

MALVERN WELLS PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of a Meeting of the Malvern Wells Parish Council duly convened and held in The Village Hall, Wells Road on Wednesday, 20th October 2010 commencing at 7.00pm

Present: Councillors K Wagstaff (Chairman)
J Black Mrs A Bradshaw
P Buchanan Mrs H Burrage
Mrs A Cheeseman T Henley
A Hull N Johnson * (from 7 50 pm)
B J Knibb Mrs C O'Donnell
M Victory

Apologies Noted: Cllr Boughton and Cllr T Henley
D Cllr C Cheeseman (From 7 55 pm) WCCllr S Brown
Mrs S Hughes and D Taverner (Clerks)

The Chairman welcomed the new Clerk – David Taverner - to the meeting

123/10 Declarations of Interest for

a) The Meeting: Cllr Buchanan declared an interest in the proposed Closure of St Peter's Churchyard as a member of the PCC & Cllr Mrs Burrage in the same matter as a neighbouring householder and PC representative on the Village Hall Management Board

b) Any Changes to be notified to the Registers of Interests and Gifts & Hospitality: There were none.

Closure of the Meeting to allow Parishioners Present to Speak on any Matter on the Agenda. There were 3 persons present.

124/10 to Receive the Report from the Local Policing Team

Community Support Officer Karen Watson reported on local incidents regarding the theft of a car and damage to a motorcycle which the Police were continuing to investigate. CSO Watson advised that she had written an update report on policing matters for the next edition of the Wells News

125/10 Minutes

The Minutes of the Meetings of the Parish Council held on 22nd September & 6th October, 2010 having been previously circulated were **approved** and signed by the Chairman as a correct record.

127/10 Matters arising from the Minutes

(a) Matters arising from 22 September minutes

Emergency Planning and Flooding response - Cllr Burrage led a general discussion on matters relating to flooding and the role of the County Council's Emergency Planning team in dealing with flooding incidents and other civil emergency matters.

Following further discussion Cllr Cheeseman **proposed** that David Rolls the MHDC Emergency Planning Officer be invited to speak at a future meeting of the Council – this was **seconded** by Cllr Burrage and **unanimously supported** by all Members. The Clerk was asked to invite Mr Rolls to a future meeting of the Council.

(b) Matters arising from 6 October minutes

County Council consultation – Core Waste Strategy

Cllr Black drew attention to the consultation that had been received from the County Council containing detail of the proposals for the future disposal of waste across the County.

Cllr Black presented the content of the detailed response he had sent to the consultation to the County Council.

Cllr Victory commented that he was disappointed that the consultation document had not taken a wider look at future waste disposal facilities in more detail – especially with regard

to the replacement for the Hill and Moor landfill site near Pershore which was approaching the limit of its capacity
The Chairman thanked Cllr Black for his time in preparing the response to the consultation.

Minute 103/10 -Proposed Closure of St Peter's Churchyard

The Clerk advised that correspondence was awaited from Ross Brazier of the Church Commissioners which apparently included details of the covenants appertaining to the Churchyard.

The Clerk advised that replies from the Church Commissioners on this point would be shared with the relevant property owners and the Parochial Church Council (PCC)

Cllr Buchanan noted that the boundary area marked on the application map by the PCC was not accurate and that the PCC would need to take the necessary steps to correct this situation.

Re Minute 118/10- Wells News update by Cllr Victory

Cllr Victory advised that he had contacted all those who had agreed to contribute to the Wells News. The editorial deadline had been set as 31st October and Cllr Victory would issue reminders for any promised contributions that had not yet been received. The Clerk was coordinating advertisements that had been received for inclusion in the publication.

128/10 Gas Lamp Maintenance agreement

Cllr Black reported that MHDC had given formal written notice to cancel the maintenance agreement and had advised that the 50% maintenance grant would be discontinued. MHDC had offered each of the other partners a loan to refurbish the lamps and thus decrease overall maintenance costs.

Cllr Burrage advised that the results of the residents' survey on the future of the gas lamps had been posted on notice boards around the village, on the website and that she would be writing a synopsis of the survey for publication in the Wells News.

Cllrs Black and Burrage would be attending a meeting on 28th October at which Transition Malvern were to make a presentation concerning potential new technology that could be used to run the lamps.

With disagreements over funding matters continuing, the District Council had arranged further meetings to which representatives from West Malvern, Malvern Town Council Malvern Wells Parish Council would be invited.

Cllr Burrage pointed out that the maintenance agreement between the Parish and District Councils had been in force for some twenty four years and that therefore MHDC would need to properly negotiate an end to this agreement on terms that were beneficial to the Parish Council.

