

MALVERN WELLS PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of the Parish Council Meeting of Malvern Wells Parish Council duly convened and held in The Village Hall, Wells Road, Malvern Wells at 7.30pm on **Wednesday 29th June, 2016**

Present: Councillors N Chatten (Chairman) S Freeman
M Victory B Knibb
Mrs C O'Donnell N Johnson
Mrs J Smethurst P Bennett
J Black

Also in attendance: David Taverner (Clerk and Responsible Finance Officer)
County Councillor Mrs L Hodgson (from 8.20pm)

199/16 **Apologies for absence:** Councillors K Wagstaff, J Wagstaff, Mrs H Burrage

200/16 **Declarations of Interest**

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

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

c) To declare any Other Disclosable Interests in items on the agenda and their nature: Agenda item 10a Planning Application 16/0123/ful -Cllr Knibb advised that as he was a friend of the applicant he would take no part in any vote on the application.

201/16 **To Consider Requests from Councillors for the Council to Grant a Dispensation (S33 of the Localism Act 2011):** There were none

202/16 **Minutes of the Parish Council Annual General meeting held on 25th May, 2016**

The minutes of the Annual General Meeting, held on 25th May, 2016 had been previously circulated. The minutes were **unanimously approved** as a correct record of that meeting and were duly signed by the Chairman.

203/16 **Minutes of the Parish Council meeting held on 25th May, 2016**

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204/16 **Matters arising from the minutes**

There were none.

205/16 **Presentation from Richard Vakis – Lowe re "Heartstart Malvern"**

Mr Vakis-Lowe gave an interesting and thought provoking presentation on the potential impact that could be made, in terms of saving life, through early response intervention for casualties suffering a sudden heart attack.

The British Heart Foundation estimates that more than 30,000 cardiac arrests happen out of hospital each year and fewer than one in ten of these people survive. It is believed that in some other European

countries that the survival rate is as high as one in four. The difference in survival rate is almost certainly due to the immediate actions of family members and bystanders, following a cardiac arrest, before an ambulance arrives.

Mr Vakis- Lowe explained that the Heartstart campaign would focus on increasing the chance of survival of a person suffering a heart attack by:

- Increasing awareness of recognising a heart attack
- Providing free CPR training including defibrillator awareness
- Placing defibrillators around Malvern
- Recruiting Community First Responders
- Fundraising for more defibrillators

206/16

Reports from working groups

a) Gas lamps working group

Cllr Freeman advised that he would be meeting with David Armitage of the Malvern Hills AONB shortly to discuss scheme progress and the need for public consultation on the project, the results of which could be used to support any related lottery grant applications.

b) Events working group

The group had met on 28th June to receive an update on the organisational arrangements for the Summer fete and event advertising. Harriett Baldwin MP had been formally invited to undertake the official opening ceremony. The "Big Lunch" event, which had taken place on 12th June to tie in with the Queens 90th birthday celebrations, had been well enjoyed by all those who had attended the event.

c) Communications working group. Work on the enhancement of the parish Council's website had been completed and the site was now live. Cllr Smethurst had completed new parish councillor contact information which would appear in the Wells News.

The working group would be considering a protocol for the manner in which council correspondence would be handled in the future.

d) Open spaces working group

No meeting had taken place since the previous Parish Council meeting. The clerk and Cllr Freeman would be undertaking work to complete the formalisation of the Scout Hut Lease.

e) Jubilee Gardeners Working group

The Clerk and Members of the working group were meeting with the RHS Britain in Bloom assessor on 4th July. The group had prepared a portfolio, showing how the garden had developed in recent years, and this would be submitted to the assessor to support the council's entry to the competition.

207/16 Cemetery matters

Arrangements were due to be made with John Dentith at the Worcester Diocesan board with a view to transferring memorials stored with the Worcester Diocesan Board storage facility to the parish cemetery.

208/16 Chairman's Correspondence

a) Malvern Hills Foodbank

A letter had been received from the Malvern Hills food bank which is situated in Spring lane in Malvern.

