

## 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 27th November, 2019

Present: Councillors: - Mrs J Smethurst (Chairman) M Dyde  
B Knibb, H Burrage, J Black, G Turrell, N Chatten  
J Baker, K Wagstaff, C O'Donnell, T O'Donnell  
Also, in attendance:  
David Taverner (Clerk and Responsible Finance Officer)  
County Councillor Lucy Hodgson (from 8.15pm)

**85/19 Apologies for absence: Councillors P Stanier, J Wagstaff and H Burrage**

**86/19 Declarations of Interest**  
**Register of Interests: Councillors were reminded of the need to update their register of interests:** Cllr T O' Donnell had still not submitted her declaration of interests form to MHDC and was asked to do so as a matter of urgency. No other changes to the register of Members interests 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** There were none

**87/19 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

**88/19 Minutes of the Parish Council Meeting held on 30<sup>th</sup> October, 2019**

The minutes of the Parish Council meeting that was held on 30<sup>th</sup> October, 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.

**89/19 Matters arising from the Parish Council minutes of 30<sup>th</sup> October, 2019** -There were none

*At this point the Chairman adjourned the meeting to enable a local resident to speak on matters relating to council business. In the ensuing public session: -*

- a) Mr Andy Pitt drew members attention to the Friends of the Earth campaign to see more trees planted in all areas across the Country as part of the attempts to slow down the impact of global warming and deforestation The campaign is championing the role that local Councils can play as landowners and as local planning authorities. The Chairman advised that the Council do what it could to support the scheme, not least through its plans to develop a community orchard as part of the intended community projects that may be incorporated in its emerging

Neighbourhood plan. However, as most land within the Parish was managed by the Malvern Hills Trust and Worcestershire County Council the impact of any related action by the PC would be limited.

- b) In his capacity as Chairman of the Upper Welland Action Group (UWAG) Mr Pitt also raised the possibility of the Council helping to finance the maintenance costs of the Defibrillator which was sited at the Methodist Chapel in Upper Welland. During the ensuing discussion it was pointed out that the Council already had purchased and maintained 3 defibrillators which were located at the Wells School, The Wyche Institute and the McColls shop on the Wells Road

Residents had also been contributing funds for the purchase of a defibrillator to be located at a convenient point on the Fruitlands. When this machine was fully operational it would mean that there would be five separate units available throughout the Parish.

The costs of the maintenance of each unit was estimated at £200 for a new battery every 4 to 5 years and £40 for new defibrillator pads every 2 to 4 years. Thus, on average some £240 per annum per unit.

The units previously purchased by the PC were checked each week by the Council's outdoor contactor to ensure they were functioning properly.

There was some discussion about the potential for a further unit potentially being deployed in the Upper Wyche Area. A plan showing the location of all the defibrillators within the Parish would be included in the next edition of the Wells News.

The costs of maintaining the four existing units, plus the two new units which were being considered, over an estimated 15-year life cycle for the cabinets themselves was estimated at £3,600 (£40\*6units x15 years) at current costs. The Clerk advised that this sum could be financed from the existing open spaces budget and it could be possible for a sixth unit to be deployed if a suitable scheme and location for it came to light. If this was to occur there would then be a total compliment of six public access defibrillator units available throughout the Parish

Following further debate it was proposed by Cllr C O'Donnell that the council support the normal maintenance costs for up to six defibrillator units up to an estimated amount of £240 each year for a period of 15years This proposal was seconded by Cllr Knibb who asked that it should also be made clear that there would be no further finance available to meet the costs of any other new units and the Council's total maintenance contribution should be limited to a maximum of £3,600 over 15 years at current estimated costs.

On being put to the vote it was resolved that the Council should support Cllr O'Donnell's proposal. Cllr K Wagstaff voted against the proposal stating that he believed that a formal maintenance contract should be put out to tender, inviting quotations from suitable contractors to manage the maintenance of the defibrillators throughout the Parish.

