

**CASTLEMORTON PARISH COUNCIL**  
**Draft Minutes of Meeting of Castlemorton Parish Council held on**  
**Thursday 5 September 2024 at 7.00 pm in Castlemorton Parish Hall**

**Present:** Cllrs: Mike Wilkinson (Chairman), Rebecca Rollinson, Dawn Fisher and Dan Bowker

**In Attendance:** Mrs C Leake (Clerk), DCllr Wild and CCllr Wells at 8.45pm

**Members of the Public:** 1 during public participation

**Public Comments:** Dr Bryan Smith outlined his recent involvement in a potential community project to restore the War Memorial in the churchyard, with consideration to the forthcoming 80<sup>th</sup> anniversary in 2025 marking the end of World Wars. He offered background information of historical interest and responsibility although no documentation has yet been discovered to confirm the latter. Having already established positive and financial support from the Parochial Church Council, Dr Smith also seeks Parish Council support with this project and especially in seeking grants and local community interest in raising funds under the auspices of a restricted Parish Council account. This would be discussed further in the meeting.

**64/24 Apologies:** Cllrs: Hubbard, Flanders, Baker and DCllr Wild

**65/24 Declarations of interests**

1. *Register of Interests*
2. *To declare any Disclosable Pecuniary Interests (DPI) and/or Other Disclosable Interests (ODI) in items on the agenda and their nature.*
3. *To consider written requests from councillors for the council to grant a dispensation (S33 of the Localism Act 2011). None*

**66/24 Minutes of the Previous Meeting**

It was **RESOLVED** that the draft minutes of the annual meeting of **11 July 2024** were a true record of the meeting and were signed.

**67/24 Matters Arising**

**Ref Minute 48/24** Improving Mobile Signal Connectivity in the Parish. A reminder of the project and the proposed business model by Atlas in seeking the level of demand before any further progression. There have been positive responses from several parishioners across the parish in addition to a couple of negatives. Essentially the level of support and landowner interest are the key factors. The response from Birtsmorton is awaited especially as this is the parish identified as offering the most suitable mast site. If interest is shown then consideration could be given to a public meeting.

**What's On Feedback** – this hand delivered newsletter is welcomed by parishioners with opportunity to expand on content. Cllr Bowker kindly preparing material for next production.

**68/24 Parish Council Vacancies.**

What strategy can we explore to attract new councillors? Consider/seek possible candidates and suggest they join a meeting to see what takes place. Take advantage of public events to advertise the vacancies.

**69/24 County/District Councillor Reports**

DCllr Wild reported on:

- The recent meeting of the MHDC Environmental Group and policy considerations as regards trees
- Involvement with local biodiversity groups.
- Support for a defibrillator project being proposed by Longdon Ward member.
- Visit to Tenbury to learn more about and publicise organisations seeking to work together in supporting communities especially those more isolated residents.
- Appointment of Health and Well Being Officer by CALC

CCllr upon arrival (8.45pm) reported on:

- Progression with the SWDPR with the extra requirement for an increase in new homes part of the new town around the railway station at Worcester Parkway and transport data updated. The plan to be resubmitted around Christmas in the hopes it will proceed to public enquiry by March. It has been difficult to plan all the required infrastructure with all that is needed in a new town.
- Parish Highway matters seeking CCllr support and the ongoing highway repairs presently taking place along the B4208. Patching repairs now and chipped next year. The inevitable road closure will cause a certain amount of disruption for the planned 3 days through Castlemorton.

## **70/24 Finance Report**

### **a) Finance Report:**

	£	£	
Balance: 11 July 2024		<b>6190.91</b>	
<b>Add Income</b>	107.42 77.00 200.00		HMRC WCC Lengthsman CEG Donations
<b>Total</b>		<b>384.42</b>	Clerk 1 <sup>st</sup> Quarter
<b>Less Expenditure pre meeting</b>	807.00		
		<b>807.00</b>	
<b>Less Expenditure at meeting</b>	77.00		Lengthsman
		<b>77.00</b>	
<b>Balance at close of meeting 5 Sept 2024</b>		<b>5691.33</b>	

Members were keen to support in principle the War Memorial project and **agreed** with a proposal to administer the funding subject to the council being able to hold funds for a community project.