The Malvern Hills foodbank is a project founded in 2012 by local churches and community groups, working together towards stopping hunger in our local area. It opened in February 2013 at a small warehouse in Howsell Road and moved to its present warehouse in Spring Lane South in October 2013. Over 20 church communities provide regular donations of food and household items, supplemented by donations at Just So in Barnards Green, Waitrose Great Malvern and The Cooperative Worcester Road. The foodbank has over 30 referral agencies; these are local organisations which can help and advise people in difficulty and where necessary provide a voucher for food to be redeemed at one of our foodbank centres. The foodbank is run entirely by volunteers, and is supported by The Trussell Trust

Following discussion, it was resolved that the parish Council should make a donation of £250 to the Malvern Hills Food bank to help support their work

b) Rural rate Relief application – Post Office -211 Wells Road

Consideration of this application was deferred pending further information from the applicant

c) Grass Cutting, Woodfarm Road Cllr Johnson remarked on the excellent grass cutting work which had been undertaken along the Woodfarm Drive verges by the staff from Worcestershire Golf Club and asked if a letter of thanks for their efforts could be sent by the parish Council.

210/16 Planning application 16/00123 FUL -101 Upper Welland Road – amended access arrangements

Following careful consideration of this application Members unanimously resolved to underline the strength of their objection to development of this site, on the basis that this development could contribute to the erosion of the 'green gap' between development in Upper Welland and the southern end of Malvern Wells; especially in view of the sites prominent location within the Malvern Hills AONB and Conservation Area.

Members noted that this particular application makes no reference to previous applications, relating to the land adjacent to the development site, which were refused by the District Council nor to a subsequent planning appeal which was also rejected by the Planning Inspector, who in dismissing the appeal, placed great weight on the maintenance of the green corridor within the Conservation Area and the protection of the AONB.

Members re-iterated their view that the development of the building could potentially set a precedent that other developers might seek to follow and that such developments, if allowed, could progressively harm the character, appearance and scenic beauty of the area.

The development site lies outside the recently approved SWDP and the Parish Council does not believe that the proposal constitutes a sustainable form of development, for which there is a presumption in favour of development, in accordance with the prevailing National Planning Policy Framework

211/16 Finance

a) The following accounts were approved for payment.

Chq	Payee		NET	VAT	GROSS
			£	£	£
3357	Steve Maund	Outdoor Work may and June	2,578.74	9.84	2,588.58
3358	Lexian IT	website updates	2,000.00	-	2,000.00
3359	n power	cemetery electriity	122.98	3.14	126.12
3360	lock n latch	defibrilator codes	60.00	-	60.00
3361	Severn Trent Water	cemetery water	94.80	-	94.80
3362	Phylis Goodwin	Jubileee Garden plants	103.20		103.20
s/order	David Taverner	May salary	1,521.84		1,521.84
3363	Sight Designs ltd	gas lamps maintenance	2,690.40	538.08	3,228.48
	TOTALS		9,171.96	551.06	9,723.02

b) Electronic Banking – the Clerk advised that he had now received some of the account security pin numbers, and he was awaiting delivery of the card readers which authorised users would be using to access bank information.

212/16 Report from Clerk on actions undertaken since the last meeting

a) Assarts Road Play Area- Snagging works.

The cheque for the payment of the new equipment at Assarts Road playing field was being held pending satisfactory resolution of snagging works which had been reported to the installation team.

b) Wells News

The Summer edition had been very well produced by the editor, Carolyn Aynsworth, and printing would now be undertaken with a view to deliveries being made to residents before the end of July.

c) Update on production of Civic Regalia

Cllr Freeman advised that he would be sending the artwork and related information through to the Clerk so that this matter could be progressed.

