

West Malvern Parish Council

Minutes of the Parish Council Meeting held on Monday 11th December 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 Cllr. Prof. J Raine, Mr C Penn (Malvern Hills Trust) and Mr D Sharp (Clerk).

140/23 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.

141/23 Apologies

To consider acceptance of apologies for absence from Councillors:

District & County Cllr. N McVey.

142/23 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.

143/23 Co-Option

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

144/23 Reports from other representatives

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

Mr Charles Penn (Malvern Hills Trust) confirmed that the election for new trustees had been completed. There were several new appointees although only 3 seats were contested. The CEO, secretary and finance manager were all leaving and new appointments had been made.

District Cllr. Prof. John Raine reported that the first southern area planning committee meeting since August had taken place, with another due later this week. He also mentioned the local carol service taking place this Sunday.

145/23 Minutes

To consider for adoption the minutes of the last Parish Council meeting: The minutes of the meeting held on 13th November were approved and were signed by the Chairman.

146/23 Planning

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

Application No	At	Details
M/23/01592/HP	St Christophers 2 Croft Bank	Installation of windows to west elevation on first and second floors

It was agreed to return the following comment: "The Parish Council has no objection to the principle of this development but would request that it should not unduly overlook neighbouring properties."

147/23 Playing Fields and Open Spaces

Update on playground improvements: It was reported that some of the Broadlands Drive development properties had been sold. Clerk to enquire of MHDC when S106 funds would be available.

Football nets had been installed and the positioning of the two memorial benches was to be finalised.

It was agreed to ask a local tree surgeon to advise on the state of the area of ash trees on the playingfields.

148/23 Allotments & Community Woodland

Tom Dutton was stepping down as chair of the Allotment Association and a replacement would be elected at the AGM in the New Year.

149/23 Highways & Footpaths

The defective gas lamps were being repaired.

The Clerk had distributed information about funding for projects via West Mercia Police's 'Safer Roads' scheme.

150/23 Biodiversity

i. Note what action in respect of biodiversity is already taking place locally: It was noted that the Parish Council always considers biodiversity during deliberations over planning applications, where appropriate. Also any work on the playing fields where 'no mow may' is adopted.

ii. Agree what further steps to take at this stage: New projects were to be sought and advice to be requested from AONB.

151/23 Finance**To consider payment of invoices presented:**

The following payments were approved:

From/Due to	Date	Amount		Details
JR Burford	-	£112.00	CH	Village Handyman (Nov)
Malvern Town Council	31/12	£156.00	BT	Litter Collection
First Paige	24/11	£112.00	BT	Village Survey Printing
Sight Designs Ltd	10/12	£369.84	BT	Gas Lamp Maintenance
South Worcs. CAB	-	£500.00	CH	Annual Donation
St James Church	-	£250.00	CH	Annual Donation
AONB (WCC County Fund)	-	£350.00	BT	Annual Donation
West Malvern Allotment Association	-	£182.00	BT	Association and insurance
West Malvern Village Hall	12/11	£180.00	BT	Hire Charges 2023
DA Sharp	-	£100.00	BT	Clerk's First ½ Year Expenses 23/24
DA Sharp	11/12	£418.45	BT	Clerk's Fees (Gross £523.25 SP17)
	Total	£2,730.29		

BT – Bank Transfer

CH - Cheque

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

Savings Account B/F	£14,925.69	Community Account B/F	£15,585.75
		Water Plus (DD)	-£41.10
		Water Plus (DD)	-£26.30
		December Payments	-£2,730.29
Savings Account C/F	£14,925.69	Community Account C/F	£12,788.06

152/23 Correspondence**To consider the responses to the following correspondence previously circulated:**

FROM	SUBJECT
West Mercia Police	Town and Parish Council Survey Results
MHDC	School Uniform Bank - Small grant scheme
MHDC	November Malvern Hills Business e-Bulletin
Snowball Community	Info
Clerk	Biodiversity Requirements

153/23 Councillors' items for Report

Work was required on the website to update information and improve email access.

The production of a regular newsletter was to be explored.

154/23 Next Meeting

The next Parish Council Meeting will be held on Monday 8th January 2023 in West Malvern Village Hall commencing at 7:30pm.

There being no further business the meeting closed at 8:45 pm.