

West Malvern Parish Council

Minutes of the Annual Parish Council Meeting held on Monday 22nd May 2023 in West Malvern Village Hall at 7:30pm.

Present

Cllrs. Mr A Turner (Chair), Ms C Baxter, Mrs J Burford, Mr C Rouse, Mr S Sanoon.

In Attendance

District & County Cllr. N McVey, District Cllr. Prof. J Raine, Mr D Sharp (Clerk) and two members of the public.

Prior to the start of the meeting councillors completed their 'declaration of acceptance of office' following the local elections held on May 4th.

56/23 Election of Chairman

Cllr Turner was elected unanimously and duly completed his 'declaration of acceptance of office'.

57/23 Public participation

The Council invites local residents attending the meeting to make comments and suggestions, and question the Parish Council on issues on the agenda, or raise issues for future consideration: No matters were discussed.

58/23 Co-option

To consider applicants for co-option onto the Parish Council: No applications had been received.

59/23 Apologies

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

60/23 Interests

i. Councillors Declarations of Disclosable Pecuniary Interests (DPI) and Other Disclosable Interests (ODI) regarding items on the agenda: Cllr. Turner declared an ODI on an item of correspondence from St James Primary School requesting grant funding, since his wife was a governor of the school.

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: Cllr. Turner was granted a dispensation to discuss but not vote on the issue of grant funding to St James Primary School. This would last until the next ordinary election.

61/23 Election of officers, committees, working groups and Parish Council representatives:

The following positions were elected:

Vice Chairman – Cllr. Rouse **Community Woodland Working Group** – Cllrs. Turner, Baxter & Sanoon

Playing Fields Working Group – Cllrs. Turner, Baxter & Sanoon **Tree Warden** – Mr Robert Eyre

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

Allotment Association representative – Cllr. Turner **Playground Inspector-** Cllr. Baxter

Village Hall Representative – Cllr. Burford

62/23 Reports from other representatives

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

District & County Cllr. Natalie McVey and District Cllr. Prof. John Raine reported that the newly elected District Council's first meeting was to be held on 23rd May where the future of Malvern Hills College would be discussed along with new energy efficiency requirements for rental properties. Cllr. Raine had been allocated the environment portfolio and Cllr. McVey housing and health. As for Worcestershire County Council she was pleased that the closure of Old Hollow was not affecting West Malvern Road, there was a new initiative to encourage children to walk and cycle to school. Finally she confirmed that she would be using part of her ward budget to fund the primary school's replacement windows.

63/23 Minutes

To consider for adoption the minutes of the last Parish Council meeting: The minutes of the meeting held on 3rd April were approved and were signed by the Chairman.

64/22 Planning

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

Application No	From	Details
M/23/00336/HP	Vernon Lodge Harcourt Road	Single storey rear extension with roof terrace to replace existing conservatory. Balcony railing removed and replacement window at Second floor glazed door. Replace existing windows at Kitchen with new glazed doors.

Following further consideration of this application after last month's meeting it had been agreed to amend the parish council's response to:

“After further consideration of the proposed extension the Parish Council think that it is too obtrusive and would be detrimental to the neighbouring properties. The proposed extension substantially over looks the next door property to a significant amount, impinging on their privacy. The Council does not object to the replacement of the conservatory but the placement of a roof terrace on the top. Given the height and sloping away of the ground from the property it would be difficult to screen to lessen the impact.”

65/23 Playing Fields and Open Spaces

Update on playground improvements: It was agreed that the current climbing frame be painted and new shackles put on swing frames. An application for funding through the Severn Trent Community Fund was to be explored.

66/23 Allotments & Community Woodland

The Clerk was to report a storm damaged tree in the ‘Bluebell’ field to Madresfield Estate. The permissive path was to be cut towards the end of June.

67/23 Highways & Footpaths

No matters were discussed.

68/23 Finance

The following payment was made between meetings and requires ratification:

From/Due To	Date	Amount		Details
Malvern Town Council	-	£156.00	BT	Grass Cutting / Waste Removal

The following payments require approval:

From/Due to	Date	Amount		Details
JR Burford	30/04	£112.00	CH	Village Handyman (April)
British Gas	12/04	£674.04	BT	Gas Lamp Supply
NetWise Training Limited	17/02	£468.00	BT	Website Hosting
Zurich Insurance	01/06	£1,407.70	BT	Annual Insurance Premium
DA Sharp	-	£100.00	BT	2 nd ½ Expenses 2022/23
DA Sharp	22/05	£390.65	BT	Clerk's Fees (Gross £488.25 SP17)
Total		£3,152.39		

BT – Bank Transfer

CH - Cheque

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

Savings Account B/F	£14,589.83	Community Account B/F	£10,195.07
Interest	£68.47	Allotment Rents	£580.70
Credit	£83.80	MHDC Precept	£8,874.00
		Malvern Town Council	-£156.00
		Bank Charges	-£18.00
		May Payments	-£3,152.39
Savings Account C/F	£14,742.10	Community Account C/F	£16,323.38

69/23 Correspondence

i. To consider the following correspondence previously circulated:

FROM	SUBJECT
MHDC Clerk	April/May Malvern Hills Business e-Bulletin
WCC	Memorial Bench
Brewers Arms	Road Closure – Old Hollow – 29/05 – 5 Days
Misc	Notice Board
Boundary Commission	West Fete 02/09
St James C of E Primary School	Division Boundaries for Worcestershire
Malvern Hills AONB	Request for donation for windows (i)
Clerk	Annual Review 2022/23
	Allotment Path

(i) – The school were to be invited to send a representative to the next meeting to clarify why new windows were needed and what funding the Diocese and Worcestershire County Council were supplying.

77/22 Councillors' items for Report

The shoe bank at the spout on West Malvern Road was overflowing. Clerk to contact supplier.

78/22 Next Meeting

The next Parish Council Meeting will be held on Monday 12th June 2023 in West Malvern Village Hall commencing at 7:30pm.

There being no further business the meeting closed at 9:05 pm.