

MALVERN WELLS PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of a Meeting of Malvern Wells Parish Council duly convened and held in The Village Hall, Malvern Wells **on Wednesday 20th March, 2013** commencing at 7.30 pm.

Present

Councillors:

K Wagstaff (Chairman)	
A Hull	Mrs A Bradshaw
J Black	B Knibb
M Victory	Mrs C O' Donnell
S Atwell	S Freeman
P Buchanan	

In attendance: Mr D Taverner (Clerk and Responsible Finance Officer)

Apologies recorded: Cllrs K Hurst, Mrs H Burrage and N Johnson
District Cllrs C Cheeseman, County Cllr S Brown

120/12

To Record a) Disclosable Pecuniary Interests for the Meeting and b) any changes to be notified to the Register of Interests and Gifts & Hospitality

No changes were necessary to the declarations which had previously made.

121/12

Closure of the meeting to allow parishioners the opportunity to speak on any matter on the agenda

No questions or statements from parishioners were received.

122/12

To consider the confirmation of the Minutes of the previous meeting held on 20th February, 2013 as a correct record of the proceedings.

The minutes were approved and signed by the Chairman.

123/12

Matters Arising from the Minutes.

There were no matters arising from the approved minutes.

124/12

Planning Matters

(1) The following applications were received for comment

(a) 13/000148/HOU -1 St Wulstans Drive –proposed additional bay to garages

Members raised no objections to this application

(b) 13/000176/S73 –Wyche Water treatment Works, Lower Wyche Road -Application for variation to condition 2 of planning permission 12/00449/FUL - revised scheme for Change of use of land and erection of booster pumping station

Members raised no objections to this application

(2) **Arrangements for a special meeting to consider application**

13/00283/OUT –outline permission for the development of up to 184 residential dwellings, including some affordable housing with access from Hanley Road and Woodfarm Road

The Clerk advised that a special meeting of the planning committee had been scheduled for Thursday 18th May at the Severn Hall, Three Counties showground. A draft notice for the meeting was circulated for member's approval and arrangements would be made with volunteers to circulate the approved notice to each residence in the Parish.

The developer's agents had been invited to attend the meeting to give a short presentation of their proposals for the development of the site.

The Clerk was maintaining a list of the names of those residents who had indicated their intention to speak at the meeting. Speakers would be limited to three minute time spots in line with the Council's normal planning protocol.

125/12 Application for the siting of a play area on Peachfield Road common

The Clerk and Cllr S Freeman had attended a meeting of the Malvern Hills Conservators Board which had been held on 18th March. The Parish Council (PC) had received a very fair hearing from the Board Members and it was felt that some significant headway towards a more favourable response to the PC application had been achieved.

Conservators Board Members (MHC) had raised the following points during the debate which had followed the Council's presentation:-

- Families that are not as active as some others may not use the Hills, but all children should have the opportunity to appreciate the Hills. A playground would provide the opportunity to develop an interest in nature and the countryside.
- MHC needs to improve its public image and this would be helped if it was possible to create a playground.
- A playground would improve the facilities in the area.
- If a way could be found to permit a playground it would be beneficial to both parties.
- A more informal playground may be more suitable using natural materials similar to a forest classroom.
- Legal advice may need to be sought to see if it is within MHC power to grant a playground.
- The Sheep Pound is unsuitable as it is surrounded by trees, the access is muddy and the bridge would need safety fencing.
- There is no other location in Wells Parish for a new playground. An area with wood and stone that is not fenced could blend in sympathetically to the Common and it should and should not compromise the conservators Acts and by laws
- The costs of seeking legal advice should be underwritten, but it is unlikely that the provision of a playground falls under MHC Acts. Advice would need to be sought
- MHC can sell ¼ acre for a boundary adjustment therefore the land could be sold to the Parish Council.

The Conservators board had resolved to work with the Parish Council to consider a play provision that is appropriate and legal. Only two conservators Board members voted against the proposal.

The Clerk advised that he would be contacting leading play equipment specialists with a view to them providing diagrammatic representations of the type of play equipment that could be installed on the common for presentation to the MHC Board members.

126/12 Gas lamps working group report

The Clerk advised that he was maintain regular contact with Sight Designs to report the occasional faults that were arising with the gas lamps , but the general reliability of the lamps was showing signs of improvement.

Cllr Victory drew attention to gas lamps 27 and 28 Wells Road which currently had no burner mechanisms fitted. The Gas supply to both these lamps had been disconnected by National Grid and representations had been made to get the gas supply reconnected.

The electric lamp at 50 Watery lane had now been repaired and was working normally.

127/12 Actions undertaken since the previous meeting

The Clerk gave a summary of the following actions which had been undertaken since the previous meeting

Jubilee Fountain Fencing – new fencing had now been installed on the Wells Road side of the Garden

It was **proposed** by Cllr Wagstaff and **seconded** by Cllr Victory that quotations should be sought for the completion of the railings to the Grundy's Lane side of the garden. This was **unanimously supported** by the Council.

Assarts Road -Playing field drainage

BHP Ltd The Council's specialist land drainage consultants had identified three companies who were to be approached to carry out a CCTV inspection of the drainage system at the playing field. Quotations from each company would be presented to the Finance and General Purposes Committee for consideration at their meeting on 16th April

128/12 Community events

Coronation Bring and Share Lunch - 2nd June, 2013

The Parish Council has a small budget available to support groups and organisations staging community based functions and events within the parish boundaries.

The Council can only award grants using certain legal powers afforded to it under Section 37 of the 1972 Local Government Act. To be eligible for funding support the organisation applying for the grant has to satisfy the Council that any grant awarded will be of general benefit to Malvern Wells's parishioners

It was agreed that grant awards will be limited to no more than £250 in any one calendar year- to any one organisation, and the overall Community grants budget should be limited to £2,000 for the 2013/14 financial year

It was agreed that the Clerk should draw up a suitable application form to facilitate applications from interested community groups.

A sum of up to £250 would be made available to support the Coronation Celebration event.

Grant applications will be considered by the Parish Council's Finance & General Purposes Committee before being ratified by the full Parish Council.

129/12 Financial matters

(a) The following accounts were approved for payment:-

Cheque number	Payee		Amount £
2981	Malvern Hills District Council	Replacement for cheque 2980 lost in post	379.69
2982	N power	Toilets Electricity March Quarter	29.22
direct	Stopped Cheque fee	re cheque 002980	10.00
2983	Martin Thomas	Cemetery Works Feb/ March	499.62
2984	Paul Stanley Fencing	Jubilee Fountain garden Fence	1,495.22
2985	Worcestershire CALC	Clerks Gathering	10.00
2986	Dyno-Rod	Cemetery Drainage	85.00
2987	Arkell & Hurcombe	Cemetery plaque-Strong	99.00
2988	David Taverner	Salary and Expenses - March, 2013	1,441.85
2989	Steve Maund	Outdoor Works February and March	1,863.26
2990	Citizens Advice Bureau	Donation 2013	1,000.00
2991	HMRC	Tax and National Insurance March Qtr	1,342.56
direct	Nat West Bank	Safe Custody Holding fee	8.90

There being no further business the Chairman closed the meeting at 9.10 pm

Signed.....

Chairman -22nd May, 2013