* (Cllr N Johnson joined the meeting at this point)

The Chairman reminded Members of the resolution that had been passed at the previous Council meeting which had stated that the ongoing maintenance costs of the lamps to the PC should be no greater than those included in the current precept.

In view of the uncertainty surrounding the continuation of funding from MHDC Cllr Buchanan suggested that the Gas lamps maintenance budget for 2011/12 should be set on the same basis as the 2010/11 approved budget. This was unanimously supported by all Members.

129/10 Chairman's Communications

a) Accumulation of rubbish on Wells Road: The chairman had received a letter detailing concerns of the ongoing nuisance caused by litter deposited along the Wells Road. The Clerk was asked to reply to the letter pointing out that efforts were being made to secure a litter bin at a suitable location on the Wells Road.

b) South Worcestershire Planning Development meeting- Cllr Buchanan was representing the PC at the SWPD workshop being held on 24 November. Background information regarding this had been circulated to all Members.

130/10 Report of the following Committee/ Chairman

(a) Planning Committee: Cllr Buchanan presented the report of the meeting which had been held on 6th October

Cllr Knibb drew attention to the brickwork being used on the extension being undertaken at 42 Peachfield Road (ref MH/10/00603), which he felt was not in keeping with the original plans.

Cllr Buchanan advised that the development was subject to a planning condition which stated that the brickwork used must be in keeping with that used in the local area. Painting and staining works were being undertaken to meet this condition. No objections had been received from the Conservation Officer

(b) The Council carefully considered the following retrospective planning application:-
**Ref :MH10/01256/HOU - Retrospective application for timber decking
28 Old Wyche Road**

Following further careful consideration Members raised no objections to the application subject to the approval of the District Council's Conservation Officer.

131/10 To Receive the Reports of Representatives on other bodies

a) Worcestershire County Council - Cllr Brown advised that the County Council were faced with finding budget savings over the next three financial years that were some £40m higher than had been originally anticipated. The Local Government Grant Settlement figures were expected to be released in early December but it was apparent that there would be enormous budget pressures and spending was likely to focus on core services only.

Cllr Brown suggested that the clerk contact Highways with regard to the Local Emergency Plan.

Gulley crossings near to Horneyold Court were to be covered during the financial year and Cllr Brown invited members to nominate any short lengths of footway for repair.

b) Malvern Hills District Council - Cllr Cheeseman reported that the District Council was continuing to look at Flooding Priorities and potential flooding alleviation schemes within the District. The District council would also face difficult spending decisions during the forthcoming budget setting process

c) Malvern Hills Conservators - Brian Wilcock reported on various works that had been undertaken within the area and also drew Members attention to the possibility of a reduction in the Conservators income streams with Government cutbacks.

d) Malvern Wells Village Hall Management Committee - Cllr Burrage drew attention to the evening function being held at the Dell House on Friday 22nd October: - all proceeds were for the Village Hall

- e) **AONB: Joint Advisory Committee** – Cllr Black reported that no meeting had taken place since the previous Parish Council Meeting
- f) **MH CAB** - Cllr Johnson reported that no meeting had taken place since the previous Parish Council Meeting
- g) **The Wyche Institute** – Cllr Bradshaw reported that no meeting had taken place since the previous Parish Council Meeting
- h) **MH District Community Policing Matters** – Cllrs Knibb & Buchanan reported that no meeting had taken place since the previous Parish Council Meeting
- i) **CALC AGM** - Cllr Mrs Burrage reported that she had attended the recent Annual General Meeting of CALC. There had been a presentation regarding the future provision of services for the elderly. It was clear that there was an expectation that these would become more dependent on self funding going forward, with respective service providers acting rather more in an enabling role, than being able to offer direct financial support.

132/10 Cemetery Matters

There Clerk reported that work on the painting of the Cemetery Railings was progressing satisfactorily.

133/10 Financial Matters

a) Payment of Accounts: Members **approved** the payments of accounts as in the presented schedule (**Appendix 1**).

b) Change of Bank Signatory

Following the appointment of the new Clerk and Responsible Finance Officer it was **resolved** that David Max Taverner - be added to the list of Bank Signatories and authorised to act in accordance with the current bank mandate maintained with National Westminster Bank Plc

Following retirement of the previous Clerk and Responsible Finance Officer Susan Hughes it was also **resolved** that her name should be removed from the bank mandate.

The meeting Closed at 8 30 pm

-----**(Chairman)**
(24th November 2010)