

West Malvern Parish Council

Minutes of the Parish Council Meeting held on Monday 11th September 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 and Mr D Sharp (Clerk).

96/23 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.

97/23 Apologies

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

98/23 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.

99/23 Reports from other representatives

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

District Cllrs. Natalie McVey and Prof. John Raine had little to report from MHDC as there had only been one full council meeting, however they were enthusiastic about a recent music festival held at The Cube in Great Malvern.

County Cllr. Natalie McVey reported that some of the footways on West Malvern Road had been resurfaced and that DeWalden Road itself was to be resurfaced on 2nd October. Several street lights were being changed and those recently installed on Lamb Bank were to be lowered.

Cllr. Chris Rouse (Malvern Hills Trust) reported that elections were to be held on 1st November and the Trust was currently busy crushing bracken.

100/23 Minutes

To consider for adoption the minutes of the last Parish Council meeting: The minutes of the meeting held on 10th July were approved and were signed by the Chairman.

101/23 Planning

i. To consider response to any late submitted applications: None had been received.

The following decisions were noted:

M/23/00811/HP – The Porthole, 202 West Malvern Road – Refused.

M/23/00751/HP – Woodland House, West Malvern Road – Approved.

102/23 Playing Fields and Open Spaces

i. Update on playground improvements: It was noted that properties on the Broadlands Drive development were being marketed. In the interim the climbing frame had been painted.

ii. To consider installation of memorial benches: The benches had been delivered and the Clerk was to arrange for plaques to be engraved in remembrance of Cllrs. Shearer and Gregory. Final positioning was to be agreed.

The fete had been held on the upper field on 3rd September and had been well attended.

103/23 Allotments & Community Woodland

Other plots of land were going to be investigated with a view to possibly extending the size of the allotment gardens.

104/23 Highways & Footpaths

No matters were discussed.

105/23 Village Appraisal

The village appraisal questionnaire had been distributed to every household and had achieved a 30.6% response rate. The results had been collated and the conclusions were to be published. Notable suggestions were for the introduction of a village newsletter and to make more use of the local noticeboards.

106/23 Finance

i. To consider internal audit report: The report prepared by Steve Tustin was adopted and no issues had been highlighted for action.

ii. To consider payment of invoices presented:

The following payments were made between meetings and were ratified:

From/Due to	Date	Amount		Details
Summer Garden & Leisure	27/07	£538.00	BT	Memorial Benches
Wicksteed	31/07	£425.36	BT	Round-a-Bout seats
DA Sharp	14/08	£390.45	BT	Clerk's Fees (Gross £488.25 SP17)
Total		£1,353.81		

The following payments were approved:

From/Due to	Date	Amount		Details
JR Burford	-	£313.76	CH	Village Handyman (July/Aug) + Ins
Anthem(UK) Ltd	30/06	£50.00	CH	Internal Audit Fee
St James Primary School	-	£500.00	CH	Grant for Windows
Huck Nets	10/08	£58.99	BT	Football Nets
PJ O'Boyle	11/08	£192.00	BT	Bluebell Field Flail
DA Sharp	11/07	£390.65	BT	Clerk's Fees (Gross £488.25 SP17)
Total		£1,505.40		

BT – Bank Transfer

CH - Cheque

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

Savings Account B/F	£14,825.00	Community Account B/F	£12,803.16
		Water Plus (DD)	-£41.10
		Water Plus (DD)	-£21.75
		Pre Payments	-£1,353.81
		September Payments	-£1,505.40
Savings Account C/F	£14,825.00	Community Account C/F	£9,881.10

107/23 Correspondence

To consider the following correspondence previously circulated:

FROM	SUBJECT
Misc	West Fete
MHDC	July Business e-Bulletin
MHDC	August Business e-Bulletin
Malvern Town Council	Community Engagement
WCC	Road Closure 12 days Commencing 2 October 2023
MHDC	September Business e-Bulletin
West Mercia Police(i)	Charter Contracts
Clerk	Internal Audit Report
Unity Trust Bank	FSCS Annual Review
CPRE	Newsletter

(i) – This was to be returned citing speeding, anti-social behaviour and criminal damage as the three issues affecting residents the most. Furthermore West Meria Police were to be asked to occasionally visit the playing fields.

108/23 Councillors' items for Report

It was noted that new facias had been attached to the noticeboards outside the village hall. County Cllr. Ntalie McVey confirmed that no schools in the county suffered from RAAC (Reinforced autoclaved aerated concrete) although there was some at County Hall.

109/23 Next Meeting

The next Parish Council Meeting will be held on Monday 9th October 2023 in West Malvern Village Hall commencing at 7:30pm.

There being no further business the meeting closed at 9:40 pm.