Asset of Community Value status due to the length of its closure. So far 90% of responses to the newsletter questionnaire were in favour of the Parish Council's purchase of the site and clarification of Mr George's position was to be sought at the meeting.

The following resolution was agreed:

The Parish Council's offer to purchase the freehold of the site subject to contract remains on the table for the time being.

The Council's aim is to ensure that the Pheasant is redeveloped to operate as a full service, family orientated public house with all day meeting, dining and drinking, with capacity for a minimum of 50 dining covers and a suite of holiday let accommodation as part of the business offering.

Returns from the recent public consultation indicate strong support for purchase of the freehold and overwhelming enthusiasm for the Council's aim.

93/20 Livestock

To consider methods to reduce the incursion of livestock into the village: A statement from Malvern Hills Trust had been read out at the last meeting and indicated that they were powerless to control animals who were allowed to graze on Castlemorton Common. The installation of cattle grids was not thought to be financially viable and would have to be under control of Worcestershire County Council. Any methods that were proposed in the future were keenly awaited.

94/20 Correspondence

To consider responses to the following correspondence previously circulated:

FROM	* email	SUBJECT
CALC	*	Updates
NALC	*	Chief Executive's Bulletin
WCC	*	Worcestershire Roadworks Report
Misc	*	CORONAVIRUS —Information for Parish & Town Councils
Clerk	*	Building Supply Vehicle Access
Misc	*	Pheasant Inn
Clerk	*	Online Meeting with Welland Primary School
MHDC	*	Pheasant Inn Asset of Community Value
WCC	*	Road Closures
Severn Stoke School of Tae Kwon-Do	* (i)	Use of Playing Field
MHDC	*	Play areas government guidance
MHDC	*	South Worcestershire Development Plan Review Parish and Town Council Newsletter June 2020
MHDC	*	Orchard Storage
MHDC	*	Repair Cafe Venues
Airband	*	Welland East Fibre roll out
BJ Unwin	*	Tree Survey Quotation
Malvern Hills Trust	*	Consultation on land management
Sue Wilks	*(ii)	Grass Cutting

(i) – The request to use the school field had been approved between meetings and was ratified here.

(ii) – The grass cutting schedule for 2022 would be discussed at the September meeting.

95/20 Finance

To consider payment of invoices presented: The following payments were approved:

From/Due To	Date	Amount	Details
J Moore (BACS)	02/07	£236.00	Lengthman Duties (June)
J Moore (BACS)	02/07	£400.00	Welland Court Cemetery
Broadleaf Tree Care (BACS)	01/07	£380.00	Grass Cutting (01/07)
St James Church (BACS)	-	£300.00	Donation (See 16/12/2019)
Northwick Associates (BACS)	24/06	£178.80	Defib. Service
Mark Watling (BACS)	20/07	£120.00	Footpath Strimming
HM Revenue & Customs (BACS)	-	£375.20	PAYE (Apr-Jun)
E Hardman (BACS)	20/07	£104.00	Handyman (£130 Gross)
D Sharp (BACS)	20/07	£396.40	Clerk's Fee (£495.60 – 40 hrs @ SCP 17)
TOTAL		£2,490.40	

Accounts Summary

Reserves Lloyds B/F	£2,976.21		Main Account B/F	£52,063.98
Interest	£0.12	£2,976.33	Unpresented Cheque	£300.00
Fête Account	£1,832.36	£1,832.36	St James Church (2150)	
Buildings Account	£804.47	£804.47	Pavilion Insurance	£441.76
Neighbourhood Plan Ac.	£808.65	£808.65	Cemetery Fee	£160.00
Funding Account	£1,020.33	£1,020.33	Western Power Wayleave	£8.99
			BT Group (DD)	–£319.84
			MHDC Rubbish (DD)	–£59.86
			July Payments	–£2,490.40
Total C/F		£7,442.14	Main Account C/F	£50,104.63

96/20 Any other matters for report or for future consideration

The Chair and Cllr. Sumner were to set interview dates for the Community Facilitator post.

The 'Outdoor Gym' working group was to meet on 24th July.

It was hoped that events would be able to be held in the church in the autumn.

97/20 Date of next meeting

The next Parish Council Meeting was to be held on Monday 17th August 2020 at 7.30pm, venue to be arranged.

There being no further business the meeting concluded at 9.45 pm.