

MALVERN WELLS PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of the Meeting of Malvern Wells Parish Council duly convened and held in The Village Hall, Wells Road, Malvern Wells on **Wednesday 30th November, 2016** commencing at 7.30 pm.

Present: Councillor N Chatten (Chairman)

Councillors: Mrs J Smethurst, N Johnson, K Wagstaff, B Knibb, J Black, J Wagstaff, M Victory, County Cllr Mrs L Hodgson

Apologies for absence: Councillors Mrs C O'Donnell, T O' Donnell, Mrs H Burrage, S Freeman

In attendance: David Taverner (Clerk and Responsible Finance Officer)

246/16 Declarations of Interest

a) Register of Interests: Councillors were reminded of the need to update their register of interests: No changes were necessary.

b) To declare any Disclosable Pecuniary Interests in items on the agenda and their nature: None were declared.

c) To declare any Other Disclosable Interests in items on the agenda and their nature: None were declared.

247/16 To Consider Requests from Councillors for the Council to Grant a Dispensation (S33 of the Localism Act 2011): There were none.

248/16 Minutes of the Parish Council Meeting held on 26th October, 2016,

The minutes of the Parish Council Meeting, held on 26th October, had been previously circulated. The minutes were **unanimously approved** as a correct record of that meeting and were signed by the Chairman.

249/16 Matters arising from the Parish Council minutes of 28th September.

There were none

250/16 Planning Matters

(a)- amended plans re 16/01286 -2 Yew Tree Lane - proposed construction of four-bedroom dwelling. Councillors reviewed the amended plans submitted and having also received the views of Mr Andy Pitt , representing the Upper Welland Action Group, unanimously resolved to object to this application resolved to object to this application on the basis that the proposed dwelling, by virtue of its size, scale and siting forward of nearby existing properties, would result in an incongruous development, which

would be over dominant and out of character with the prevailing pattern of buildings within the local area.

If approved the development would therefore fail to preserve or enhance the character and appearance of the Conservation Area and would be detrimental to the special landscape quality of the Malvern Hills Area of Outstanding Natural Beauty in which the building would be situated.

This proposal would therefore be contrary to policies contained within the approved South Worcestershire Development Plan and the National Policy Planning Framework.

(b) Planning application 16/01334/HOU – 40 Peachfield Road -

Two storey rear extension to replace existing conservatory
Members raised no objections to this application, although a better design would have been preferable with a sloping, rather than a flat roof

(c) Neighbourhood Plan – it was unanimously resolved that the Council should proceed with the development of a Neighbourhood Plan, covering the whole Parish area. The first steps would be to apply to MHDC for designation as a Neighbourhood Area and the creation of a working group to tackle the initial stages of the work involved.

251/16

Chairman's Correspondence

(a) Adoption of former telephone Kiosk – junction of Watery Lane and Upper Welland Road

British Telecom is about to remove its unused Red Telephone Boxes (RTBs) and this includes Upper Welland's kiosk on the junction of Watery Lane and Upper Welland Road. Recognising red telephone boxes as iconic street furniture, BT is offering these heritage assets (minus the phone) to suitably recognised organisations for adoption for the sum of £1 and an initial response was required by BT by 28 December, 2016.

A letter had been received from the Upper Welland Action Group (UWAG) to the effect that the Group would like to be able to adopt the box for use as a community asset.

Having considered the request the Parish Council agreed that UWAG:

1) should undertake a survey to determine if residents were in favour of keeping the red telephone box and, if so, what practical function it could fulfil to benefit the community

2) assess the condition of the Kiosk and explore options for restoration if required

3) submit its findings in a summary letter to MWPC before the Xmas holiday to give MWPC time to complete and submit the necessary forms to BT if required

Precedent for the adoption and operation of a Kiosk as a community facility in Malvern Wells has already been set by the Malvern Wells Village Hall Management Committee which has been converted for use as a notice board /book exchange.

It was agreed that further consideration should be given to UWAG's request once the items mentioned in paragraphs 1 to 3 above had been fully assessed.

(b) County Council consultation on prohibition of vehicle waiting on A449 outside the Wyche Primary School. The request had arisen from safety concerns raised by the school and involves improving visibility for the school crossing patrol operative.

Following considerable discussion, it was resolved that the Parish Council should support the relevant traffic control order (TCO) and the associated marking of double yellow no waiting lines on the A449 outside the school, as indicated on the TCO plan which had been submitted. Cllrs K and J Wagstaff abstained from the vote on the resolution.

252/16

Reports from Working Groups

(a) Gas lamps working group

The working group was had met with David Armitage of the Malvern Hills AONB and provided information to help to support his work on the lottery funding bids for the project.

In response to a question Cllr K Wagstaff was advised that the estimated gross cost of the project was approximately £55k, which would be substantially offset by a successful grant bid. The Clerk advised that the current running costs of the existing 48 Council owned lamps was approximately £11K per annum

(b) Communications working group. A meeting of the working group had being arranged to take place on 5th December.

