

**MINUTES OF THE PARISH COUNCIL MEETING OF MARTLEY PARISH
COUNCIL HELD ON MONDAY 4th JULY 2011 AT THE MEMORIAL HALL**

Present: Cllr. Mrs. D. Goodyear Cllr. Mr. T. Fearnough
 Cllr. Mr. T. Bromley Cllr. Mr. T. Gale

 Cllr. Mrs. G. Baxter Cllr. Mr. R. McHugh

 In attendance: Mrs. S. Williams (Clerk).

There were more than 30 members of the public present.

The Chairman welcomed everyone to the meeting.

The Democratic Period/Public Question Time

The Chairman opened public time by referring to two items:

The Parish Council are in the process of drafting a response to queries raised by some parishioners around financial records and the Parish Council will be meeting with the Recreation Association later this month.

The Recreation Association queried some of the questions the Parish Council has asked in a recent letter addressed to them. The Chairman referred to these being requirements of the insurance. The Recreation Association spoke of upset within the village at the questions being asked in relation to the safety of the pavilion. The Chairman advised the Recreation Association that all of this will be discussed in an open meeting with the Parish Council and the Recreation Association following receipt of their responses. The Recreation Association stated that they were unaware of any assistance being requested from the Parish Council in terms of the VAT associated with the lottery grant. The Chairman advised the Recreation Association to discuss this at their meeting and it would no doubt be raised within the meeting between the Recreation Association and the Parish Council.

A parishioner raised the need for a village map in the centre of the village. The Clerk will look into this and agenda it as an item at the next meeting.

A number of parishioners raised points in relation to the South Worcestershire Development Plan and the indicative numbers announced within the media last week. All allocated on the land at The Crown. It was felt by some that the document, instead of being based on a from-the-grass-roots-up approach as decided by the Coalition Government, it instead continues from-the-top-down in making far reaching planning decisions. It was felt by both parishioners and the Parish Council that a detailed joint response will need to be made during the public consultation phase, the response must be an informed professional document that does not follow the approach of we don't want any houses in Martley but more along the lines of accepting the need for

houses for local young people but an appropriate number to match the need of the village.

The Parish Council referred to previous work undertaken around potential sites for development within Martley and the involvement of Nigel Potter, Housing Enabler for Malvern Hills District Council. The Clerk was asked to contact Nigel for an update as his last correspondence with the Council had advised that Malvern Hills District Council were in conversation with a land owner in Martley.

The Parish Council and parishioners will be represented at the Malvern Hills Committee meeting on Tuesday 5th July where the South Worcestershire Development Plan will be agreed. Following their report back at the next meeting, a workshop will be arranged between Martley Parish Council and parishioners in order to work together on submitting the informed response referred to.

The public consultation period is due to commence on 26th September 2011.

A parishioner raised concern regarding what could possibly be leaking sewerage outside the new bungalow at Kingswood, mention was also made to broken glass near the fence.

A parishioner asked the Parish Council whether arrangements had been made for the storage of any salt in Martley for this winter. A discussion ensued around the corrosiveness of salt. The Clerk will write to all local farmers and owners of any other possible sites to ask whether they would store some salt. A parish councillor confirmed that following a meeting with Gerry Brienza, Highways Liaison Officer for this area, Gerry had stated that the gritting routes for this winter have already been planned and authorised.

John Lakeman was then invited by the Chair to give a brief presentation on Neighbourhood Watch. John Lakeman talked of re-invigorating Neighbourhood Watch in Martley, setting up an e-mail network to circulate messages. The Clerk was asked to agenda Neighbourhood Watch for the next meeting, the Parish Council will need a new Neighbourhood Watch Representative as Councillor Metcalfe has now resigned.

PC Paul Lambon, Local Policing Officer as of 4th July 2011 for Martley then spoke of Neighbourhood Watch being a great facilitator to the Police as unfortunately policing can't be how it used to be in terms of Officers being the eyes and ears on the ground at all times. There are no longer any policing boundaries and officers are deployed as and when the calls come in, irrelevant of where they are based. PC Lambon confirmed that he is looking to be in the post for a number of years and he concluded by assuring parishioners that he will always give his best to the role. PC Lambon is more

than happy to receive texts or calls to his mobile or alternatively e-mail him direct. His contact details will be published shortly on the village notice board. He added that parishioners should be aware that there is a lot of metal and fuel being stolen at present so stay vigilant.

The Parish Council meeting was opened at 8:50pm.

37-11 Apologies: Received from Councillor Nott, Councillor Clarke and District Councillor Williams.

38-11 Declarations of Interest: No declarations were made.

39-11 Minutes: The minutes were approved as a true record of the meeting, following amendments to:

27 – 11 Progress Reports – Councillors – Speed signs that read “Other possible location discussed was on the approach to Berrow Green using the proposed repeater signs discussed as a measure within the speed review”.

Have now added on the approach to Berrow Green from the Knightwick direction.

40-11 Outstanding actions from previous minutes:

The ‘my parish’ website is still to be set up and agreement as to what information should be displayed on it. The Clerk asked whether consideration should be given to Upper Bridge Enterprises who offer a website and e-mail network service to other local parishes such as Abberley at a cost of around £200 a year. The Council asked that ‘my parish’ be set up.

Martley Litter Blitz is to take place on Sunday 14th August 2011 at 10am. The equipment will be loaned from a local charity.