*The Chairman then closed the public session and the Parish Council meeting continued*

## **90/19 Reports from Committees and working groups**

### **(a) Planning Committee - 13<sup>th</sup> November, 2019**

The Clerk presented the minutes of the Planning Committee meeting which had been held on 13<sup>th</sup> November. 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 all the Lanterns and had cut back foliage obscuring the light emanating from the lanterns. The Clerk advised that he had spoken to Steve Maund, the Council's outdoor contractor, who would be keen to undertake any training which was available on the maintenance of the lamps. Further discussion, on the possibility of this would be undertaken with Brian Harper of Sight Designs and Charles Porter the MHDC outdoor operations manager.

### **(c) Neighbourhood plan working group.**

Cllr Chatten reported that a draft version of the Neighbourhood Plan (NP) had now been completed. Public Consultation events were now due to be held, on the reports and evidence base supporting the body of the plan, during January and February, at various locations throughout the parish

The consultation documents were also now available to download from the Parish Council's website at [Malvern Wells Parish plan reports](#)

The only site that the PC is currently promoting for development adjoins the Lower part of Woodfarm Road on land owned by the Worcestershire Golf Club. A meeting was due to be held with the Secretary and Directors of the Golf Club to discuss possible mutual aspirations for the site. The Plan remains on track to be completed by the Summer of 2020.

### **(e) Open Spaces Working Group**

Meeting were due to be convened with Play Equipment suppliers consider the type of new play equipment which would be installed at Assarts Road playground now that work was being carried out to extend the play area boundary by the Council's fencing Contractor.

The Clerk had been in touch with Kidwells solicitors asking what progress had been made in their conversations with Meesha Patel of the MHDC legal team regarding the intention to compulsorily 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 to develop the land into a recreational space and play area for the local population to enjoy.

The Clerk was also arranging for a meeting with representatives of RoSPA to take place seek their views on the potential suitability of the site for the uses outlined.

**(f) Events Working Group**

The Remembrance Sunday Service had been well attended and the occasion had been well observed. The next community event being planned was the annual "Sing a Song at Christmas" which was taking place on Friday 13<sup>th</sup> December

The Date for the 2020 Fete and Classic Car Show had been fixed for 6<sup>th</sup> September,2020. A meeting of the working group was due to take place on 14<sup>th</sup> January to consider the initial work on organisation of the event

**(g) Jubilee Gardeners Working Group**

Winter Maintenance works were being undertaken at the garden and the County Council had agreed to undertake repairs which were needed to the uneven footpath leading into the garden from the Wells Road

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

**(i) Cemetery Working Group** There had been no meeting of the group since the previous Parish Council meeting

## 91/19 Financial Matters

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

ref	Payee	for	net	vat	gross
			£	£	£
1543	Martin Thomas	Outdoor Work November	507.00		507.00
1544	Steve Maund	Outdoor Work November	854.00	-	854.00
1545	Carly Tinkler	NDP - Landscape Assessment Phase2	5,000.00	-	5,000.00
1546	County Building Supplies	Cemetery Materials	52.20	10.44	62.64
1547	Kidwells Solicitors	Advice on potential Land purchase	187.00	37.40	224.40
1548	Waterplus	Cemetery Water - Meter 1	8.72	-	8.72
1548	Waterplus	Cemetery Water - Meter 2	17.46	-	17.46
1549	South Worcestershire CAB	Donation	1,000.00	-	1,000.00
1550	British Gas Trading	Gas Lamps Fuel No Parking cones	1,283.88	256.78	1,540.66
1551	Screwfix	(Remembrance Sunday)	87.48	17.49	104.97
1552	Sight Designs Ltd	Gas Lamps Maintenance	1,690.00	338.00	2,028.00
1553	Malvern Hills AONB	Donation	760.00	-	760.00
1554	Print Plus	Wells News - Winter 2019	2,697.00	-	2,697.00
1555	BT Wi fi	November mobile Wi-Fi invoice	12.50	2.50	15.00
1556	D M Taverner	Salary November	1,715.16	-	1,715.16
1557	Carolyn Aynsworth	Wells News - Winter 2019 Honorarium	200.00		200.00
<b>TOTALS</b>			<b>16,072.40</b>	<b>662.61</b>	<b>16,735.01</b>

### 83/19 Report of County Councillor.

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

### 84/19 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 9.15 pm.

Minutes approved 29<sup>th</sup> January 2020..... Chairman