

CASTLEMORTON PARISH COUNCIL
Draft Minutes of Meeting of Castlemorton Parish Council held on
Thursday 2 March 2017 at the Parish Hall at 7.30pm

Present: Cllrs: Don Lupton (Chair), Jeremy Fryman, Barbara Wilkes, Hilary Flanders, David Smallwood, Anne Cotterell and Simon Watts.

In Attendance: C.Cllr. Tom Wells, Mrs C Leake (Clerk)

Members of the Public: 2 and Paul Esrich from Malvern Hills AONB

Before the meeting commenced Paul Esrich advised the meeting on the proposed verge management pilot scheme for the ensuing 3 – 5 years. It was hoped that selected verges within the AONB in Castlemorton and Birtsmorton in addition to the northern rural Parishes could be allowed to grow naturally and wild flowers would be encouraged by cutting and collecting grass annually at the end of the summer. Care would be taken to ensure hazardous areas were maintained as at present. The Parish Council supported this initiative and the services of the Lengthsman were to be utilised where possible. Subsequent questions included the importance of communication: with the present verge contractor, advertising the scheme and residents who particularly cared for the verge area adjacent to their properties in addition to the removal of the arisings, livestock concerns and potential costs.

16/17. Apologies: DCllr Mick Davies, Ben Wiggins and Jeremy Hubbard.

The chairman reported that he had received an email of resignation from Councillor Wiggins who was shortly moving away from the area. The chairman in response acknowledged Cllr.Wiggins' contribution to Parish Council matters.

17/17. Declarations of interests

1. *Register of Interests.* No updates.
2. *To declare any Disclosable Pecuniary Interests (DPI) and/or Other Disclosable Interests (ODI) in items on the agenda and their nature.* None
3. *To consider written requests from councillors for the council to grant a dispensation (S33 of the Localism Act 2011)* None

18/17. Minutes of the Previous Meeting

It was **RESOLVED** that the draft minutes of the meeting of 5 January 2017 were a true record of the meeting and signed.

19/17 District/County Councillor reports

CCllr Wells reported on

- Recent decision by MHDC to introduce alternate weekly collections of waste and recycling. Initial investment for new waste bins and ultimately an anticipated saving overall for local authority waste collection and hopefully actual waste from households. Anticipated start of new regime in a year's time.
- Council chamber to be demolished and rebuilt with facilities for a customer service desk including manned Tourist Information (TI) Financial savings to be made with the closure of the present TI office in Church Street.
- Vehicle Activated Sign – due to be repaired and continue to share with Welland as Hanley Castle is purchasing own unit.
- Speed limit B4208 – Awaiting results of consultation process.
- Council Tax for WCC increased by nearly 2% to benefit Adult care.

20/17 Highway/Lengthsman Reports

Highways – as per report and also an opportunity to convey thanks to Lengthsman, who was present at meeting.

Further comment related to:

- Impending retirement of WCC Engineer Roy Fullee.
- Lengthsman work with culverts and grips has ensured water drains off highways although there are still 1 or 2 sites which will flood briefly in heavy rainfall.

Footpaths- Report on recent meeting with Parish Path warden, Parish Council and WCC. Specific sites visited and positive action identified.

Support sought for the Spring Clean week presently underway and areas identified for clearing with the use of equipment provided. Dog walkers encouraged to use the concept of ‘Stick & Flick’ the dog poo off the walking path rather than leaving bags of mess hanging in branches along rural footpaths

21/17 /Broadband

The parish is now live with Superfast facility available to many households. Information from Worcestershire Superfast has been included in recent magazine distribution and further leaflets available for others. In response to the initial enthusiasm in seeking funding, residents to be encouraged to sign up and can be helped with the process if so required.

Possible installation and justification for broadband facility within the Parish Hall to be considered.

22/17Planning

Report of planning applications **received/decided** since last meeting was noted

16/01645/FUL	Wrought iron overmantle with light above church gate	St Gregorys Church, Church Road, Castlemorton, Worcestershire	MHDC Approve
17/00030/FUL	Change of use of agricultural land to glamping accommodation with the siting of five safari tents and ancillary storage building.	Clarks Farm, Druggers End, Castlemorton, Worcestershire, WR13 6JD	Recommend Approve
16/01312/PDU	Prior Approval for a Proposed Change of Use of Agricultural Building to a Dwellinghouse (Class C3) and for Associated Operational Development	Barn at The Farthings, Castlemorton, Worcestershire, WR13 6JB	Refusal of agricultural prior approval. Nov 16 APPEAL 28.12.16 APP/J1860/X/16/3158682
17/00123/PDU	Prior Approval for change of use of Barns to one residential dwelling.	Pewtrice Farm, Castlemorton, Worcestershire, WR13 6LT	Not standard consultee

- Councillors reminded of new MHDC planning website.
- **Draft Parish Council Planning Policy Document** considered and to be circulated for amendments before next meeting.

23/17. Finance Report **Income and Payments**

It was **RESOLVED** that the following income be noted & payments agreed:

	£	£	Description
Balance: 5 January 2017		11983.24	
Add Income	353.36		WCC Lengthsman Scheme
Total		353.36	
Less Expenditure pre-meeting			

	573.75 120.00		Four Seasons Talbot Transport
Total		693.75	
Balance at meeting		11642.85	
Less Expenditure at meeting			
Councillor Exps Four Seasons	85.48 401.25		Highway- Tarmacadam /Bollards Lengthsman
Total		486.73	
Balance at close of meeting 2 March		11156.12	

Internal Auditor – To be contacted as per previous years.

Pension Declaration – Clerk confirmed that the declaration of compliance had been completed as per the requirements of automatic enrolment.

24/17 Meeting Reports

- Forthcoming meeting planned with Malvern Hills Conservators provisionally Tuesday 9 May at the Parish Hall.
- Acknowledgement to recent MHDC planning training meetings and receipt of power point presentations

25/17 New Initiative

- Face Book – With lack of Facebook users within Parish Council there were concerns re monitoring this form of social media following a request. However if there was outside interest, an idea would be to create a community Facebook inviting people to join. This would be investigated.
- Small Business Club – With a number of parishioners now working from home the establishment of a local small business club was considered, especially sharing skills. This again to be investigated and interest sought through publicity.
- It was noted that the History Club in the 2 adjoining parishes (C&B) was gathering much enthusiasm and material after recent launch.

26/17 Charities Representation

Mrs Beverley Bradshaw had indicated her interest in representing the Parish as a trustee of Castlemorton United Charities. This appointment supported by those present.

27/17 Correspondence

Particular mention of:

- Consultations – Public Space Protection Order pursuant to Dog Control and Local Transport Plan
- MHDC Parish & Town Council Forum 24 April
- MHDC Spring Clean Week – 3 – 5 March
- Monthly updates from Safer Neighbourhood Team including details about registering on the new neighbourhood watch scheme. CMS Community Messaging Service.

28/17. Next Meetings

RESOLVED that the next meeting will be Thursday 11 May (Annual Meetings)

An opportunity to showcase local community groups.

There being no other business, the meeting closed at 10.15pm

Signed

Date.....