The Clerk has e-mailed the Secretary of the Recreation Association regarding how the lottery grant of £10,000 is to be managed, awaiting a reply.

The Asset Register will need to be added as an agenda item for the next meeting as the Parish Council need to agree to record the speed sign as an asset.

The Clerk is awaiting a response from the insurance company regarding whether the speed sign will need to be recorded on the policy.

41-11 Progress reports:

Clerk –

The advert for the vacancy of Clerk to Martley Parish Council has been circulated by CALC and is also on display in the village with a closing date of 22nd July 2011.

Highways planning training sessions are taking place on the 14th July 2011 at Great Witley Village Hall and the 21st July 2011 at Priory Lodge, Malvern. The Clerk has put forward a request for 3 places.

The Clerk has contacted Festival Housing to ascertain the ownership of the trees in Hastings Close, currently overgrowing St. Peters Drive gardens.

The Clerk will publish Martley Litter Blitz which will take place on Sunday 14th August 2011 at 10am in The Crown Car Park. All are welcome to assist; however, parents/guardians will need to take responsibility for any children they bring along.

Lengthsman –

The Lengthsman will be concentrating on strimming, signs and poor visibility areas this month. Councillors asked that he tidies the lay-by before Ham Bridge. The Clerk was asked to report some dumped tyres at Hollins Lane, down from the church junction of St. Peters Drive.

Councillors -

Councillor Bromley and Councillor Goodyear reported that they had attended a meeting called by Gerry Brienza at Holt Heath on the 30th June 2011. Gerry introduced himself as the new Highways Liaison Officer for this area. He advised Councillors that he would be their point of contact with any difficulties the Parish Council were having trouble resolving. Gerry confirmed at the meeting that he would chase up the Safety Team who were looking into the potential sites for the Vehicle Activated Sign.

County Councillor Davies referred at the meeting to £450 he would be allocating to the lengthsman budget for each parish council within his area. Suggestion was made that this £450 could be used to fund the extension poles required for the sign.

Gerry touched on whether local farmers would be willing to grit the local roads this year in the event of bad weather. The Clerk is to e-mail Gerry with concerns around insurance claims against them if there are any accidents.

The Clerk is to write to Highways regarding the Hillside sign that has now rotted due to the solvent used by them in trying to remove graffiti.

42-11 District and County Councillors' reports: District Councillor Williams had sent her apologies and therefore no report was made.

County Councillor Davies reported the following:

Worcester County Council has launched its corporate plan for 2011-2016.

There is currently a lot of debate around libraries and Martley's library is currently been held up as a good example due to its community aspect.

He is to allocate an additional £450 to all parish council lengthsman scheme budgets within his parishes as he has been given £4500 to contribute towards Highways costs.

The works to Holt Bridge will be completed by the end of October and there will be no weight limit on it.

West Mercia Police and Warwickshire Police are to forge a strategic alliance to aid them in dealing with budget cuts.

A Community Leadership grant for £10,000 for each year over 2 years for community projects is available. County Councillor Davies will send out details of the scheme asking for bids. This could take a few months.

Life expectancy in Malvern Hills is above the national average, men living in Malvern Hills average 79.1 compared to nationally 78.3 and women in Malvern Hills average 83.4 against the national average of 82.3.

43-11 Planning:

New

11/00810/LBC The Tee, Martley – Single storey rear extension, replacement conservatory, alterations to attached storage building and internal alterations.

11/00763/HOU The Tee, Martley – Single storey rear extension, replacement conservatory, alterations to attached storage building and internal alterations.

11/00740/LBC Tee Farm, Martley – Proposed replacement glazing to 5 dormer windows.

11/00721/HOU Hawksnest Barn, Easinghope Lane – Proposed 'lean-to' storage area with 12 photovoltaic units on roof.

11/00685/HOU 3 The Bungalows, Berrow Green – Extension to garage with pitched roof over. New vehicular entrance and remodelling of drive.

Pending

11/00666/FUL Hawksnest Barn, Easinghope Lane – Reconstruction of Earth Dam (Retrospective)

Approved

11/00582/FUL Adj Three Acres, Willow Road – Agricultural building and drive

44-11 BT Adopt a phone box scheme:

The Council agreed following discussions to adopt the phone box in the village. Councillor Baxter will speak to local residents in Berrow Green to establish whether they would like to adopt the phone box there too.

45-11 Finance: There were 6 cheques totalling £1649.37 approved. Councillors requested that future financial accounts are given in a different format. In future expenditure and un-presented cheques will be replaced with invoices received relevant to the period and whether they are VAT applicable. Any re-claims will also be shown.

46-11 Correspondence:

Items for information

5. Janet Dale and John Haydon Financial Records Queries

A detailed reply will be sent in response to this letter and a recently submitted report

7. WCC Home composting and love food hate waste

Items for discussion

1. CALC Update 21

2. CALC Update 20

3. Ken Dicken Speed limit review of B4204

4. Duncan Rudge Planning supporting Parish and Town Councils

6. CALC Update 22

47-11 Freedom of Martley nominations: Councillors were asked to consider any nominations in preparation for the next meeting. This will be a closed agenda item at the next meeting.

48-11 Clerk's report on Urgent Decisions since the last meeting: No urgent decisions had been made.

49-11 Councillors reports and items for future agenda:

All discussed previously in the minutes.

50-11 Date of next meeting: The next meeting will be held on Monday 25th July 2011, a week early due to holiday commitments.

Meeting finished at 11.20 pm.