

PARISHES OF LITTLE MALVERN AND WELLAND

MINUTES OF THE ANNUAL PARISH MEETING HELD AT 7.00 PM ON MONDAY 16th MAY 2016 IN WELLAND VILLAGE HALL

PRESENT

Ten Members of the Parish Council, District Cllrs. Chris O'Donnell & Mick Davies, Mrs Ann Brookes (Footpath Warden), Mr D Sharp (Clerk) and 25 members of the public.

1. APOLOGIES

Cllr. Mrs E Horton-Smith and County Cllr. Mr T Wells.

2. TO CONSIDER FOR ADOPTION THE MINUTES OF LAST YEAR'S MEETING

The minutes of the meeting held on 20th April 2015 were approved and signed by the Chairman.

3. PARISH COUNCIL CHAIRMAN'S REPORT – A review of the year

Cllr. Nelson thanked all councillors and clerk for their work over the past year and also county and district councillors. Also for all volunteers including those on the Neighbourhood Plan Group and others who deliver the newsletter and Ann Brookes the footpath warden.

She reviewed the progress made over the year: The installation of village gates and school warning sign; the creation of a dedicated parish council web site; wifi broadband in the village hall and the ongoing development of the Neighbourhood Plan.

There were still some ongoing issues that the Parish Council was considering: The speed of vehicles through the village; the development of the Pheasant Inn site and the traffic problems associated with the Steam Rally.

Finally she thanked residents for their attendance and input at meetings.

4. REPORTS FROM DISTRICT AND COUNTY COUNCILLORS

District Cllrs. Mick Davies & Chris O'Donnell reported that Cllr. John Raine had been elected Chairman of MHDC and Chris O'Donnell as deputy at the recent annual meeting. A 'meet your council' day had been arranged for 24th June where he would be joined by Gary Williams, head of planning. Up to 50 affordable houses were to be built in Welland over the next few years and meetings were to be arranged with planners and adjacent parishes to discuss the issues involved. A new bus service had been running between Upton and Malvern, via Welland and Hanley, following the withdrawal of the 362 and 364 routes. This would cease in September and efforts were being made with WCC to ensure that some type of service would remain.

5. PLANS FOR THE YEAR AHEAD – Reports were made on the following subjects:

- **Neighbourhood Plan:** The draft plan had been published and circulated to residents for consultation. The feedback was currently being assessed and included in a revised plan. The latest draft was available on the website. A meeting was to be held with MHDC to review the plan. The final draft would be submitted for examination and residents would then be asked to approve it via a referendum. Following adoption it would become part of MHDC local plan.
- **Broadband and Mobile Phone coverage:** The new cabinet by the village hall was being upgraded to increase capacity. There was still a section of housing on Drake Street that were suffering slow speeds and a solution was being sought. The installation of a phone mast inside the church had been ruled out as uneconomic by EE although an upgrade of the mast at the Three Counties Showground to 4G may allow local repeater to be installed.
- **Planning and Development matters:** A review of the four approved local developments confirmed that it was expected Lawn Farm I site would be occupied this year; the Old Post Office site in 2017. Work on the Marlbank site was due to start in June and the reserved matters application for Lawn Farm II was being awaited. Furthermore the proposed development at Myrtle Cottage had been refused at appeal in May although a revised application for the Pheasant Inn site was likely.
- **Flooding:** A meeting with representatives from Severn Trent had led to an acknowledgement that a flooding problem existed.

- **Highways and Traffic Issues:** The Parish Council had been informed that there would be no increase in speed limit enforcement and they were now looking at engineering solutions. Gates had been installed on 3 entrances to the village and WCC had provided a flashing warning sign for the the primary school which was positioned near Lime Grove. Fixed and average speed cameras had been refused on financial grounds. Discussions were ongoing with WCC over further measures.
- **S106 Open Space and Recreation Funding:** The provision of funding from developers was clarified to residents and monies earmarked for open space and recreation would start to be available later this year. The Parish Council had several projects planned

Cllr. Mortimer gave a demonstration of the new Parish Council website.

6. PARISH COUNCIL DRAFT ACCOUNTS FOR YEAR END MARCH 31ST 2016: These would be published on the web site within the next week

7. QUESTION TIME - For residents to raise any other issues of local importance: No other matters were discussed.

There being no further business the meeting closed at 8.10 pm.