

# **Malvern Wells Parish Council**

## **Minutes of full Council Meeting held on Wednesday 30<sup>th</sup> June 2021 at 7:00pm in Malvern Wells Village Hall (Remote access additionally available for members of the public)**

### **Present**

Cllrs. B Knibb, C O'Donnell (Chair), C Gates, G Turrell, D Preece, P Stanier, D Booker, J Black, H Burrage,

### **In Attendance**

Mrs S Hart (Clerk), County Councillor Jack Satterthwaite 1 member of public in the hall and 1 online.

Cllr Satterthwaite was welcomed by the Chair. Cllrs introduced themselves and the County Councillor gave his report.

### **Public participation:**

The following statements were made:

- A current Malvern Hills Trust (MHT) pamphlet says that MHT are re-planting an orchard in Malvern Wells. This is just outside the boundary of Malvern Wells Parish.
- There was going to be a question regarding the NDP meeting but this has now been dealt with by the Clerk.
- A question has been asked regarding public questions at meetings and how these are kept track of. This is being dealt with by the Clerk.

A written statement and questions were submitted by a member of public and read by the Chair see **Annex A**. These had already been submitted and answered by the Clerk. The following response was made:

- In response to item 1: No further response can be made.
- In response to item 2: The Council can't answer to the statement of a previous Council Chair if it's not minuted.
- In response to item 3: Consultants are hired by the Council to work on specialist areas of the NDP that are outside the specialisms of Council members.
- In response to item 4: No, although records are kept in order to know which ones are currently live.

### **1. Apologies were received and accepted for the following Councillors:**

K Wagstaff, T O' Donnell, M Dyde, J Baker

### **2. Declarations of Interest**

- a) Register of Interests: there were none**
- b) Disclosable Pecuniary Interests: there were none.**
- c) To declare any Other Disclosable Interests in items on the agenda and their nature: Cllr Knibb declared an interest in item 11a 21/00698.**
- d) Written requests for the council to grant a dispensation: there were none.**

3. The minutes of the previous Council meetings held on 26th May 2021 and 16<sup>th</sup> June 2021 were approved and signed by the Chair.

4. The payment of accounts was approved.

Black toner	The Cartridge People Ltd	Office Admin and Travel	73.89
Insurance	BHIB	Insurance	1,702.30
Electricity cemetery	EON	Cemetery Supplies and Ma	27.21
PO Box	Royal Mail	Office Admin and Travel	360.00
CiLCA Training Sessions	Worcestershire CALC	Training	180.00
May21 to Jun21	Lloyds Bank	Bank charges	7.00
Bin collection	Malvern Hills District Co	Cemetery Supplies and Ma	59.86
Jun-Jul21 remote meeting subscri	Zoom	Meeting costs	14.39
Outdoor work Jun21	S Maund	Cemetery Labour Costs	653.52
Outdoor work Jun21	S Maund	Open spaces maintenance	303.42
Outdoor work Jun21	S Maund	Footpaths/Lengthsman	287.86
Grass cutting 1st half payment	S Maund	Grass cutting	1,500.00
Refuse sacks	S Maund	Cemetery Labour Costs	15.50
Outdoor work Jun21	M Thomas	Cemetery Labour Costs	334.82
Clerk salary Jun21	S Hart	Salaries, PAYE, Pension and	1,339.11
Q1 PAYE and NI	HMRC	Salaries, PAYE, Pension and	1,339.81
Pension Jun21	Nest	Salaries, PAYE, Pension and	82.60
Burial Ground Manager Jun21	M Alexander	Burial Ground Manager	452.98

5. The recommendation from the Events Working Group that Revd Dave Bruce is asked to open the fete on behalf of the Parish Council this year was **approved**.

#### 6. Working Groups Terms of reference

- a) The meeting record from the Play and Open Spaces Working Group was **approved**.
- b) The Generic Terms of Reference for Working Groups was **approved**.
- c) The terms of reference recommended from the Play and Open Spaces Working group was **approved**.

7. **Community Speedwatch was discussed. Council decided to postpone a decision on this to a later meeting when volunteers of the speedwatch group and a representative of Community Speedwatch might be available to answer questions.**

#### 8. Wells News

- a) It was **noted** that the Wells News editor can no longer undertake the role of editor.
- b) It was **decided** that the Clerk should seek a volunteer editor via the noticeboards, Facebook and Twitter for the Wells News.

9. It was **approved** that the Council would participate in the Queens Green Canopy tree planting initiative. Ideas put forward: supporting/encouraging the Scouts to participate due to them being eligible for free trees and the location by the Scout hut being a possible suitable location for a few trees. Planting a single tree in a suitable location may also be an option. The options will be brought back to Council for a decision.

**10.** The installation of information boards (explaining the management of the area) on the Village Green and Assarts Road playing field was **approved**. Sample text (provided by the AONB manager Paul Esrich) circulated. The AONB would be willing to put some funding towards costs.