213/16 “Malferna” Bus Service Update notes from meeting held 22nd June 2016

-Attendees: County Councillors Lucy Hodgson and Roger Sutton
 District Councillors Mick Davies and Chris O’Donnell
 Parish Councillors Nick Blake (Ripple), Sue Adeney (Hanley Castle), Rosemary Webb and Peter Webb (Upton TC), Jacqui Smethurst (Malvern Wells)
 Jacci Phillips (Community Action Malvern and District), Madeleine Sumner (WCC)

Actions from Last Meeting:

Madeleine Sumner from WCC explained that 56 days' notice to the Traffic Commissioner was required to de-register or change the route of a

registered bus service. It was WCC's intention to cease this service the week ending 3rd September, therefore it will need to be de-registered w/e 9th July.

At this stage, it is too late to change the current route in that only a couple of weeks will be possible of any amendments registered.

Publicity was distributed for the current service to encourage patronage.

Thanks to John Mortimer, parish councillor in Welland, for producing the A4 and A5 leaflets with timetable on the back.

Passenger numbers had been provided by WCC to Mick Davies who had kindly looked at them and presented an analysis to the meeting.

It was interesting that a significant number of passengers used the service between Ryall and Upton (Ryall has a 363 bus approx. two-hourly to/from Upton).

Commercial Operators:

Madeleine said she had contacted Astons and LMS to let them know that discussions were going on about a potential future service between Upton and Malvern. At the time of the meeting she hadn't heard back from them.

Community Transport (CT) Operators:

Jacci Phillips, Chief Officer at CAMD, Stuart Watts from Malvern Dial-a-Ride and Madeleine had met to discuss whether CT could provide a level of service after the 360 ceases.

Jacci outlined a service based on the information she had received so far. CAMD and MDaR could provide a Monday to Saturday, demand responsive, pre-bookable service and she distributed an example route for discussion. This started and finished at Barnards Green and travelled via the 3Cs Showground, the Hanleys, Ryall, Upton, Welland, Little Malvern, Malvern Wells, Great Malvern (Bellevue Terrace), Malvern Link, Malvern Retail Park and Prospect View.

Discussion followed about whether it could serve Upper Welland, the Graftons in Upton and Fruitlands in Malvern Wells.

Jacci explained that, under the S19 permit under which the vehicles would be operated, it could serve these places if requested to do so. The service would operate to a publicised route but could divert to pick up/drop off passengers at other locations.

Passengers would need to pre-book their journey (as they would a taxi) and would be informed of the time and exact location at which the bus will pick them up.

CAMD currently operate two Community Bus routes each week in the area south of Welland and Upton to Tewkesbury and to Gloucester. Lucy asked if it was possible to ride on these to see how they work

Madeleine will provide the timetables. Cllrs can ride on the vehicle by booking as directed on the timetable.

Jacci explained the fare structure which could be used and said that National Bus Pass holders could travel at a fare reduced by £2 per single journey. This was due to WCC and MHDC each providing a £1 concession to passengers on CT.

Lucy Hodgson asked if there could be funding from MHDC. Madeleine explained that it was unlikely but that the CT schemes have a meeting with Amanda Smith at MHDC on 5th July and she would discuss the possibility of engaging the Economic Development manager in this service.

Jacci outlined the cost of a two routes per day service - £90 which reflected the two organisations' usual hire charges of a set half-day rate plus a charge per mile. A small administrative charge was also added to cover bookings.

Lucy suggested that all those present needed to go away and consider this information.

Nick explained that publicity and promotion was extremely important. He also raised the fact that this bus could be extended to Naunton.

Sue was very concerned that this proposal did not meet local needs and felt that it was a disaster for local people. She stated that the County Council should have fought harder.

Madeleine explained that the County Council had no funding to subsidise this previously-commercial service. Lucy added that the budget cuts have been considerable and still are.

Lucy pledged up to £5,000 from her Divisional Fund and Roger said he would consider an amount too. Cllr Tom Wells could also be asked. Madeleine said that there was a CT Development Fund held by WCC which could provide some funds to help 'start up' this service. Discussion followed around the possibility of supporting this service for one year for three days a week at a cost of approx. £15,000.

