

CASTLEMORTON PARISH COUNCIL
Draft Minutes of Meeting of Castlemorton Parish Council held on
Thursday 7 July 2022 at 7.00 pm in the Parish Hall.

Present: Cllrs: Jeremy Hubbard (Chairman), David Smallwood, Hilary Flanders, Barbara Wilkes, Mike Wilkinson and Dawn Fisher.

In Attendance: Mrs C Leake (Clerk) and DCllr Mick Davies

Members of the Public: 1

Public Comments: Welcome to Dr Rosemary Powell, seeking co-option as a parish councillor.

43/22 Apologies: Accepted from Cllrs: Lupton and Baker and CCllr Wells

44/22 Declarations of interests

1. *Register of Interests. No updates.*
2. *To declare any Disclosable Pecuniary Interests (DPI) and/or Other Disclosable Interests (ODI) in items on the agenda and their nature. None*
3. *To consider written requests from councillors for the council to grant a dispensation (S33 of the Localism Act 2011). None*

45/22 Minutes of the Previous Meeting

It was **RESOLVED** that the draft minutes of the meeting of **12 May 2022** were a true record of the meeting and were signed and the following matters noted:

- **Ref:34/22** Confirmation of Cllr Wilkinson's appointment as CALC Parish/Town Council representative on the Joint Advisory Committee of the Malvern Hills Area of Outstanding Natural Beauty (AONB). First meeting post induction will be November.

46/22 County & District Councillor's Report

DCllr M Davies provided a report including

- Delays continue in timetable for production of SWDPR but best effort under way to ensure what is published is achievable. However further speculative planning applications continue to be received by MHDC.
- The updated levelling up grant bid for the proposed theatre upgrade has now been positively received in it's initial stages which is encouraging.
- Review of taxi licensing.
- MHDC Councillors have rejected a recent proposal to increase their basic allowance.
- The management of Council Tax and Benefits will return 'in house' as present Pershore company not renewing its contract with MHDC. It is also noted that there is presently an ongoing essential upgrade to the system during July which will affect services.
- Hopeful of a decision on The Pheasant in Welland planning application at the September MHDC planning committee meeting.
- Boundary Commission (BC) Review. Based upon comments received from the first draft proposals by the BC (Ref Minute 18/22) there are further proposals which include another consideration for the present Morton Ward. Discussion ensued:

Latest BC recommendation – **Combine the present Morton Ward** (Castlemorton, Birtsmorton, Welland) **with Little Malvern and Upper Welland** and **with present Longdon Ward** (Longdon, Bushley, Queenhill with Holdfast, Berrow, Pendock and Eldersfield). A new larger 2 councillor ward Welland & Longdon.

This was not considered a satisfactory proposal for a rural area. The DCllr is intending to respond with his own considerations but was keen to learn the thoughts of those present.

DCllr's proposal:

- **Combine Castlemorton with Welland, Little Malvern and Upper Welland**
- **Combine Birtsmorton with present Longdon Ward**

Therefore 2 single councillor wards and somewhere in line with guideline average voter per council member number.

Parish Councillors principally keen for the parish of Castlemorton to remain a part of a single councillor ward within a rural area and request that the **recommendation be reverted to that previously advised, Castlemorton combines with the Longdon ward.**

As such it was **agreed** with a majority vote that a suitably worded response would be returned to the Boundary Commission.

47/22 Adoption of updated Code of Conduct

Last year, the Local Government Association (LGA) produced a model code of conduct and encouraged all local authorities to consider adoption of the model code with or without alteration. The code has now been adopted by Malvern Hills District Council with a recommendation that all Parish and Town Councils within the district be encouraged to also adopt the same.

Castlemorton Parish Council agreed to adopt the Model Councillor Code of Conduct 2020.

48/22. Finance Report

- Annual Return** - Submission of AGAR Part 3 to external auditor acknowledged
- Finance Report: updated since last meeting.**

	£	£	
Balance: 12 May 22		5202.56	
Add Income			
Total	0.00		
Less Expenditure pre meeting			
	0.00		
Less Expenditure at meeting	82.50 630.98		Lengthsman May Clerk April/May/June 2022 SCP10
Total	713.48		
Balance at close of meeting 7 July 2022		4489.08	

Insurance: Minute 36/22 Based upon conversations with a local valuer clerk has suggested that a further valuation be sought. Quotations to conduct the task will be sought.

Defibrillator: A very successful Heartstart training session held recently at the hall involving councillors and parishioners. Consideration to potential funding for an approximate cost of £2000 for kit and installation. Sources for potential funding to date include: Forthcoming Shindig, acknowledged support from DCllr. Ward funds and private donation. Further funds to be sought from CCllr ward funds and Castlemorton Charities. The recent training session had highlighted the importance of close availability of a defibrillator in the event of a need. Therefore consideration was given to the potential for a number of defibrillators with sites suggested as Hall, School and local pub. This would influence the way forward in seeking funds.

49/22 Highway

In addition to Cllr Smallwood's report, particular mention of

- Recent photographs indicate stone still in situ along Druggers End. A request has been sent seeking removal by September 2022.

- **'Triangle' at New Road.** The Trust has had a site meeting with WCC and a scheme of work is to be draw up, which will go out to local consultation. Before any work is done, Severn Trent intend to replace the whole length of water main on that side of New Road, which passes under the triangle.
- Forthcoming repairs to kerbing on pavement parallel to Church wall and will involve road closures.
- **East end of New Road.** In Spring 2021 the County Council grass verge was covered in hardcore as part of the resurfacing of the drive of the last east end property. It was understood this encroachment could be rectified following discussion between home owner and MHDC planning as regards type of stone to use on the drive crossing verge. No communication to date and the parish council's concern is the hardcore on the length of the grass verge and seeks reinstatement of this grass. The matter will be followed up with WCC to proceed with enforcement re the encroachment.