## 11. Planning

### Cllr Knibb left the room

a) The following decisions were made:

<a href="#">21/00698/HP</a>	Relocation of garden structure	103 Fruitlands Malvern WR14 4XB	Malvern Wells Parish Council has no objection.
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### Cllr Knibb returned to the room

<a href="#">21/00948/HP</a>	Replacement front porch	26 Old Wyche Road, Malvern, WR14 4EP	Malvern Wells Parish Council has no objection.
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**12.** It was **agreed** that the start time for Council meetings for the rest of the year would be 7:30pm.

**13.** The District report was **noted** see **Annex B**. The County Councillor gave a verbal report before the meeting started.

**14.** Any other matters to report or for future consideration.

- Gas lamp 44 is still not working.
- The Worcestershire CALC team have decided to work from home and have given up the lease in the office. Cllr Knibb was concerned that this may have not gone through the correct channels, because the CALC Executive Committee hadn't been consulted.
- Cllr O'Donnell reported that there have been no significant parking issues at St Wulstans recently.

There being no further business the meeting closed at 8:39pm

## Annex A

The following comments were those that I attempted to make in the public forum before the start of the Parish Meeting on Wed 24 Feb 2021.

1. Reference to Planning Meeting of 17 Feb 2021, Agenda Item 5. A member of the public put a question regarding application 20/01476/HP – Fairview, 1 Chase Road, Upper Welland n- “I am interested to hear from the planning committee their reasons why they considered this application acceptable and look forward to their response.” **Comment:** Consultation with Parish Residents should always be a consideration. To ensure that nothing significant is missed it is recommended that the Parish Council should request an extended date from MHDC; in that way the Parish Council would see any Residents

comments before submitting the Parish Council comments. If something significant is missed, then it should always be brought to the attention of the MHDC Planning, no matter how much time has passed.

2. The previous Chair of the Parish Council stated that there had been discussions with the South Worcestershire Development Plan team in regard to a housing allocation for the Malvern Wells Parish. I am concerned that a robust defence of the AONB has been undermined. This has been clearly signposted by the initial drafts of the Neighbourhood Plan advocating the development of housing estates; outside the development boundary no less. Does the Parish Council know what was agreed with the South Worcestershire Development Plan team and can the Residents be informed? Just because the landowners and developers can submit their land for development to the South Worcestershire Development Plan team does not mean that the Parish has to submit to their pressure, which is purely commercial, no matter how it is dressed up. The AONB deserves protecting.

3. It has been noted before, that the consultants that were hired for the preparation of the Neighbourhood Plan, did not serve the council well. A great deal of money has been spent on what would seem a developer's plan for development in the AONB. It would have been better spent running a public relations campaign on protecting the AONB. I am therefore surprised that the Council voted to spend more money on the same consultants – an extremely odd decision.

4. For this month's meeting I have the following question: Does the Parish Council keep a running total of the number of planning applications it receives? How many it rejects and how many it supports? How many does the MHDC support and does the Parish Council appeal if its recommendation is not supported by the MHDC?

## **Annex B**

### **District Councillor Report by Mark Dyde – June 2021**

The revamp of Priory Park has begun with the shelter refurbishment having now been completed. Further work will take place on the paths, railings and pond. There are also plans to replace the play area.

The DC are now hosting "Live on Facebook" sessions. These are an opportunity for our residents to ask questions in real time and will also give the leader a chance to update our communities on the work of the council each month. On Monday 5 July at 1pm the leader of the council, Cllr Sarah Rouse will be joined by the chief exec Vic Allison.

A deal has been agreed to create a community woodland in Malvern to mark the Covid-19 pandemic. The Madresfield Estate will provide to Malvern Hills District Council an area of woodland next to Goodson Road, by the retail park in Malvern, for an initial 10 year period. The aim will be to create an enhanced green space for the community to enjoy as well as provide a quiet space for contemplation and reflection. The "Wood of Thanks" will act as a natural tribute to the amazing community response to support people through the pandemic, as well as include a memorial area to those who have lost their lives to the virus. The council will be responsible for maintaining and enhancing the woodland with an initial £20,000 set aside to fund work. It is planned bids for other funding will be made to support the project. The plan for the woodland includes improving the habitat by clearing more invasive plant species and planting native plants and installation of bird and bat boxes. The entrance will also be enhanced, benches will be installed, and footpaths extended to allow for more seating and access for pushchairs, wheelchairs and mobility scooters. Tall tree stumps will be kept and turned into carving artwork.

## Malvern Hills Trust Report

Ash die-back is becoming an increasing problem for the trust. We have recently set up a new working group to look at how we can fund necessary works and are starting to put out communications to the public to keep them informed.

The trust is looking to resume public meetings in person now but, like many other organisations, is struggling to find premises that can accommodate the numbers with the current guidance/restrictions. Not helped by the large number of board members!

DRAFT