

West Malvern Parish Council

Minutes of the Parish Council Meeting held on Monday 11th March 2024 in West Malvern Village Hall at 7:30pm.

Present

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

In Attendance

District Cllr. Prof. J Raine, Mr C Penn (Malvern Hills Trust), two members of the public and Mr D Sharp (Clerk).

30/24 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: Two residents attending the meeting confirmed that they had removed much of the furniture and waste that had been left in the Bluebell Field. A large hole had been dug which was to be investigated and an inspection of a damaged tree was to be arranged.

31/24 Apologies

To consider acceptance of apologies for absence from Councillors: District & County Cllr. N McVey.

32/24 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.

33/24 Co-Option

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

34/24 Reports from other representatives

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

Mr Charles Penn (Malvern Hills Trust) reported on changes to the management staff with a new CEO, Finance Officer and Secretary as well as several new trustees following last year's elections. One issue the Trust was trying to rectify currently was a leak from a water tank above Tank quarry. **County and District Cllr. Natalie McVey** had circulated her report prior to the meeting including WCC issues: Work on Ebrington Road was continuing; A new West Malvern sign had been ordered for the north Malvern side of the village; Work to repair broken / misaligned drain pipes on Cowleigh Road is scheduled to start today; The street light on Cowleigh Road that has been broken for about 6 months has finally been repaired; Finally, the Fire and Rescue Service consultation on resources had now ended and she was pleased to announce that Malvern would be retaining a second, albeit smaller, appliance.

MHDC issues: She had asked officers to follow up on the issues with the young people building the den in the bluebell field. The Ukrainian Liaison Officers would be taking action here.

District Cllr. J Raine had nothing further to add.

35/24 Minutes

To consider for adoption the minutes of the last Parish Council meeting: The minutes of the meeting held on 12th February were approved and were signed by the Chairman.

35/24 Planning

i. To consider response to any late submitted applications:

No applications had been received.

ii. Decisions Notified

None had been received.

36/24 Village Magazine

Update on progress towards first edition and to consider any proposals regarding new village newsletter: It was agreed that the name should remain as 'The Hills Echo' and work was underway to get the first edition printed and distributed in April. It was also agreed to run the accounts for the magazine through the Parish Council main account rather than opening a separate account.

37/24 Playing Fields and Open Spaces

Update on S106 application for playground funding and to finalise quotation: The specification for the playground was discussed and although concerns were raised over the cost and possible maintenance issues with the trampolene this was finally approved together with the final quotation from Wicksteed totalling £83,110.28 and the Clerk was submit the S106 application. Details of the proposed development were to be included in the first edition of the Hills Echo.

Many of the paths were very muddy following the prolonged rainfall recently and it was agreed to see if improvements to drainage could be made.

38/24 Allotments & Community Woodland

The Clerk confirmed that most rents had been paid and a tap needed to be fixed before the water was turned back on after the winter.

39/24 Highways & Footpaths

No matters were discussed.

40/24 Finance

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

From/Due to	Date	Amount		Details
JR Burford	29/02	£112.00	CH	Village Handyman (Jan)
Netwise	18/02	£468.00	BT	Web Hosting
DA Sharp	11/03	£418.65	BT	Clerk's Fees (Gross £523.25 SP17)
	Total	£998.65		

BT – Bank Transfer

CH - Cheque

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

Savings Account B/F	£15,029.18	Community Account B/F	£13,107.21
		Allotment Rents	£613.60
		Water Plus (DD)	-£44.79
		Water Plus (DD)	-£38.33
		March Payments	-£998.65
Savings Account C/F	£15,029.18	Community Account C/F	£12,639.04

42/24 Correspondence

To consider correspondence previously circulated:

FROM	SUBJECT
WCC	21 Day Notice - Road Closure - Lower Road – 21/2 6 days
MHDC	February Malvern Hills Business e-Bulletin
MHDC	Home and Property Roadshow
Clerk	Bluebell Field
Wicksteed	Quote and Plan
WCC	Town and Parish Councils Conference 12 th June
Cllr. Natalie McVey	Report

43/24 Councillors' items for Report

It was agreed to invite PC Luke Prew to the next meeting.

Several gas lamps were reported as not working and Sight Designs were to be notified.

The steps off West Malvern Road towards the Brewers Arms were in a poor state of repair and possible improvements were to be investigated.

44/24 Next Meeting

The next Parish Council Meeting will be held on Monday 8th April 2024 in West Malvern Village Hall commencing at 7:30pm.

There being no further business the meeting closed at 9:10 pm.