Lucy asked if PCs could contribute. This is something they could consider next year. It was noted that the ultimate aim would be to get this route self-financing as the funding mentioned would only be available for the first year. Nick said MHDC had a responsibility to pick up this issue. Chris suggested it should be raised at the Parish Conference.

Madeleine will send info to all on CAMD's and Worcestershire CT schemes' websites. She will also ensure Julian Roskams and Linda Blake from Malvern TC are included in the circulation list and invited to the next meeting on 6th July.

214/16 Report of County Councillor

Report to Wells Parish Council from the County Councillor Lucy Hodgson for the meeting on 29th June 2016 Highways Issues

Following on the issues raised at the last parish meeting I spoke with Gerry Brienza and he confirmed the following

1. The Three Counties Show – a traffic management plan would have been agreed with MHDC and commented on by our street works team.
2. The VAS already has three approved locations along the Wells Rd, see attached VAS rota. The VAS appears at each site for one month every 10 months. A new VAS sign, similar to the existing VAS, costs in the region of £2,650. Attached to the report is the VAS position list for the Chase Ward for the current year.

Highways Sign Clearance Programme

The Council has now completed the first major cut of the rural roads network, including visibility splays and hot spots. Ringway are now moving onto the clearance of highways and safety signs on the Highway. The focus in the first instance will be on the A and B roads across Worcestershire. They have four tractors out and about doing these works and will complete this task as soon as practicable over the next few weeks.

In addition, and not least in light of the particularly strong vegetation growth this year, Ringway have two further gangs on standby for other safety signing clearance issues. If you are aware of any other safety signing including on C and Unclassified roads, where visibility is obstructed by vegetation, please let us know and Ringway will get this cleared as soon as practicable.

Please contact the Highways Control Centre by telephoning 01905 843070 or using our [online facility](#) if you wish to report any sign clearance issues.

Libraries big launch for The Big Friendly Read

The Big Friendly Read, Summer Reading Challenge 2016 launches in Worcestershire on Saturday 25 June.

All children aged 4 – 12 years are invited to sign up to the challenge at their local library from 25 June and at a special launch event at National Trust Croome near Pershore on 25 June from 10 am to p.m. At the Croome event children can meet guest author Tom Palmer and take part in a range of activities including: storytelling, theatre performances from Croome Encounters and Unfold Dance Theatre Company, interactive Roald Dahl workshops and performances by Worcestershire Young Voices. Sponsored by The Reading Agency, the aim of the challenge is to keep children reading through the long summer holiday. By visiting libraries children can choose from thousands of books – or can download an e-book from the libraries website. Stacks of activities will take place in libraries over the holidays and there are stickers and medals to earn along the way as children read their six books, so get involved – it's free! Each year there is a new theme, this year celebrating 100 years of the world's greatest storyteller, Roald Dahl. After the launch two more fun filled days are planned at National Trust Croome on 27 July with author Alan Gibbons and 24 August with author Jonathan Emmett. The challenge ends on 24 September 2016.

There are lots of interesting and fun volunteering opportunities for 12 – 24 year olds. For more information about volunteering and the Summer Reading Challenge visit www.worcestershire.gov.uk/librariesandlearning and www.bigfriendlyread.org.uk or ask at your local library.

Concerns over the closing times of Malvern Library

Following on from the last meeting I passed on the comments about the loss of the late closing of the library and these will help with final decision making of the exact changes.

Worcestershire Parkway Regional Interchange

Cabinet at its meeting on June 16th took the decision to approve the delivery of the Worcestershire Parkway station at Norton with work starting in early 2017 and completion by March 2018.

214/16

Report of District Councillor Mrs C O'Donnell

Cllr O'Donnell had submitted the following report:

"An £80K revamp of Malvern Town FC's clubhouse has been completed with ambitious plans to turn the building into a thriving community hub.

Work got underway earlier this year at the HD Anywhere Community Stadium and involved the total renovation of the clubhouse including new windows, flooring, a larger kitchen, new disabled toilet, baby changing facilities and bar area.

