

**MINUTES OF THE ANNUAL PARISH COUNCIL MEETING OF MARTLEY PARISH  
COUNCIL HELD ON MONDAY 16<sup>th</sup> MAY 2011 AT THE MEMORIAL HALL**

Present: Cllr. Mrs. D. Goodyear Cllr. Mr. M. Nott  
Cllr. Mr. T. Fearnehough Cllr. Mr. T. Gale  
Cllr. Mrs. K. Metcalfe Cllr. Mr. R. McHugh  
Cllr. Mr. T. Bromley Cllr. Mr. M. C. A. Clarke

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

There were 4 members of the public present.

The Chairman welcomed everyone to the meeting.

**01-11 Election of Chairman:** Councillor. Goodyear was elected as Chairman and signed a declaration of office.

**02-11 Election of Vice Chairman:** Councillor. Nott was elected as Vice Chairman and signed a declaration of office.

**03-11 Apologies:** No apologies were received.

**04-11 Declarations of Interest:** Councillors were reminded to check their register of interests were up to date. No declarations of interest were made.

**The Democratic Period/Public Question Time**

Parishioners raised the following items:

A recent meeting had taken place between Highways Officers and a parishioner regarding the 30MPH at Berrow Green. The outcome of the meeting was that a further reminder sign will be installed, together with white lines at Fairview, Pudford Lane.

The sign stating "Hope House Lane" where Church Lane meets Worcester Road is incorrect. The Clerk will ask that the sign is moved to the junction of Church Lane with the main road to Hollins Lane.

The 30MPH sign at the bottom of the bank at Berrow Green is also in the wrong place. The Clerk will ask that the sign is moved to outside Firs Cottage, Berrow Green.

**There is another sign that states B4197 not B4167 that needs changing within the village.**

**05-11 Standing Orders:** The Clerk will forward a copy of the standing orders to all Councillors and will agenda this item for the next full Parish Council meeting.

**06-11 Code of Conduct:** The Clerk advised Councillors that a full version and a briefer pocket version of the Code of Conduct are available if required. New Councillors will be

given both versions for their information. All Councillors were reminded that they must abide by the Code of Conduct.

**07-11 Scheme of Delegation:** All Councillors agreed to retain the current Scheme of Delegation with Committee membership as follows:

(a) Finance Committee – Councillor Clarke and Councillor Fearnough

(b) Planning Committee – All Councillors, with 4 as a minimum to be present to consider planning applications

(c) Salaries and Personnel Committee – Councillor Metcalfe, Councillor Nott and Councillor Goodyear

**08-11 To review the Council’s Financial Regulations, Risk Assessment and Insurance Requirements:** The Council delegated this to the Finance Committee with a report requested by the next meeting.

**09-11 To appoint individual Councillors to the following roles:** Councillors Nott, McHugh and Metcalfe were appointed to the role of Environmental Officer.

**10-11 To nominate Councillors to the following outside Committees:**

Old Grammar School Foundation – Councillors Goodyear and Gale

Penny Hill Tip – Councillors Goodyear and Fearnough

Playing Fields Association – Pending decision

Village Hall – Councillors Goodyear and Bromley

Heaton House – Councillor Goodyear

SPORT Martley – Councillor Metcalfe

Nora Parsons Day Centre – Councillors Goodyear and Fearnough

Martley Relief in Need – District Councillor Williams

Neighbourhood Watch – Councillor Metcalfe will retain an interest

Show Committee – Councillor Metcalfe will represent any Parish Council interest

**11-11 Vacancies:** There is a remaining vacant seat on the Parish Council. MHDC have clarified that there is no formal process to follow at present in terms of co-opting.

However, CALC recommend consideration be given to advertising the vacancy. The Parish Council agreed not to advertise the vacancy as it has been previously advertised to which there was no interest.

The Parish Council voted unanimously in favour of co-opting Mrs Baxter as their final member. The Clerk will contact Mrs Baxter to confirm meeting dates, register of interest, declaration of office, etc.

**12-11 Minutes:** The minutes were approved as a true record of the meeting held on Monday 4<sup>th</sup> April 2011.

**13-11 Outstanding actions from previous minutes:**

There are three outstanding actions which are the flowers for the Litter Warden, setting up of the parish council website via WCC homepage and to correspond/meet with last year's internal auditor.

**14-11 Progress reports:**

**Clerk –**

Been to see parishioner on Ankerdine and is now in the process of writing to the companies believed to have breached the weight limit.