**Post Minute:** CALC confirm Parish Council has power under 1923 War Memorial Act 1923 to maintain the war memorial, a memorial most likely paid for by public subscription. Project can be led by a resident and the PC can claim VAT.

## **71/24 Highways/Lengthsman**

Thanks to Cllr Rollinson for liaising with WCC over drainage matters at Cherry Orchard and Church Road in addition to lengthsman duties.

- Cherry Orchard – WCC looking to repair highway and improve drainage in conjunction with immediate landowner.

- Church Road – Has been surveyed and riparian responsibility identified to potentially improve drainage.

### **72/24 Footpaths**

No recent updates

### **73/24 Planning**

Report of planning applications **received/decided** since last meeting was noted

<a href="#">M/24/00201/HP</a>	The Mount New Road Castlemorton Malvern WR13 6BU		Approved
<a href="#">M/24/00837/HP</a>	Micklefield Farm Welland Stone Upton Upon Severn Worcester WR8 0RW		Approved
<a href="#">M/24/00618/CU</a>	Fairoaks Farm Hollybush Ledbury HR8 1EU		Approved
<a href="#">M/24/00766/FUL</a>	Damson Tree Lodge Castlemorton Malvern WR13 6DA		Approved
<a href="#">M/24/00599/CLE</a>	Caravan At Upper Orchard Cottage Hollybed Street Castlemorton	Certificate of lawfulness for the existing stationing of a caravan for residential purposes ancillary to Upper Orchard Cottage	Pending Decision
M/23/00437/FUL	Land At (Os 7865 3821) Castlemorton	Change of use of land to 3 No. Traveller pitches and associated works including, 3 No. day rooms, 3 No. mobile homes, 3 No. touring caravans, and hardstanding. Additional information	Refused. Appeal APP/J1860/W/24/3339751  21 Nov 10am Malvern
M/23/00957/FUL	Land at (OS 7853 3776) Castlemorton	Proposed holiday cabin and orchard tree planting.	Pending
M/23/01761/FUL	Willow Tree House Castlemorton Malvern WR13 6DA		Refused

**M/23/00437/FUL:** Chairman will attend the appeal on behalf of the Parish Council on 22 November at 10am in Malvern.

### **74/24 Environmental Group**

- The Group has issued a progress report on the year thus far with the churchyard project. The sowing and planting of bulbs and a pollinator patch. The growth and subsequent cutting and clearance of late mow area. Further clearance work with the lower churchyard yet to complete with thanks to all the organisation with volunteers and children and financial support from MHNL Sustainable Development Fund.
- Update on the variety of forthcoming events in Castlemorton and with other local groups.

### **75/24 Parish Hall Trust**

The Hall Manager position has been advertised, no appointment yet.

### **76/24 Potential Plans for Village Survey**

Cllr Rollinson continues to explore ways to progress with the survey. Shared the experience with Welland who have recently done such a project 'Kettle Quiz'. Encouraging feedback although only 10% of households responded. It has been followed up with further questions in sharing time directly with residents. New activities have been planned by the community engagement officer with a view to the new group seeking own leader in time. Success with a second walking group offering a choice of day. Our own survey could be compiled and delivered with What's On. Members agreed a budget of £100 to set up a survey available to every household and offering entry into a draw for those completed returned with prizes.

**77/24 Correspondence**

Particular mention of:

- CALC/NALC Updates including courses & training for councillors.
- Police Safer Neighbourhood Teams – Neighbourhood Matters Notifications
- Worcestershire VCSE Alliance Understanding and Strengthening the VCSE Sector in Worcestershire Survey
- Malvern Hills District Children and Young People Partnership
- NALC EVENTS – Interest in Navigating rural realities **29 January 2025 - 12.00 – 13.15**
- Malvern Hills National Landscape Management Plan review - consultation draft
- Worcestershire CALC - Annual General Meeting (AGM) - Save the Date - 26 September 2024 in Pershore.
- Church Road Junction ref resident letter.
- REMINDER about Rally on the afternoon of 14 September

**78/24 Next Parish Council Meetings**

**RESOLVED that the next meeting will be Thursday 7 November 2024**

**Subsequent Meetings:  
9 January 2025, 6 March, 22 May (Annuals)**

Signed ..... Date.....