On top of that, 12 state-of-the-art television screens have been installed, including two big screens, which will show coverage of every major sporting event on Sky and BT Sport.

The project was part funded using £50,000 from the Big Pickersleigh Project, which was led by Malvern Hills District Council and a range of other organisations, with the aim of improving the lives of people living in the area.

Don't forget the Line-up unveiled for open air cinema

Sunday, 1 May	Priory Park	Singing' In The Rain
Sunday, 5 June	Rose-Bank Gardens	Casablanca
Sunday, 24 July	Victoria Park	ET
Sunday, 21 Aug	Priory Park	Ferris Buller's Day Off
Sunday, 18 Sept	Priory Park	Blues Brothers + Fetch Theatre presents Clapper Box
Sunday, 2 Oct	Priory Park	Blade Runner (Directors Cut)

Tickets for the showings are available from the Malvern Theatre Box Office by calling 01684 892277 or on Malvern Theatres website and cost £8.50 or £5 for concessions. Refreshments will be available and drinks from the theatre bar.

The Malvern Munch was a great success

The Malvern Munch Food Walk was back this year with lots of tasty treats and stunning scenery on offer. The event takes place on Sunday 29 May starting from Rose Bank Gardens in the centre of Great Malvern and was a great success. Please look out for the next one.

Man issued with High Court Injunction

A man has been ordered to stop living in a mobile home illegally placed on his land or face a hefty fine or even prison. John Henry Caldwell, of Orchard Lodge, Amberley was issued with an injunction by the High Court in Birmingham to stop living in the caravan and to remove it from his land by 31 August this year. The 65 year-old was also told to pay £2,000 in costs at the hearing on Wednesday, 8 June. Putting a caravan on the site to live in breaches planning rules designed to protect the countryside and character of the district. Mr Caldwell could have applied for planning permission in a bid to retain the caravan but failed to do so and has not provided any justification for keeping it. enforce our policies, this shows we are willing to pursue these cases for as long as is necessary in order to protect the countryside which we know our residents value."

HeartStart Malvern by Richard Vakis-Lowe

I attend a meeting given by Richard and feel it is really important for us to be active in his project, as the Parish Council has just bought and installed 3 defibrillators around the Wells covering it from end to end. Richard is giving a talk this evening which I'm sure you will all enjoy and maybe even use it to save a life."

215/16 Report of elected Conservator- Cllr S Freeman

Pensions deficit

Cllr Freeman advised that the conservators Board were looking at ways to manage their share of the large deficit arising from the past and present employees' pension provisions and liabilities.

Management of Thirds Wood Thirds Wood is a unique and cherished part of the Malvern Hills. Further to the works outlined in the Malvern Hills Conservators' Land Management Plan, a proposal has now been drafted by Forestry Consultant B.J Unwin for making the wood safer, improving its structure and ensuring the longevity of its 'Little Switzerland' character.

Access to the Hills for all A Land Rover vehicle will be using the track from Beacon Road to the Worcestershire Beacon on a one-off basis. This is part of the project to provide access for disabled persons to the top of the Malvern Hills by the Malvern Rotary Club.

Signage will be visible at Beacon Road car parks and marshals from the Rotary Club will be providing information and helping visitors whilst the vehicle is running. The authorised vehicle will be displaying the MHC logo. With support from The Land Rover Experience at Eastnor, guests will be able to enjoy the wonderful view from the highest point on the Hills.

216/16 report of Malvern Hills CALC representative – Cllr B Knibb
Cllr Knibb advised that Cllr S Freeman had been appointed as a parish representative to serve on the District Council's standards committee.

At this stage of the meeting the Council passed a resolution that the remainder of the meeting should be closed to the public and press under the Local Government Act (Admission to Meetings) Act 1960 The reason being the consideration of the potential purchase of land which might be commercially sensitive.

Publication of the minutes of this item is therefore restricted.

There being no other business the Chairman closed the meeting at 9.35pm

Approved..... Chairman
27th July, 2016