Paul Lambon, soon to be in post Local Policing Officer for Martley is in discussions with Mike Digger, Traffic Management Officer regarding the weight restriction at Ankerdine.

CSO Cooper had questioned whether more signs would be of use at Ankerdine. The Clerk is to forward concerns to Highways regarding current position of signs.

Has made representation to Highways regarding the removal of the weight restriction at Broadheath Common. Service Request ID 4087015.

British Gas are still investigating Clerk's response to their request for a further £300 for electricity supplied at the Weighbridge.

Returned the invoice for the church clock as deemed more appropriate for the church to meet the costs of the additional work as the Parish Council has recently met the costs of the annual service.

Referred to a litter scheme run by Wychavon, the Clerk has asked District Councillor Williams if MHDC run a similar scheme as this would be of benefit for Martley's litter blitz.

Gerry Brienza is the new Senior Highways Liaison Officer covering Martley. Gerry confirmed his availability for the next few weeks and as such Councillors will be meeting with him next week to look at possible speed sign locations.

Neighbourhood Watch bulletins will be circulated by the Clerk when required.

A further meeting of residents, Housing Association, Police, MHDC, etc is not possible at the moment to discuss recent incidents at Nash Close due to an on-going police investigation. The Clerk is to reply to the Housing Association to advise that this response is unacceptable.

David Hunter has called the Clerk to advise that he was mindful not to meet the costs of dropping the curbs at Hollins Lane. The Clerk is to write to David Hunter advising that this is unacceptable as a previous commitment to meet these costs has been given.

Going to see Malvern Art Products tomorrow to arrange the Freedom of Martley lettering.

The plate for the milestone is to be cast this Wednesday at The Foundry.

The Recreation Association has secured a £10,000 grant for play area equipment.

### **Lengthsman –**

Has cleared more than 14 grips along the Hillside. Has not claimed full hours for April due to Bank Holidays and School Holidays. The Lengthsman is to take on the duties of the Litter Warden and the Clerk will advise of bin locations.

**15-11 District and County Councillors' reports:** Both District Councillor Williams and County Councillor Alwyn Davies provided annual reports, attached as addendums.

### **16-11 Planning:**

#### New

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

**11/00243/FUL** Penny Hill Quarry, Pudford Lane – To erect a static wind charger

#### Approved

**11/00407/CLE** Callow Farm, Hillside – Siting of one residential mobile home

**11/00389/HOU** Hollings End, Newtown – Single storey extension

**11/00294/HOU** Primrose Bank, Newtown – Two storey and single storey extn.

**11/00204/HOU** Fairview, Pudford Lane – Proposed rear attic conversion with new velux roof lights.

#### Withdrawn by applicant

**11/00325/LBC** Tee Farm, Martley – Replacement of all windows to dwelling

**17-11 Cycle races:** Concerns had been raised by a number of parishioners regarding the recent race that took place on 1<sup>st</sup> May 2011 in terms of blocking the road with the use of red flags, general noise, taking up of spaces on the car park of The Admiral Rodney without permission, inconsiderate parking on the roadside, riding 5 abreast down narrow country lanes. The Clerk is to write to the Secretary of the club and West Mercia Police.

**18-11 Finance:** There were 10 cheques totalling £1,749.53 approved.

### **19-11 Correspondence:**

Items for information

1. CALC Update 14
2. CALC Update 15
3. CALC Update 16

Items for discussion

4. Development Control Planning Training Programme 2011-12
5. Mr Stammers St. Peters Drive
6. Neighbourhood Watch Press Release
7. Mrs Day Allotment request
8. Worcester County Council Bus Service Review

**20-11 Urgent decisions since the last meeting:** No urgent decisions had been made.

**21-11 Councillors reports and items for future agenda:**

The Clerk will arrange a separate meeting following legal advice regarding the field and the Recreation Association.

There has been a road traffic collision involving 2 cars near The Noak Farm today. The clerk will note this collision.

A further collision was referred to that occurred about a week ago near Stoneybridge. Councillors McHugh to find out further details to enable the Clerk to note the collision.

The Clerk is to report the hanging tree again in Newtown.

**The Clerk is to ask the Lengthsman to dig out ditches at Penny Hill Cottage, Pudford Lane (close to Quarry Road), just past Elmlea and outside The Villa.**

The Clerk is to ask whether the 'no through road' sign could be improved on Jury Lane.

The Clerk is to report the Berrow Green sign being in the incorrect position.