(c) Open Spaces working group. There had been no meeting of the group since the pervious council meeting. Further attempts were to be made to develop a play facility in the All Saints Ward of the parish once land suitable for such a scheme had been identified.

Completion of the signing of the scout hut lease still needed to be addressed and action was needed regarding the lifting of restrictive covenants which had been incorporated in the

original transfer document for Assarts Road field from the District Council.

(d) Events working group. A meeting was due to be arranged in early December to review the 2016 Summer fête and to begin planning for the 2017 fête on Sunday 10th September.

(e) Jubilee Gardeners working group

The Jubilee Gardeners Working Group had requested urgent authorisation for the purchase and planting of an apple tree (a red eating apple). The Group was currently working on an updated planting plan for the garden. The Council unanimously resolved to approve the planting plan which had been submitted.

253/16

Financial matters

(a) Approval of the schedule of accounts payable

The following accounts were unanimously approved for payment:

REF	Payee	FOR	NET £	VAT £	GROSS £
L 10	Staples PLC	Computer Paper	18.71	3.74	22.45
L 11	S Maund	outdoor work & materials - November	1,536.26	7.25	1,543.51
L 12	Martin Thomas	Cemetery Work October	265.13	-	265.13
L 14	County Building Supplies	Cemetery Materials	103.35	20.68	124.03
L 16	Diane Malley	Internal audit Honorarium	100.00		100.00
L 17	D M Taverner	Clerk admin Expenses - November	147.88	5.67	153.55
L 18	ALB Services	defibrillator installations	900.00	180.00	1,080.00
L 19	Brookside Fire Service Ltd	Cemetery Fire extinguisher services	123.00	24.00	147.00
L 20	Malvern Wells & The Wyche Women's Institute	Remembrance Sunday Refreshments	20.00	-	20.00
L 21	Ian Burrage	apple tree - jubilee garden	18.90	-	18.90
L 22	Sight Designs	Gas lamps Maintenance	365.00	73.00	438.00
TOTALS			3,598.23	314.34	3,912.57

(b) Internal audit report first half of 2017/18

The Council's internal auditor had submitted a report on the Council's financial activity for the first half of the 2017/18 financial year. The Council's accounts had been found to be well kept and managed and there were no problems to highlight. The report had been circulated to all Council members for their information.

254/16 Report from Clerk on Actions undertaken since the previous meeting

- (a) Remembrance Sunday Service 13th November.** The service had been well attended and had passed smoothly. Thanks were given to the members of the Women's institute for their help with the post service refreshments and to those members of the Council who had assisted with the traffic marshalling arrangements
- (b) Wells News** – delivery of the magazine to residents was due to be completed by 5th December
- (c) Vehicle Activated Speed signage.** The first installation of the new mobile VAS had been installed near to the Wyche School
- (d) Clerk's CiLCA submission.** All modules of the clerk's CiLCA portfolio submission had been sent to the Worcestershire CALC training team for review, prior to marking and verification of the portfolio by the Society of Local Council Clerks assessors. Final results were expected in mid-February.
- (e) Christmas illuminations** – the Christmas trees on Fruitlands Green and in the Jubilee Garden had been installed and illuminated for the Christmas period

255/16 Report of County Councillor

Southern Link Road

A report is coming to the February Cabinet meeting setting out the plans for the next stages of the southern link road developments phase 4 which involves the completion of SLR Dualling from the Ketch roundabout to Powick roundabout including the construction of a new bridge over the River Severn parallel to the existing Carrington Bridge, major engineering earthworks and other significant structures. The cost of this project is estimated to be c£70 million the majority of which is intended to be funded through the Department for Transport (DfT) local major schemes bid process and this will be announced in the summer of this year. This stage of the project is due for completion in 2019.

County Council Budget 2017/18

The County Council was likely to increase its precept by 2.94% in 2017/18 in relation to:
0.94% to provide financial support for the delivery of outcomes in line with the Corporate Plan Shaping Worcestershire's Future and the priorities identified by the public and business community
2% Adult Social Care Precept ring-fenced for Adult Social Care services to contribute to existing cost pressures in 2017/18 due to demographic changes and an increased demand for more complex services

Council gritting teams on standby to keep Worcestershire moving this winter

Worcestershire County Council gritting teams are now officially on standby and ready to keep Worcestershire's roads safe this winter. Worcestershire Highways depots are stocked with 17,000 tonnes of salt, including a 5,000 tonne strategic reserve in the event of an unusually harsh winter. Checks are also being made on the county's 1,233 grit bins to ensure they are full.

The last checks have been actioned and the Worcestershire Highways fleet of 36 gritting vehicles and the teams that drive them are ready to cover Worcestershire's 1,500 miles of designated roads. Last winter, teams clocked up more than 50,000 miles across the county – the equivalent of more than twice around the world.

Minutes approved Tuesday 31st January, 2017

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Chairman