

MALVERN WELLS PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of the meeting of Malvern Wells Parish Council duly convened and held in The Village Hall, Wells Road, Malvern Wells at 7.30pm on Wednesday 25th September, 2019

Present: Councillors: - Mrs C O'Donnell (Chairman)

B Knibb M Dyde

Ms T O'Donnell J Black

Ms J Baker

Mrs H Burrage

Also, in attendance:

David Taverner (Clerk and Responsible Finance Officer), District Cllr J Gallagher (until 8.50pm)

Ms P Stanier and Geoff Turrell - prospective Parish Council Candidates

Pc Susan Parr (until 8pm)

County Councillor Lucy Hodgson (from 8.30pm)

61/19 Apologies for absence: Councillors J Smethurst, N Chatten, J Wagstaff, K Wagstaff

62/19 Declarations of Interest

Register of Interests: Councillors were reminded of the need to update their register of interests: No changes were noted.

b) To declare any Disclosable Pecuniary Interests in items on the agenda and their nature: There were none.

c) To declare any Other Disclosable Interests in items on the agenda and their nature: None were declared

63/19 **To consider written requests to the Council to Grant a Dispensation to speak on any item on the agenda (S33 of the Localism Act 2011):** There were none

64/19 **Minutes of the Parish Council Meeting held on 31st July, 2019**
The minutes of the Parish Council meeting that was held on 31st July, 2019 had been previously circulated. The minutes were **unanimously approved and adopted** as a correct record of that meeting and were signed as such by the Chairman.

65/19 **Matters arising from the Parish Council minutes of 31st July 2019** - There were none

66/19 **Co- option of new Parish Councillor**

Ms Pam Stanier, who had previously expressed an interest in joining the Parish Council, was in attendance at the meeting. A copy of Ms Stanier's CV had been circulated to all Council Members. Following discussion **Cllr Burrage proposed** that Ms Stanier should be co-opted to serve on the Parish council and this proposal was **then seconded by Cllr Black**. On being put to the vote it was **unanimously resolved** that Pam Stanier should be co-opted to serve as a member of Malvern Wells Parish Council

67/19 Report of PC Susan Parr West Mercia Policing team

PC Parr advised the safer neighbourhood policing team were continuing to undertake initiatives with residents aimed at reducing the already low crime levels in the local area. There had been 6 minor crimes in Malvern Wells during the previous months, mostly related to thefts from garages and outbuildings.

The speed of traffic through the Parish was still causing concerns, especially along the main A449 Wells Road especially with vehicles entering the Parish from the South. Further police speed enforcement activity was being undertaken and the clerk advised he was continuing to liaise on the issue with the Police and the County Council's Highways team on an ongoing

68/19 Reports from Committees and working groups

(a) Report of the Planning Committee held on 11th September, 2019

The Clerk presented the report of the Planning Committee meeting which had been held on 11th September. The report was **noted and adopted** by the Council

(b) Gas lamps working group. There had been no meeting of the group since the previous Parish Council meeting. The Council's contractor, Sight Designs Ltd, had recently completed a cycle of maintenance on the Holywell Road Lamps and were now undertaking similar work on the Wells Road Lamps Design's The Clerk was asked to contact Sight Designs to enquire whether there was any possibility of providing training on the maintenance of the lamps for Steve Maund, the Council's Outdoor contractor.

(c) Neighbourhood plan working group.

The Clerk advised that the working group had met recently to discuss progress on the: -

- Instigation of Housing Needs Survey
- Residents Questionnaire Survey – Analysis Report
- Landscape Sensitivity and Capacity Assessment by Carly Tinkler
- Site Assessments
- Malvern Wells Conservation Area Review
- Local Green Space report
- Neighbourhood Heritage Area Report
- Residential Character area Study Report
- Finance -Balance of Locality Grant and payments due

The draft NDP Plan was on track to be completed by the summer of 2020

(e) Open Spaces Working Group

A further meeting was due to be convened to consider the purchase of new play equipment. An order had been placed with the council's fencing contractor to undertake the realignment of the fencing line at the Assarts Road play area. Decisions would now need to be made by

the working group on the particular new items of play equipment that would be installed.

Work had commenced on for the establishment of a wildflower meadow on a portion of the Assarts Road by the AONB contractors.

The Council's solicitors were working on a letter of instruction which would be sent to the District Council legal department to progress the intention to compulsory purchase of a parcel of land, which is located at Cherry Tree Drive and Mulberry Drive on the Fruitlands Estate in Malvern Wells. The Council is attempting to obtain legal title to the land for the benefit of the community; namely to develop the land into a recreational space and play area for the local population to enjoy.

(f) Events Working Group.

The Summer Fete and Classic Car Show held on 8th September had been blessed with very good weather and had been a tremendous success with a large increase in the number of visitors attending. It was most pleasing to see the prominence given to an article on the fete as published in the Malvern Gazette

The Chairman proposed a vote of thanks to all those who had helped with the event. Particular thanks were given to Ian Burrage in his role as chairman of the fete working group for the pre-planning work and excellent organisation of the occasion. Some 60 classic cars were on display on the day and thanks were also extended to Howard Allen for his work in coordinating the show.

