

WEST MALLING PARISH COUNCIL

MINUTES OF A MEETING OF THE AMENITIES COMMITTEE
HELD ON MONDAY 10 OCTOBER 2021 AT 7.30PM
VILLAGE HALL, NORMAN ROAD, WEST MALLING

Present: Mr P Stevens (Chairman)
Miss G Barkham
Ms S Margetts
Mrs L Javens
Ms Stacpoole
Co-opted Members:
Mr M Doyle
Ms I Macdonald
Mr J Musker

Minute		Action by	Action taken	Response
21/518	<u>APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE</u> : Mrs Y Smyth and Rev D Green			
21/519	<u>DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST</u> – none other than routinely declared.			
21/520	<u>MINUTES</u> – after amendments to (21/465 – matters arising) should be Lime tree T3 and (21/468.1 – Macey's Meadow) Applefest cancelled due to Covid restrictions and wildflower seeds have been planted in the loam pit the minutes of the meeting held on Monday 13 September 2021 were approved and signed.			
21/521	<u>MATTERS ARISING</u> There were no matters arising.			
21/522	<u>TENNIS COURTS</u> Mr Barton confirmed that the income was slightly higher than estimated but it is not a profit centre and that they break even. It was agreed to review in 12 months.			
21/523	<u>CHURCHYARD</u>			
523.1	<u>Report by Rev David Green</u> In his absence Rev Green had provided a report, as follows: Churchyard allotments We have served notice on Ashley Fosberry in regard to plots 5 and 6. We've allowed him to keep plot 7 on a trial basis. Plot 4 has also changed hands to Stuart Forsey with Kerrie Stephens now taking on plot 5 (instead of 4) and, theoretically, Christine Bone taking on plot 6. However, I've not heard at all from Christine despite several attempts to ask her about whether she does indeed want the allotment. Churchyard walls There has also been a patch of the churchyard wall collapsed in the allotments. I think Stuart Forsey must have tried to pull down the ivy and the whole wall came with it. One of my Churchwardens is scheduling to meet with BW May & Sons to look at a patch of			

	<p>was agreed that the hedge be included in the grounds maintenance specification.</p> <p>Mr Musker said that a wasps nest in the Churchyard had been dealt with.</p>			
523.2	<p><u>Churchyard Specification for Tender</u></p> <p>Members had been issued with a copy of the specification. Several amendments had been made, as follows:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • additional 2 cuts • wildflower meadow (north-west annex) • strim boundary wall with 1 Churchfields • hedge churchyard, allotments and 140 High Street <p>It was agreed that it be put out to tender.</p>	SH	✓	
	Churchyard representatives left the meeting at 8.00p.m.			
21/524	<u>ALLOTMENTS</u>			
	<p><u>Allotment Inspections</u></p> <p>The allotment inspection report was presented as follows:</p> <p>1A – new tenant 3A - sunflowers have fallen across the path. Ms Margetts will speak with the tenant. 4A – less than 75% cultivated, weeds not controlled, no plot marker and grass not maintained. Due to the personal circumstances it was agreed to leave any contact until renewal time. 4B – less than 75% cultivated, weeds not controlled. Clearance in progress. 5A – less than 75% cultivated, weeds not controlled. Work in progress. 5B – weeds not controlled and grass not maintained. Weedy, messy. 6 – less 75% cultivated, weeds not controlled, dead fruit tree, grass not maintained. One bed cleared, weedy. Leave contact until renewal. 8B – less than 75% cultivated, weeds not controlled, grass not maintained. 9A – weeds not controlled and grass not maintained. 12B – less than 75% cultivated, weeds not controlled. 14A – weeds not controlled, grass not maintained. Asparagus fern across path. 15A – work in progress, some weed. 19A – less than 75% cultivated, weeds not controlled, grass not maintained. Mostly overgrown with grass. Leave contact until renewal. 19B – less than 75% cultivated, weeds not controlled, fruit trees not managed. Leave contact until renewal. 21A – new tenant. 21B – quite a covering of mypex. 23A – has some non fruit trees in pots. To monitor. 25A – weeds not controlled, grass not maintained. 29A – new tenant. 30 – less than 75% cultivated, weeds not controlled, grass not maintained. Tenant is unwell will consider continuation at renewal time.</p> <p>The path between 19A/ 20 is narrow. Boundary to be checked.</p> <p>Ms Margetts asked that when renewals are sent that tenants be reminded of conditions in respect of hedge maintenance, cutting of grass paths and dogs.</p> <p>There is a dead cherry tree at the top of plot 5B on the boundary of the cricket meadow. The Assistant Clerk will look.</p> <p>Plot 4B is putting plant debris on the area cleared. Tenant to be contacted.</p>	SH	✓	

