

West Malvern Parish Council

Minutes of the Parish Council Meeting held on Monday 12th July 2021 in West Malvern Village Hall at 8:00pm.

Present

Cllrs. Mr L Gregory (Chairman), Ms C Baxter, Mrs J Burford, Mr C Rouse.

In the absence of the parish council chairman, the vice chairman, Mr Gregory chaired the meeting.

In Attendance

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

81/21 Apologies

To consider acceptance of apologies for absence from Councillors: Cllrs. A Turner & Mr T White (accepted).

82/21 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: Cllr. Baxter notified the meeting that she had ceased her employment and was to amend the register.

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.

83/21 Reports from other representatives

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

District & County Cllr. Natalie McVey reported that there had been no WCC meeting since the last PC meeting. There was a further road closure planned for one day later in the month. She was liaising with a resident who had suffered flooding from a blocked drainage pipe leading from West Malvern Road to DeWalden Road. Also with Madresfield estate over the cutting of the hedge on Old Hollow which would be done after bird nesting in September. Road safety and vehicle speeding were to be addressed by the new council and increases in funding for cases of sexual abuse were to be sought.

District Cllr. Prof John Raine reported that a meeting had been arranged between the MHDC housing department and the owner of the derelict house on Nabs Pitch. Work on the SWDPR was progressing and it was expected that the allocation for the Cales Farm site would be reduced from 400 to 200 houses. There had been several complaints from residents about the noise from holiday let properties. The enforcement order against the Brewers Arms was ongoing and it was expected that another planning application would be received soon. Finally he reported that it was the 150th anniversary of St James's church, West Malvern.

84/21 Minutes

To consider for adoption the minutes of the last Parish Council meeting: The minutes of the meeting held on 14th June were approved and were signed by the Chairman.

85/21 Progress Reports and other matters arising from the minutes

The Clerk reported on the meeting with David Clarke from MHDC, regarding Neighbourhood Development Plans. There were certain policies that could be included in a Plan for West Malvern which dealt with redevelopment rather than new development and Cllr. Turner was to investigate further.

It was noted that one property on the Lamb Inn site was now occupied and it had become evident that MHDC were unable to rectify the unkempt and unfinished state of the rest of the site through enforcement action.

86/21 Planning

i. To consider responses to the following and any late submitted applications:

Application No	Location	Details
21/00562/HP	237 West Malvern Road	Extension and alterations to existing house. Extension and remodelling of existing ancillary accommodation. Associated landscaping works.

The following response was agreed: "The Parish Council has a number of concerns regarding this application.

1. We believe that the boundary of the property is under dispute and would like clarification.
2. The proposal is for a 5 bed house and a 2 bed cottage, yet there would only appear to be 2 usable off road parking spaces. If the space to the side of the house was used this would block access to the cottage.
3. We have concerns over the neighbouring property being overlooked from the cottage."

The following late application was also considered:

Application No	Location	Details
21/00607/HP	Priors Hill, Blackheath Way	Proposed house remodelling including internal and external alterations

The following response was agreed: "The Parish Council has no objection to the application."

87/21 Playing Fields and Open Spaces

Update on Playground Improvements: A revised quotation and layout was still awaited.

The 4 way springer had broken and replacement parts were to be sourced.

It was agreed that the permissive path across the bluebell field should be strimmed to aid access. Clerk to contact Madresfield Estate for permission.

88/21 Allotments & Community Woodland

The new allotment fence had been installed and thanks were paid to Bob Burford and Cllr. Rouse for their help.

89/21 Highways & Footpaths

It was reported that there was an ongoing dispute between WCC Highways and a resident on De Walden Road over the maintenance of an underground drainage channel leading from West Malvern Road to De Walden Road.

There were also on going issues regarding overgrown trees and grass cutting schedules.

90/21 Finance

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

From/Due to	Date	Amount	Details
J Burford	30/06	£132.00	Village Handyman (June)
Antram UK Ltd	21/06	£60.00	Internal Audit Fees
Malvern Town Council	25/06	£474.00	Grass Cuttings & Bins
AJ Gammond	10/06	£13.06	Tap Connector (Allotments)
B&Q	-	£7.50	Tap (Allotments)
JMart	16/06	£27.96	4 x Metal Fence Post Braces
B&Q	19/05	£20.00	Telephone Box Paint
HM Revenue & Customs	-	£266.40	PAYE (Apr-Jun)
DA Sharp	12/07	£355.35	Clerk's Fees 35hrs (Gross £444.15 SP17)
PJ O'Boyle	05/07	£180.00	Allotment Fence Stakes Installation
	Total	£1,536.27	

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

Savings Account B/F	£14,550.50	Community Account B/F	£18,357.96
Interest	£0.36	Allotment Rent	£15.50
		July Payments	-£1,536.27
Savings Account C/F	£14,550.86	Community Account C/F	£16,837.19

It was further agreed that Cllr. Baxter should be a signatory to the account and the Clerk be able to view the accounts online but not to authorise payments from the accounts, other than internal transfers.

91/21 Correspondence

To consider the following correspondence previously circulated:

FROM	* email	SUBJECT
Clerk	*	Neighbourhood Development Plan
Resident	*	Noise from let property
West Mercia Police	*	South Worcestershire Rural Parish Council Contact Contracts
WCC	*	Update on Minerals Local Plan and Mineral Site Allocations Development Plan Document
AONB	*	Small grants available

92/21 Councillors' items for Report

It was noted that a property on West Malvern Road was in a poor state of repair and the Clerk was to write enquiring whether a refurbishment was planned.

93/21 Next Meeting

The next Parish Council Meeting will be held on Monday 13th September 2021 in the main village hall commencing at 8:00pm.

There being no further business the meeting closed at 9:30 pm.