50/22 Footpaths

Bannut Tree Track PRow project. Land ownerships along track established so onto next stage. Inform the County Council the parish wishes to apply for PRow status along this track. Supporting evidence from track users required and the necessary forms for completion will be prepared.

51/22 Planning

Report of planning applications **received/decided** since last meeting was noted

21/01804/FUL	Strawbyn Hancocks Lane Welland WR13 6LG	Pending Decision	
M/22/00073/FUL	Church Farm Church Road Castlemorton Malvern WR13 6BQ	Approved	
M/22/00544/LB	Church Farm Church Road Castlemorton Malvern WR13 6BQ	Approved	
21/01869/FUL	Land At (Os 7865 3821) Castlemorton	Pending Decision	
21/02315/FUL	New House Farm Castlemorton Malvern WR13 6BJ	Pending Decision	
M/22/00133/CLPU	Kingswear Castlemorton Common Castlemorton Malvern WR13 6LH	Certified	
M/22/00416/HP	The Old Vicarage Church Road Castlemorton Malvern WR13 6BQ	Replace existing sash windows with like for like timber framed replacements. Three first floor 8 pane windows to be replaced by 2 pane windows as other existing original windows	Approved
M/22/00544/LB	Church Farm Church Road Castlemorton Malvern WR13 6BQ	Demolition of agricultural buildings. Change of use from agricultural land to garden land and erection of a greenhouse.	Approved
M/22/00533/NMA	Bank Cottage Hollybush Ledbury HR8 1ET	Non-material amendment to application 21/00571/HP for extension to first floor. Replacement of garage roof with balcony. Replacement tiles to roof - to add 4 no. rooflights to new extension roof.	Approved
M/22/00608/OUT	Land at (OS 7944 3958) Gloucester Road Welland	Residential development comprising up to 56 dwellings and associated infrastructure	Pending Decision
M/22/00607/HP	Old School House Castlemorton Malvern WR13 6BG	Demolition of small single storey extension and replacement single storey extension	Pending Decision

M/22/00583/FUL	The Old Dairy Church Road Castlemorton Worcestershire WR13 6BQ	Proposed Agricultural Storage Building, for the storage of mower and other materials required for maintenance	Pending Decision
M/22/00758/HP	Bakehouse Farm Morton Green Welland Malvern WR13 6LR	Extension to existing house	Pending Decision
M/22/00826/FUL	Walnut Tree Cottage Castlemorton Malvern WR13 6BS	Amended design of building previously constructed following approval of planning application 07/01038/FUL	Pending Decision
M/22/00793/HP	The Barn Little Welland Farm Castlemorton Malvern WR13 6BN	Ground floor side and rear conservatory.	Pending Decision

M/22/00607/HP: A site meeting had taken place with applicant who was going to consider revisiting his plans with the architect. The Parish Council had previously opposed this application *'on the basis that the design is inappropriate in the historic setting and contrary to SWDP policies 6 and 24 because the house is within the Castlemorton Conservation Area and within the setting of the grade 1 listed church.'*

M/22/00826/FUL: Discussions ensued as to how to respond to this application with advice previously sought from planning officer.

- The application will be considered as a modification to previous application.
- The fact it is no longer a business will not carry weight in the deliberations.
- All comments said clearly will be assessed as to whether appropriate or not.
- Within the discussions it was acknowledged that it was not the task of the Parish Council to discuss an ultimate end but the information presented for consideration now. The present building is bigger than what was originally permitted.
- It is likely to be determined at a future southern area planning committee meeting with the suggestion of a prior site meeting.
- It was **agreed** that the ongoing considerations already expressed for this complex application would be summarised by Cllr Smallwood for the clerk to then deliberate and edit for councillors to view for final decision on submission to MHDC

M/22/00608/OUT Land at (OS 7944 3958) Gloucester Road Welland Residential development comprising up to 56 dwellings and associated infrastructure. The Parish Council has commented on this neighbouring application with reasons for objection.

Councillor with delegated Planning Responsibility: Following resignation of Mr Fryman it was agreed Cllr Lupton would take on this responsibility.

52/22 Parish Hall and Parish Hall Trust

No update available this evening.

53/22 Castlemorton Environmental Action Group

The group progresses well with enthusiasm, a programme of activity and new ideas to explore

54/22 Correspondence

Particular mention of:

- CALC/NALC Updates Log in details. New website.
- SNT – Neighbourhood Watch updates. Request for updates to local police charter.
- Lakefest Concert at Eastnor.

55/22 Meetings

- Follow up to Clerk attending recent MHDC forum highlighting Asset Based Community Development in thinking about own community.
- Clerk attended CALC Malvern Hills area committee meeting with presentation by Natural Networks.

56/22 Parish Council Vacancy and Co-Option

One interested candidate Dr Rosemary Powell. Councillors **RESOLVED** to co-opt Dr Powell and declaration of office completed.

57/22. Next Meetings

RESOLVED that the next meeting will be Thursday 8 September 2022

3 November 2022, 5 January 2023, 9 March 2023, 11 May 2023 (Annuals & Election Year)

Meeting concluded at 9.15pm

Signed Date.....