

Little Malvern & Welland Parish Council

Minutes of the Parish Council Meeting held on Monday 18th August 2025

<https://www.littlemalvernandwelland-pc.gov.uk>

@wellandparishnoticeboard

Present

Cllrs. Mr M Whaley (Vice Chair), Mr M Davies, Dr A Davis, Mr P Hancock, Ms R Sampson and Mrs M Sumner.

In Attendance

County Cllr. Mr T Wells, District Cllr. Ms C Wild, Mr D Sharp (Clerk) and 11 members of the public.

103/25 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:

Concerns were raised over the possible encroachment on Garrett Bank that had resulted in the removal of the verge that was used as a refuge by pedestrians. Also a footpath sign had been removed. Clerk to inform WCC Highways.

Concerns were also raised over the removal of the pedestrian gate by the village hall. Residents were assured that this would be replaced. Also a section of the metal railing fence was to be fixed.

104/25 Apologies

To consider acceptance of apologies for absence from Councillors: Cllrs. Mr P Riordan and Mrs V Nelson (accepted). Also County Cllr. M Victory and District Cllr. Mr J Gallagher.

105/25 Interests

i. Councillors Declarations of Disclosable Pecuniary Interests, Other Disclosable Interests and Non Registrable Interests 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.

106/25 Planning

i. To consider responses to any late submitted applications: None had been received.

ii. Update on phone mast plans: Following refusal of M/25/00849/TC representatives from WCC had met with Atlas Tower Group who confirmed they would not be appealing the decision but would work with Local Authorities for a solution. The Clerk had circulated a response from MHDC over their decision not to refer the application to committee.

iii. To consider adding the following qualifier to future planning responses: *Little Malvern and Welland Parish Council supports/objects/has the following comments to make about (* delete as necessary) the application.[add evidence/reference to national, local or neighbourhood plan policies as necessary]*

Notwithstanding the above, we would ask that the LPA ensures that the policies contained in the Welland Neighbourhood Plan are considered in their decision making on this application and apply conditions, if an application is approved and as appropriate, that reference these policies (including the Welland Neighbourhood Plan Design Guide and Code, e.g. for the choice of boundary treatments, materials and colours used.

This was approved.

iv. Decisions notified:

M/25/00849/TC – Phone Mast, Hillcourt Farm – Refused

M/24/01340/FUL – 10 Log cabins, Lockeridge Lane – Refused. A request was to be made to MHDC over the monitoring of holiday lets. Cllr. Davies to draft.

107/25 Minutes

To consider for adoption the minutes of the Parish Council Meeting held on 21st July: These were accepted as an accurate record and they were signed by the Chair.

108/25 Progress reports and matters arising from these minutes

It was noted that a decision concerning Legacy Grant funding would be made on 16th September.

109/25 Community Development Coordinator

i. To Receive Report: Barbara Stevens' report had been circulated prior to the meeting. It was agreed to fund an Arts Project by £500 in addition to £1000 already received.

The Library Cool Space was to be advertised when the Library was open.

Additional funding for the scheme from MHDC had been approved up to March 2026.

Lucy Bird, the CALC Health and Wellbeing Officer was to address the Parish Council at the September meeting.

110/25 Reports by District and County Councillors and other Representatives

County Cllr. Malcolm Victory had distributed a report in advance in which he mentioned the proposed A449 road closure planned to last from September 1st to April 24th 2026.

County Cllr. Tom Wells reported on the success of the 'on demand' bus service which he was trying to get to stop at the Mobile Home Park on Hook Bank.

He was in discussions with officers over the traveller who was encamped on Highways land outside the parish hall. Concerns were raised over animal welfare.

Finally he thought the covert monitoring of Danemoor Crossroads had recently taken place and awaited to results with interest.

District Cllr. Christine Wild reported that she had approved funding from her ward budget for proposed biodiversity schemes.

111/25 Working Party and other reports and recommendations

i. Projects:

a) Update on Footpaths Projects and to consider future funding commitments: The work on the path across Castlemorton Common was to start on 1st September and the cost to the Parish Council of £2,886 was approved.

The land purchase at Holly Cottage had completed but the exact legal costs were still to be invoiced. The cost to the Parish Council for the scheme of £3,795 was approved.

b) Update on pump track and fitness track quotations: There was a meeting of the S106 Group tomorrow and recommendations would be made at the September meeting.

ii. Biodiversity

a) Review of ongoing projects: Sue Haywood's Report had been circulated previously giving an update on current projects.

b) To consider for approval the updated biodiversity policy: This was approved and signed by the Vice Chair.

c) To consider a response to Local Nature Recovery Strategy consultation: It was agreed that Sue Haywood should draft a response for consideration.