(g) Jubilee Gardeners Working Group Ian Burrage had submitted the following report: -Following the visit by the RHS judge for the In Your Neighbourhood in Bloom the Garden has been awarded a Level 4 Thriving. This is the same level of award as last year although the marks achieved were three points higher. We will need to achieve another four extra points to become Level 5 Outstanding.

The area where there are most marks to be made up is in the section dealing with Community. This section attracts 40% of the total marks and we achieved 31 out of 40. Considerable thought will have to be given as to how this might be achieved. There is some scope in the other two sections to gain improvement, but we only dropped nine marks out of the sixty given. The increase in the marks over the previous year is a reflection of all the hard work to further improve the garden. The judge was particularly impressed with the restoration of water to the Jubilee Fountain. The new path, Wells Road wall and the fencing have all now been brought up to the required standard. The planting has been virtually completed but the working group will be considering how it can be modified to provide even more interest. The WI have continued to provide invaluable support with the maintenance of the planting and, as ever, Steve Maund has made a major contribution with the heavier landscaping and the grass cutting

(h) Communications working group. There had been no meeting of the group since the previous Parish Council meeting

(i) Cemetery Working Group

Clr Burrage advised that a meeting of the working group would need to take place to discuss how best to present the various headstones and artefacts transferred to the Parish Cemetery from Worcester Cathedral and the former St Peters Churchyard

69/19 Financial Matters

(a) The Council formally noted the conclusion of the 2018/19 external Audit which had received an unqualified audit opinion. The interim 2019/20 first half year internal audit was now due to be undertaken

(b) Payment of Accounts. The following accounts were approved for payment: -

REF	Payee	FOR	NET £	VAT £	GROSS £
1499	SEVERN VALLEY MEDICAL	FIRST AID - FETE	60.00		60.00
1500	EVENT HIRE	PINIC BENCHES -FETE	840.00	108.00	948.00
1502	D M TAVERNER	CLERK SALARY AUGUST	1,698.88		1,698.88
1504	STEVE MAUND	OUTDOOR WORK AUGUST	1,716.99		1,716.99
1505	MARTIN THOMAS	OUTDOOR WORK AUGUST & SEPT	406.25		406.25
1506	PRINT PLUS	WELLS NEWS PRINTING & DISTRIBUTION	2,845.00		2,845.00
1507	HOWARD ALLEN	CAR SHOW TROPHIES	80.00		80.00
1508	CAROLYN AYNSWORTH	WELLS NEWS HONORARIUM	150.00		150.00
1509	CHRIS O'DONNELL	PURCHASES FOR TOMBOLA AT FETE	200.00		200.00
1510	STEVE MAUND	OUTDOOR WORK SEPTEMBER	1,171.43	4.12	1,175.55
1511	SUSAN BLACK	MARQUEE HIRE -FETE	50.00		50.00
1512	KIDWELLS SOLICITORS	LEGAL ADVICE-PROPOSED LAND PURCHASE	216.00		216.00
1513	WATER PLUS	CEMETERY WATER METER 1	51.81		51.81
1514	WATER PLUS	CEMETERY WATER METER 2	23.75		23.75
1515	B A WALTON	JUBILEE GARDEN FOUNTAIN	265.00		265.00
1516	BRITISH TELECOM	WI FI VILLAGE HALL JUNE QUARTER	169.00	33.80	202.80
1517	D M TAVERNER	ADMINISTRATION EXPENSES- JUNE QURTER	225.31	32.70	258.01
1518	PRINTED BANNERS AND SIGNS	FETE ADVERTISING	115.00	23.00	138.00
1519	D M TAVERNER	CLERK SALARY SEPTEMBER	1,698.88		1,698.88
1520	SIGHT DESIGNS LTD	GAS LAMPS MAINTENANCE	1,570.50	314.10	1,884.60
1521	CARLY TINKLER	NEIGHBOURHOOD PLAN FETE & JUBILEE GARDEN	5,000.00		5,000.00
1522	IAN BURRAGE	EXPENSES	78.53	7.31	85.84
		TOTALS	18,632.33	523.03	19,155.36

70/19 Chairman’s Correspondence

(a) Funding request – Wells Primary School

A request had been received from Alison Earp – Head teacher of the Wells Primary School for support with improvements to their Early Years reading provision. Following discussion, it **was agreed** that the Council would donate £1k from its community support budget to assist with the scheme. It was also agreed that contact should be made with the Wyche Primary School to ascertain whether they might have any projects which might benefit from a similar level of support

(b) Ultrafast Broadband in Malvern

A letter has been received from Robert Stepniewski, the Manager of Ultra-Fast Broadband provision for Worcestershire County Council.

Robert was requesting help to establish full fibre broadband projects in certain areas throughout Malvern where the current broadband provision is poor. In particular he was looking for contact points Woodfarm Road and Westminster Road. District Cllrs Dyde and Gallagher reported that they were hoping to arrange a meeting with Robert to see what assistance could be given. It was noted that the project would be fully funded by Government Grants. A report on this issue would be presented to the next meeting of the communications Working Group

71/19 Report of County Councillor.

This can be viewed at [Latest County Councillor report](#)

72/19 Report of District Councillor -

This can be viewed at [Latest District Councillor report](#)

There being no further business to transact the Chairman closed the meeting at 9.45 pm.

Minutes approved.....
Chairman
30th October,2019