

West Malvern Parish Council

Minutes of the Annual Parish Council Meeting held on Monday 11th May 2020 Online.

Due to Covid 19 restrictions this meeting was held online. The public and local county and district councillors were able to access the meeting if they wished.

Present

Cllrs. Mr W Shearer (Chairman), Mrs C Bower, Mrs J Burford, Mr L Gregory, Mr T White.

In Attendance

District & County Cllr. Prof J Raine, District Cllr. N McVey and Mr D Sharp (Clerk).

55/20 Election of Chairman

Cllr Shearer was elected unanimously and he would complete his 'declaration of acceptance of office' in the presence of the Clerk before the next meeting.

56/20 Apologies

To consider acceptance of apologies for absence from Councillors: Cllr. Mr C Rouse (accepted). Also Mr C Penn (Malvern Hills Trust).

57/20 Interests

i. Councillors Declarations of Disclosable Pecuniary Interests (DPI) and Other Disclosable Interests (ODI) 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.

58/20 Election of officers, committees, working groups and Parish Council representatives:

The following positions were elected:

Vice Chairman – Cllr. Turner

Community Woodland Working Group – Cllrs. Shearer, Gregory, Turner & White

Playing Fields Working Group – Cllrs. Shearer, Turner & White

Tree Wardens – Mr Robert Eyre

Footpaths Warden – Mrs Catherine Campbell's appointment by WCC was noted.

Allotment Wardens – The Chairman, Secretary and Treasurer of the Allotment Association

Allotment Association representatives – Cllr. Shearer

Playground Inspector- Cllr. Turner

Village Hall Representative – Cllr. Burford

59/20 Reports from other representatives

To receive reports from County and District Councillors, Malvern Hills Trust, Tree and Footpaths Wardens and other representatives:

District Cllr. Natalie McVey confirmed that she was now the portfolio holder for Housing, Health and Wellbeing at MHDC and John Raine held Environment. She hoped they would continue in these positions for the next three years. Work was ongoing supporting vulnerable residents during the Covid 19 isolation period.

District & County Cllr. Prof John Raine reported that the local waste and recycling centre at Newland was now open and MHDC had held their first 'virtual' meeting online. He could not answer the query why the cats eyes had been removed from West Malvern Road. Finally, with regards to the Malvern Hills Trust, the current Covid 19 restrictions had delayed the government's response to the request for changes to the Trust's governance.

60/20 Minutes

To consider for adoption the minutes of the last Parish Council meeting: The minutes of the meeting held on 6th April were approved and signed by the Chairman.

61/20 Progress Reports and other matters arising from the minutes

No matters were discussed.

62/20 Planning

To consider responses to following and any late submitted applications:

Application No	From	Details
20/00396/HP	Grevis Cottage Lower Dingle	Single storey extension to form bedroom and bathroom.
20/00445/HP	2 Noble View West Malvern Road	Extending the small existing balcony, add garden decking and external steps for garden access, replace a window with bifold doors.

The following response was agreed for both applications: 'The Parish Council has no objection to the application.'

63/20 Playing Fields

The Clerk reported that the grass had been cut and there was no evidence that the public had accessed the playground area. He was to check the gate leading to the community woodland for damage. The bluebell field was in full bloom.

64/20 Allotments & Community Woodland

The Clerk reported that the allotments were being well used during the current restrictions. A skip had been delivered last week for plot holders but had been used by members of the general public as well probably due to the closure of the waste and recycling site in Newland.

65/20 Highways & Footpaths

No matters were discussed.

66/20 Emergency Measures

To review the current situation and consider any further actions necessary concerning the current Covid 19 pandemic: It was noted that the Elim shop was arranging deliveries to at risk residents and food parcels had been delivered to those who had registered. Malvern Hills Trust car parks were to open from Wednesday.

67/20 Finance

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

From/Due to	Date	Amount	Details
British Gas Trading Ltd.	09/04	£674.04	Gas Supply (Gas Lamps)
Zurich Municipal	24/04	£1,282.17	Allotment Water
Go Greener	06/05	£216.00	Allotment Skip Hire
DA Sharp	11/05	£346.85	Clerk's Fees 35hrs(Gross £433.65 SP25)
Total		£2,519.06	

After these payments are made bank balances will be as follows:

Savings Account B/F	£14,544.49	Community Account B/F	£15,440.85
		Allotment Rents	£35.00
		MHDC Precept	£8,700.00
		May Payments	-£2,519.06
Savings Account C/F	£14,544.49	Community Account C/F	£21,656.79

ii. To confirm appointment of internal auditor: Mr Steve Tustin was duly appointed.

68/20 Correspondence

To consider the following correspondence previously circulated:

FROM	* email	SUBJECT
Misc	*	Covid 19 Information and advice
MHDC	*	Victim Support advice on Scammers and Domestic Abuse
WCC	*	Applications Invited for an Independent Lay Member of the West Mercia Police and Crime Panel

69/20 Councillors' items for Report

It was noted that the 'rough sleeper' had been moved from the terminus, hopefully into permanent accommodation. It was agreed that Bob Burford should resume his 'handyman' duties when he felt safe and able to do so.

70/20 Next Meeting

The next Parish Council Meeting will be held on Monday 8th June 2020 Online at 7.30pm.

There being no further business the meeting closed at 8.20 pm.