112/25 Welland Steam Rally

To review this years event and consider any subsequent action: Traffic delays had improved from previous years although it was thought some improvements could be made. Concerns were raised over the burning and burying of rubbish on site. It was agreed to arrange a meeting with all regulation services that had influence over the event.

113/25 Correspondence

To consider the responses to the following correspondence previously circulated:

FROM	SUBJECT
CALC	Updates/Training/Pay Scales
NALC	Events and Bulletins
WCC	Worcestershire Local Nature Recovery Strategy Public Consultation
MHDC	July Malvern Hills Business e-Bulletin
Malvern Hills National Landscape	Annual Review 2024/25
West Mercia PCC	Town and Parish Council Survey
Clerk	Quotes for Pump Track and Fitness Track
MHDC	Community Arts & Culture grant
WCC	Road Closures (i)
Ian Macleod (MHDC)	Phone Mast application response
Malvern Town Council	First Bus Task and Finish Group Meeting Monday 4 th August
WCC	Review of Rights of Way Improvement Plan (ii)
Southern Area Planning Committee	Lockeridge Lane Site Visit - Tuesday 12 th August 2025
WCC	Disabled Bays
CALC	Survey on Local Government Re-organisation (iii)
Clerk	Community Speed Watch (iv)
WCC	Local Cycling Walking Infrastructure Plans
NALC	Climate Response of the Year
Welland Primary School	Hedge Maintenance (v)
Community Development Coordinator	Report
Malcolm Victory	County Cllr. Report
Misc.	Traveller Encampment
Misc.	Livestock on Common (vi)

- (i) – The closure of the A449 towards British Camp for 236 days to facilitate rebuilding of the retaining wall was of concern and clarification was to be sought over whether cyclists and pedestrians access was affected.
- (ii) – Cllr. Davies who was also the Footpath Warden was to respond.
- (iii) – Cllr. Sampson to respond.
- (iv) – Cllr. Sumner was to take over the administration of the scheme from Cllr. Nelson.
- (v) – Cllr. Davies was to gain information over possibly laying the hedge along the school and playing field boundary.
- (vi) – Concerns raised by resident over animal encroachment into the village was to be addressed in the September newsletter.

114/25 Finance

To consider payment of invoices presented:

The following payments were made from the **Event Account** between meetings and were ratified:

From/Due To	Date	Amount	Details
Welland Pre School	22/07	£100.00	Donation from Bash
Pursers Orchard Group	22/07	£100.00	Donation from Bash
Welland Charities	22/07	£100.00	Donation from Bash
Welland Parish Hall	22/07	£400.00	Donation from Bash
Welland Primary School PTA	22/07	£100.00	Donation from Bash
Total		£800.00	

The following payments were made from the **Main Account** between meetings and were ratified:

From/Due To	Date	Amount	Details
Paytons Solicitors	22/07	£12,000.00	Holly Cottage Land Purchase
Barbara Stephens	08/08	£799.80	Community Development Co-Ordinator
Total		£12,799.80	

The following payments were approved from the **Main Account**:

From/Due To	Date	Amount	Details
J Moore	21/07	£320.00	Lengthman Duties (July)
JRP Enterprises	25/07	£397.20	Dog Bags / Dispenser
E Hardman	18/08	£200.00	Handyman (£200 Gross)
D Sharp	18/08	£729.80	Clerk's Fee (40 hrs @ SCP 28. £811.60 Gross) Backdated from Apr - Plus 4 Months x £25.20
TOTAL		£1,647.00	

Accounts Summary

Reserves Lloyds B/F	£3,056.30		Main Account B/F	-£2,432.82
Interest	£1.93	£3,058.23	MHDC S106 Grant (Holly Cottage)	£33,363.00
Saver Account	£52,134.26		Cemetery Fee	£120.00
Transfer to Main	-£10,017.97		Transfer From Saver	£10,017.97
Interest	£84.30	£42,200.59	WCC Lengthman	£320.00
			WCC Lengthman	£320.00
Event Account	£5,328.15		Airband	-£15.00
Pre Payments	-£800.00		Pre Payments	-£12,799.80
Charges	-£4.25	£4,523.90	August Payments	-£1,647.00
Total C/F		£49,782.72	Main Account C/F	£27,246.35

115/25 Any other matters for report or for future consideration

To confirm consideration of climate change actions: The Parish Council confirmed it had considered climate change actions during its decision making process.

A review of bench seating was to be made.

The Parish Hall lease agreement was to be reviewed.

Articles for the September newsletter were to be collated by Cllr. Sampson

It was noted that the Footpath Officer Fiona Argyle had left.

116/25 Date of the next meeting

The next Parish Council Meeting will be held Monday 15th September 2025 in Welland Parish Hall at 7.30pm. The November meeting will be held on 10th November rather than 17th November.

There being no further business the meeting closed at 9:55 pm