**Highways have advised that the pot hole at Brook Court will be filled in the next ten days.**

The Clerk is to report the pothole at New House Farm, Hope House Lane.

**22-11 Date of next meeting:** The next meeting will be held on Monday 6<sup>th</sup> June 2011. The Annual Meeting of the Parish will be held on Saturday 21<sup>st</sup> May 2011.

Meeting finished at 10.10 pm.

Addendum 1

**Cllr Barbara Williams – Malvern Hills District Council**

**2010/11 APM Report**

Dear Chairman and Members,

I have had yet another very busy year as your ward member for MHDC, partially with regard to planning issues, following the local elections I am still an executive member with portfolio for Economic Development. I mainly cover Economic prosperity, Children and young people, elderly people, community safety, tourism, leisure and culture.

We have managed to keep our share of the council tax with no increase this year.

I am still Chairman of Sport Martley management committee, representing MHDC, Sport Martley continues to flourish, a separate report will be enclosed for the Annual Meeting of the Parish.

I still represent MHDC on the Old Grammar School Foundation.

I am also president of Martley Young Farmers; we have been set a President's challenge to compile a history or record of our club dating back to its beginning, a task that is proving very interesting.

We have seen the repeal of The Regional Spatial Strategy which was put in place to impose the future level of housing growth in the area. In its place the Malvern District Council along with Wychavon DC and Worcester City have formed a South Worcester Development plan which is still under consultation, a far better approach to local planning than the Government led proposal.

Finally I would like to say how much I enjoy working with your parish council, Chairman and members alike, also my close working relationship with your County Councillor, Alwyn Davies.

And finally Chairman, I am also pleased to say that I will be working with you for at least a further four years as my Ward seat has been uncontested therefore I have been elected unopposed.

As your Representative for Martley Relief in Need the Reverend David Sherwin and I delivered nearly 50 pot plants and boxes of chocolates to the elderly in Martley for Christmas.

Cllr Barbara Williams

## Addendum 2

### **Martley Parish Council Annual Parish Meeting**

**Monday 16 May 2011**

#### **County Council Report 2010-2011**

The last year has been testing in many ways. Last June was the General Election, which saw no party with an overall majority and eventually led to a coalition Government, made up of Conservatives and Liberal Democrats.

It soon became obvious that the country was in a parlous state economically, which would result in harsh funding cuts and possible reduction in front-line services.

Last year, I advised you that the County Council had taken the view that we would only receive 85% of our previous funding, leaving us to make savings of £45M over three years. It has proved worse than this, in that this year's funding had been reduced by £30M and savings to be achieved amount to nearly £70M over four years. The County Council has embarked on a review of grants received, services provided and staffing levels in order to achieve this requirement. This coming year will see wide-ranging savings, job losses estimated at 300FTE and a desire to keep front-line services at current levels. Some reductions may be seen, e.g. bus services, but all efforts are being made to minimise their effects. We have frozen the level of Council Tax for the next year and will seek to carry on at those levels, if possible.

On a personal basis, I have continued to Chair the Planning and Regulatory Committee and to attend meetings affecting the well being of Parishes in my Division.

On a more local level, issues have been:

Another bad winter saw the need for gritting and provision of grit bins throughout the County. Review of gritting routes and provision of new bins have, I believe, been appreciated by most parishioners.

Maintenance of highways receives continued priority, with currently urgent repair of potholes. The long-term planned maintenance and the £15M investment in the rural road programme includes in the forthcoming year for your parish patching to the junction of Hockhams Lane to B4197 at Crossroads and patching/surface dressing at Willow Road.

The County speed limit reviews continue and, where reports directly affect Parishes, I have consulted with them. The views of the Parish Council accepted the proposal, accepting that local inhabitants have expressed concern on some issues. After further discussion a new consultation package is to be prepared, leading to a Transportation Regulation Order, which will be subject to Public Consultation.

The Chantry High School remains an outstanding School, with excellent results. The opportunity to become an Academy has been offered to the School and the Governors

are moving the investigations forward, with the aim to become an Academy by September 2011.

Bloor Homes has withdrawn its application for residential and commercial development, West of Worcester. With the abolition of the Regional Spatial Strategy, the three District Councils are now preparing the South Worcestershire Development Plan and we await their proposals in terms of numbers and siting. The County Council must then look at the infrastructure needs.

I continue to attend your meetings as often as possible and am always available to help and advise on issues in your Parish.

Alwyn Davies

County Councillor – Hallow Electoral Division