

West Malvern Parish Council

Minutes of the Annual Parish Council Meeting held on Monday 13th May 2024 in West Malvern Village Hall at 7:30pm.

Present

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

In Attendance

County and District Cllr. N McVey, District Cllr. Prof. J Raine and Mr D Sharp (Clerk).

61/24 Election of Chairman

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

62/24 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:

No issues were raised.

63/24 Apologies

To consider acceptance of apologies for absence from Councillors: Cllr. Mrs J Burford (Accepted) also Mr C Penn (Malvern Hills Trust).

64/24 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.

65/24 Co-Option

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

66/23 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** – Vacant

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

67/24 Reports from other representatives

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

County and District Cllr. Natalie McVey reported on current WCC road and footway repairs. She also confirmed that she had funded cycle racks at the Brewers Arms. For MHDC she was pleased that the S106 funding for improvements to the play area had been approved. There had been reports of damage to an empty property at 97 West Malvern Road. Reports of weed spraying around Old Hollow and St James Crescent were being investigated. She also mentioned Project Treasure (an initiative to have important information on seat belt covers for neurodivergent children and adults), the libraries unlocked scheme and finally that the Malvern Hills College was still for sale.

District Cllr. J Raine added that there had been good feed back for the new Hills Echo magazine.

68/24 Minutes

To consider for adoption the minutes of the last Parish Council meeting: The minutes of the meeting held on 8th April were approved and were signed by the Chairman.

69/24 Progress Reports

Updates on matters not included on the agenda: No issues were reported.

70/24 Planning

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

| Application No | From | Details |
|----------------|--|---|
| M/24/00293/FUL | Malvern Hills Outdoor Education Centre | Partial demolition of existing dining facilities and erection of new dining room on same site |

It was agreed to return the following comment: 'The Council has no objection to the application'.

ii. Decisions Notified

None had been received

71/24 Playing Fields and Open Spaces

Update on S106 application for playground funding: The S106 application had been approved and it was hoped that funding would be released to allow the scheme to be completed this summer. Maintenance of the path in the Glade was to be reviewed. Following the recent bad weather access to the playing fields via the main track had been compromised and it was agreed to look at improving the surface and drainage.

72/24 Allotments & Community Woodland

An inspection of the allotments had taken place with the Chair of the association. Several fence and gate posts were highlighted for replacement and several trees for pruning/removal.

73/24 Highways & Footpaths

No matters were discussed.

74/24 Finance

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

| From/Due to | Date | Amount | | Details |
|------------------|--------------|------------------|----|------------------------------------|
| JR Burford | 30/04 | £112.00 | CH | Village Handyman (Apr) |
| Zurich Municipal | 06/04 | £1,490.20 | BT | Annual Insurance |
| British Gas | 25/03 | £674.04 | BT | Gas Light Supply |
| DA Sharp | - | £100.00 | BT | 2 nd ½ Expenses 2022/23 |
| DA Sharp | 11/03 | £418.65 | BT | Clerk's Fees (Gross £523.25 SP17) |
| | Total | £2,794.89 | | |

BT – Bank Transfer

CH - Cheque

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

| Savings Account B/F | £15,132.22 | Community Account B/F | £11,307.63 |
|----------------------------|-------------------|---------------------------------|-------------------|
| Interest | £0.00 | Essentially Green - Hills Echo | £60.00 |
| | | Red Kite – Hills Echo | £30.00 |
| | | M. Leach – Hills Echo | £30.00 |
| | | Ian Robson – Hills Echo | £30.00 |
| | | JS Web Services – Hills Echo | £60.00 |
| | | Malvern Hills Repa – Hills Echo | £30.00 |
| | | Roberts B – Hills Echo | £30.00 |
| | | Branchworks – Hills Echo | £30.00 |
| | | Emily Edwards – Hills Echo | £30.00 |
| | | D Searby – Hills Echo | £30.00 |
| | | MHDC Precept | £9,140.00 |
| | | Water Plus (DD) | -£45.09 |
| | | Water Plus (DD) | -£28.44 |
| | | May Payments | -£2,794.89 |
| Savings Account C/F | £15,132.22 | Community Account C/F | £17,939.21 |

75/24 Correspondence

To consider correspondence previously circulated:

| FROM | SUBJECT |
|----------------------------------|--|
| MHDC | April Malvern Hills Business e-Bulletin |
| WCC | Road Closure – Lower Road |
| WCC | Road Closure – West Malvern Road |
| WCC | Road Closure – Park Road |
| WCC | Road Closure – De Walden Road |
| Matt Scriven | Blue Bell Field Tree Quote - £360 (i) |
| Malvern Hills National Landscape | Grant opportunity - Access for All Fund |
| Resident | Weed Spraying |
| WCC | West Malvern Footpath Warden |
| WCC | Parish & Town Conference - 12 th June - 6pm – 9pm |

(i) – It was agreed to go ahead with the removal of fallen branches.

76/24 Councillors' items for Report

It was hoped that the newly appointed Director of the Malvern Hills Trust would attend the June meeting. Sight Designs were reviewing the application for Net Zero funding. The facebook and web pages were running smoothly.

77/24 Next Meeting

The next Parish Council Meeting will be held on Monday 10th June 2024 in West Malvern Village Hall commencing at 7:30pm.

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