

# West Malvern Parish Council

## Minutes of the Parish Council Meeting held on Monday 13<sup>th</sup> July 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 A Turner (Vice Chair), Mrs C Bower, Mrs J Burford, Mr L Gregory, Mr T White.

### In Attendance

District Cllr. N McVey and Mr D Sharp (Clerk).

### 99/20 Election of Chairman and Vice Chairman

Cllr. Turner was elected as Chairman, and was to complete his acceptance of office when able.

Cllr. Gregory was elected Vice Chairman.

### 100/20 Apologies

**To consider acceptance of apologies for absence from Councillors:** Cllr. Mr C Rouse (accepted). Also District & County Cllr. Prof J Raine, Mr C Penn (Malvern Hills Trust).

### 101/20 Interests

**i. Councillors Declarations of Disclosable Pecuniary Interests (DPI) and Other Disclosable Interests (ODI) regarding items on the agenda:** Cllr. White declared an interest in planning application 20/01000/FUL (Brewers Arms) since he had already submitted a personal response.

**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.

### 102/20 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** reported on the recent increase in Covid cases throughout the district. As a result visits by relatives to care homes and nursing homes had been suspended.

She commented that the recently submitted planning application for Adelaide House was likely to be considered by Southern Planning Committee.

Finally she mentioned that Cllr. John Raine had recently conducted a Facebook Live discussion on MHDC's plan to become carbon neutral and she was to hold one in October dealing with Health.

Finally the consultation on proposed changes to the planning system was to end next month.

The Chairman was to write to Charles Penn (Malvern Hills Trust) regarding the lack of social distancing being shown at water spouts around the Hills.

### 103/20 Minutes

**To consider for adoption the minutes of the last Parish Council meeting:** The minutes of the meeting held on 13<sup>th</sup> July were approved and would be signed by the Chairman.

### 104/20 Progress Reports and other matters arising from the minutes

No matters were discussed.

### 105/20 Planning

**To consider responses to the following applications:**

| Application No               | Location                          | Details   |
|------------------------------|-----------------------------------|---|
| <a href="#">20/01054/HP</a>  | Garden Cottage<br>Montpelier Road | Proposed garage/workshop with new vehicular access and associated works                                       |
| <a href="#">20/01000/FUL</a> | Brewers Arms<br>Lower Dingle      | Refurbishment of existing terrace with decking board, new decking areas and garden terracing (retrospective). |

Both Cllrs. Gregory and White abstained from discussions or voting on application 20/01000/FUL.

The following responses were agreed:

**20/01000/FUL** - "The Parish Council wishes to express its support for the current landlord of the Brewers Arms in his efforts to improve the external facilities of the pub, particularly in these challenging times, when outdoor space will be required to be better utilised to guarantee financial viability. We understand the concerns of some neighbouring properties regarding noise but we hope that these can be addressed by any additional screening that planning officers may deem suitable or the imposition of planning conditions that might restrict the times that these new outdoor spaces can be used. "

**20/01054/HP** - "The Parish Council has no objection to the application."

### 106/20 Playing Fields

**Update on playground quotation:** The Clerk had met with a supplier who had inspected the site and was to provide plans and a quotation for an upgrade. This would also address the deficiencies outlined in the playground safety report

Cllr. Turner was to gain further input from school parents and finalise costings for the possible creation of an off-road bike track.

The Clerk had recently distributed the tree inspector's report and items for attention were to be identified.

### 107/20 Allotments & Community Woodland

No matters were discussed.

### 108/20 Highways & Footpaths

**To consider rejoining the Parish Lengthman scheme:** Correspondence from a resident concerning blocked gullies on Park Road was considered but it was agreed not to rejoin the scheme at this time. Clearing particular gullies on a monthly basis was not considered an effective method to solve the problem. WCC were to be encouraged to install effective drainage and MHDC were to be encouraged to clear detritus from the gutters before any blockage occurred.

### 109/20 Finance

**i. To review the hourly rate for the Village Handyman:** This was agreed at £12 per hour for 2 hours per week.

**ii. To confirm Clerk's pay scale:** The statutory increase was noted in Scale Point 17 from £433.65 to £444.15 monthly, backdated to April 2020.

#### **iii. To consider payment of invoices presented**

The following payments were made in August between meetings and were ratified:

| From/Due to          | Date         | Amount         | Details                                 |
|----------------------|--------------|----------------|---|
| Malvern Town Council | 30/06        | £378.00        | Grass Cutting/Rubbish Collection        |
| DA Sharp             | -            | £346.85        | Clerk's Fees 35hrs (Gross £433.65 SP17) |
|                      | <b>Total</b> | <b>£724.85</b> |   |

The following payments were approved:

| From/Due to | Date         | Amount           | Details   |
|-------------|--------------|------------------|---|
| Bob Burford | -            | £290.78          | Village Handyman (Jul/Aug) + Insurance                              |
| Water Plus  | 03/09        | £57.12           | Allotment Water Charges   |
| BJ Unwin    | 14/09        | £420.00          | Tree Survey   |
| DA Sharp    | 13/07        | £397.45          | Clerk's Fees 35hrs (Gross £444.15 SP17 + £52.50 backdated to April) |
|             | <b>Total</b> | <b>£1,165.35</b> |   |

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

|                            |                   |
|----------------------------|-------------------|
| <b>Savings Account B/F</b> | <b>£14,549.40</b> |
|                            |                   |
|                            |                   |
|                            |                   |
| <b>Savings Account C/F</b> | <b>£14,549.40</b> |

|                              |                   |
|------------------------------|-------------------|
| <b>Community Account B/F</b> | <b>£19,461.38</b> |
|                              |                   |
| August Payments              | -£724.85          |
| September Payments           | -£1,165.35        |
|                              |                   |
| <b>Community Account C/F</b> | <b>£17,571.18</b> |

**110/20 Correspondence****To consider the following correspondence previously circulated:**

| <b>FROM</b>         | <b>* email</b> | <b>SUBJECT</b>   |
|---------------------|----------------|--|
| Misc                | *              | Covid 19 Information and advice                                |
| Malvern Hills Trust | *              | Consultation on land management                                |
| CALC                | *              | Councillor Training  |
| MHDC                | *              | Rural Housing Awareness  |
| SWDP                | *              | Parish and Town Council Newsletter July 2020                   |
| Jasmine Sheringham  | *(i)           | Zumba at West Malvern playing fields                           |
| WCC                 | *              | Crowdfund Worcestershire Funding Opportunity                   |
| CPRE                | *              | Planning system shake-up                                       |
| WCC                 | *              | Parish Winter Newsletter                                       |
| MHDC                | *              | Briefing Note on the Planning Reforms Consultations            |
| Simon Thompson      | *              | Street Drainage blockages - Park Road and Blackheath Way       |
| SWDP                | *              | Parish and Town Council Briefing, 7 October 2020 6:00pm-7:30pm |
|                     | *              | Malvern Hills AONB Partnership - Annual review 2019/20         |
| BJ Unwin            | *              | Tree Report  |
| CPRE                |                | Countryside Voices   |

(i) – A request to hold zumba sessions on the playing fields was approved.

**111/20 Councillors' items for Report**

Nothing further was discussed.

**112/20 Next Meeting**

The next Parish Council Meeting will be held on Monday 12<sup>th</sup> October 2020 7.30pm. Venue to be arranged.

There being no further business the meeting closed at 9.00 pm.