	Mr Stevens asked that an item be put on the November agenda for increase of allotment rents in 2022/23.			
21/525	<u>MACEY'S MEADOW</u> Mr Doyle said that the internal hedges in the meadow will be cut on Monday 1 November 2021. New hedging to be planted in the spring meadow by the cherry trees. Ms Margetts has ordered the hedging. Chipping needs to be carried out. Mr Doyle asked about an additional dog waste bin. The Assistant Clerk said that she had spoken with Waste Services and they are currently not providing new bins.			
21/526	<u>PLAYING FIELD</u>			
	<u>Bench Repairs</u> It was noted that a quotation had been received to replace damaged seat slats for the sum of £180.00. It was agreed this be accepted and funded from playground repairs. Mr Stevens reported that a resident had suggested crowd funding for the repairs to the zip wire. If the resident wished to set up a go fund me the Parish Council have no objection. The Assistant Clerk reported that she was applying for Tesco Community Grant. Mrs Javens said that the hedge on the boundary of the village hall car park and Norman Road is very over grown. This is due to be cut back. Mr Stevens said about a new item of inclusive play equipment. The Assistant Clerk said she had obtained a quotation, £9734.00 + VAT, for a ground level roundabout. It was agreed to budget over several years. It may be necessary to install a pathway to the equipment.	SH	✓	
21/527	<u>CRICKET MEADOW</u> The hedge adjacent to Macey's Meadow and the allotments will be cut on Monday 1 November 2021.			
21/528	<u>BALL PARK</u> There was not anything to report.			
21/529	<u>VILLAGE HALL</u>			
529.1	<u>Report by Parish Council Representative</u> Mrs Javens reported that the outside lights need adjusting and the contractor is expected back on site. Next meeting Monday 22 November 2021.			
529.2	<u>Use of Garage – by Mrs B's Day Care</u> It was noted that a quotation has been received for the removal of the ivy on the garage, for the sum of £689.00. The Assistant Clerk reported that our insurance company require rebuild costs. The Assistant Clerk to obtain cost of rebuild and demolition.	SH	✓	
21/530	<u>WASTE/RECYCLING SERVICES</u>			

	<p><u>Electric Vehicle Charge Points</u></p> <p>The Assistant Clerk reported that the deadline for applications was due. Discussion took place regarding charge points in the village hall car park and it was agreed to refer to Full Council for further discussion.</p> <p><i>Subsequent to this the Assistant Clerk completed the application as the deadline was Friday 15 October 2021. We will be notified of the decision.</i></p>	SH	✓	
21/531	<p><u>BYE-LAWS</u></p> <p>Mrs Smyth has a copy of the existing Bye-Laws and will begin the process of updating.</p>			
21/532	<p><u>FINANCE</u></p>			
532.1	<p><u>Budget Statements</u></p> <p>The monthly budget statements were noted.</p>			
532.2	<p><u>Tenders</u></p> <p>Members had been issued with the Tenders. After an addition of work to be hedge work, Macey's Meadow, to be undertaken with a circular saw it was agreed that the specifications be put out for tender.</p> <p>Mrs Javens agreed to open the tenders.</p>			
532.3	<p><u>Consideration of Budget 2022/2023</u></p> <p>It was agreed that £2000.00 towards a new piece of equipment. £1850.00 playground equipment (zipwire). The Assistant Clerk to obtain costs of a tree survey for the Churchyard.</p> <p>Mr Doyle to discuss Macey's Meadow budget with the advisory committee.</p>	SH	✓	
21/533	<p><u>QUESTIONS FROM MEMBERS OF THE PUBLIC AND COUNCILLORS</u></p> <p>There were no questions.</p>			
	<p><u>Date of Next Meeting</u> – Monday 8 November 2021 (concentrating on Allotments)</p>			
	<p>There being no further business the Chairman thanked members for attending and closed the meeting at 9.20 p.m.</p> <p>Signed..... Date.....</p>			