

West Malvern Parish Council

Minutes of the Parish Council Meeting held on Monday 8th December 2014 in the Fisher Hall.

Present

Cllrs. Mr W Shearer (Chairman), Mrs J Burford, Mrs E Harnden, Mrs S Rouse, Mr A Turner.

In Attendance

Mr C Rouse (Malvern Hills Conservators), Mr B Harper (Sight Design) and Mr D Sharp (Clerk).

Before the meeting Mr Harper gave projected running costs for a proposed electric 'gas lamp' on the column at the top of Brockhill Road at £24 per year. In order for the Parish Council to gain an unmetered supply an UMSUG energy code was required for the unit. Elexon were the government organisation who would grant the code once tests had been performed on 5 separate units. Mr Harper hoped that this could be completed by March 2015.

136/14 Apologies

To consider acceptance of apologies for absence from Councillors:

Cllrs. Mr S Alison & Mr L Unsworth (accepted). Also County and District Cllr. Prof. J Raine, District Cllr. J Roskams

137/14 Interests

- i. **Councillors Declarations of Disclosable Pecuniary Interests (DPI) and Other Disclosable Interests (ODI) 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.

138/14 Reports from other representatives

To receive reports from County and District Councillors, Malvern Hills Conservators, Tree and Footpaths Wardens and other representatives:

No reports were received, however Cllr. Rouse had attended the recent full MHDC council meeting attended by the new chief executive Jack Hegarty.

139/14 Minutes

To consider for adoption the minutes of the last Parish Council meeting: The minutes of the Parish Council Meeting held on 10th November were approved and signed by the Chairman.

140/14 Progress Reports and other matters arising from the minutes

The tree at the bottom of Lamb Bank had been cut back but the stump was still to be removed. The presence of Japanese knotweed in the Lamb Inn car park had been reported to MHDC who had passed concerns onto the proposed developer.

141/14 Planning

No applications were considered.

142/14 Playing Fields

The date for WestFest 2015 was confirmed as 4th July.

The Clerk had sent costings for the work at the glade to District Councillors for grant funding.

A quantity of ash saplings had regrown on the bank above the old football pitch.

It was agreed that a survey of trees on Parish Council property was advisable.

Clerk to check progress on clearing weeds/leaves from footways by MHDC.

143/14 Allotments & Community Woodland

The Chairman and Clerk had attended the AGM and reported that the chairman Mick Aldridge had stepped down and as yet there had been not volunteers. The association had requested that the contribution for membership to the NSALG be raised from £3 to £3.50. This was agreed.

A recent allotment inspection had identified 3 plots that should be reallocated.

144/14 Highways & Footpaths

To consider adopting the defunct electric light at the junction of Brockhill Road and West Malvern Road:

Concerns were raised over the cost of the project and the need to ensure expenditure was in the public interest. Three options were considered: (1) Do nothing. (2) Adopt and install a standard electric bulb. (3) Adopt and install an electric 'gas' light. Option (3) was agreed in principle by a majority. The lamp would not be formally adopted until the necessary UMSUG energy code had been obtained and exact costings for an unmetered supply finalised. It was also dependent on 50% funding from County Cllr. Raine's ward budget for supply and installation of the unit. The cost to the Parish Council would be approximately £600 plus annual energy charges and maintenance.

145/14 Finance

To consider payment of invoices presented: The following payments were approved:

From/Due to	Date	Amount	Details
J Moore	04/12	£236.00	Lengthman Fees (Nov)
SF Creamer	30/11	£40.00	Bus Shelter Cleaning (Nov)
Malvern Town Council	01/12	£156.00	Grass Cutting/Litter Bins
Sight Design	07/12	£406.32	Gas Lamp Maintenance
CPRE	-	£36.00	Annual Subscription
St James Church	-	£350.00	Donation
Malvern Hills CAB	-	£150.00	Donation
DA Sharp	-	£100.00	Clerk's First ½ Year Expenses 14/15
DA Sharp	10/11	£316.16	Clerk's Fees Oct (£395.36 gross SP25)
	Total	£1,790.48	

After these payments are made bank balances will be as follows:

Savings Account B/F	£14,463.90	Community Account B/F	£6,943.58
		WCC Lengthman	£236.00
		December Payments	-£1,790.48
Savings Account C/F	£14,463.90	Community Account C/F	£5,389.10

146/14 Correspondence

To consider the following correspondence previously circulated:

FROM	* email	SUBJECT
MHDC	*	Letter to MP Brandon Lewis re SWDP
WCC	*(i)	Proposed disabled parking space – West Malvern Road
MHDC	*	Monthly Crime Reports
NALC	*	Clerk's Pay Scales 2015
Misc.	*	Street Lighting

(i) – An official request by WCC to approve a disabled parking bay was approved.

147/14 Councillors' items for Report

Nothing further was discussed.

148/14 Next Meeting

The date of the next Parish Council Meeting was confirmed as Monday 12th January 2015 in the Fisher Hall.

There being no further business the meeting closed at 9.20 pm.