

WEST MALLING PARISH COUNCIL

MINUTES OF A MEETING OF THE AMENITIES COMMITTEE
HELD ON MONDAY 13 JUNE 2022 AT 7.30PM
WEST MALLING VILLAGE HALL, NORMAN ROAD, WEST MALLING

Present:
Mr Stevens
Ms Stacpoole
Ms Margetts
Mrs L Javens
Mrs Y Smyth
Mrs L Miles

Co-opted members:
Ms I Macdonald
Mr J Musker

Also in attendance:
Mr P Yeoman – Chairman of Ryarsh Lane Allotment Society

Minute		Action by	Action taken	Response
22/308	<u>APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE</u> : Miss G Barkham, Rev David Green and Mr Doyle			
22/309	<u>DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST</u> – none other than routinely declared.			
22/310	<u>ELECTION OF CHAIR AND VICE CHAIR</u> Ms Margetts proposed that Mr Stevens serve as Chair, seconded by Mrs Javens. There being no other nominations Mr Stevens was duly elected. Mr Javens proposed that Ms Stacpoole serve as Vice Chair, seconded by Ms Margetts. There being no other nominations Ms Stacpoole was duly elected.			
22/311	<u>MINUTES</u> –the Minutes of the Meeting held on Monday 11 April 2022 were approved and signed.			
22/312	<u>MATTERS ARISING</u> [22/208] <u>Felling of Lime Tree</u> It was noted that the two Lime trees have been felled. It is necessary to grind out the stumps as it is standard practice in the Diocese of Rochester. Two quotations have been received: Qualitree for the sum of £470.00 + VAT Valley Park Tree Care for the sum of £450.00 Rev David Green has no preference but the arisings need to be removed from the site. Valley Park Tree Care have not specified this. After discussion it was agreed that the quote from Qualitree be referred to Full Council for approval as the works are not in the budget. [22/208] <u>Overhanging Trees – Churchfields Gardens</u> It was noted that Rev David Green had been approached by some residents of Churchfields regarding overhanging Lime trees, from the churchyard, into their gardens.	SH	✓	

	They request that works be carried out to cut back. Work had been carried out in 2018 which was funded by St Mary's PCC. Discussion took place and it was agreed to obtain quotes for cutting back. Rev David Green to liaise with residents for access to gardens and to request a financial contribution as no budget is available either with St Mary's PCC or the Parish Council			
	Ms Macdonald and Mr Musker left the meeting at 7.45p.m.			
22/313	<u>ALLOTMENTS</u>			
	<p><u>Allotment Inspection Reports</u></p> <p>Mr Yeoman, chairman of the allotment society, was welcomed to the meeting.</p> <p>It was noted that an inspection had been carried out by the RLAS.</p> <p>1A/B - to be strimmed by the contractor 4A – new tenant 9B – monitor 10 – first letter regarding grass 11 – hedge 12 – hedge 18B – giving up in September 19A – first letter 20 - apple tree pruning 21A – letter 26B – letter 27B – apple tree prune 28A - trees on plot 28B - vacant 29A – first letter 29B – first letter 30A – letter 30B – letter</p> <p>Mr Yeoman said that there was a problem with foxes in the allotment. There are several holes in the fencing between the allotments and the cricket meadow where they are entering. It was agreed that a quotation be obtained for replacement wooden style fencing.</p>	SH	✓	
	Mr Yeoman left the meeting at 8.05p.m.			
22/314	<p><u>MACEY'S MEADOW</u></p> <p>It was noted that the working Saturdays, are as follows:</p> <p>August 6 and 20 September 3 and 17 October 1,15 and 29 November 12 and 26 December 10 and 24.</p> <p>The Applefest will take place on Saturday 1 October 2022.</p>			
22/315	<u>PLAYING FIELD</u>			
315.1	<p><u>Use of Football Pitch</u></p> <p>It was noted that two requests had been received for use of the football pitch for 2022/23 season, Leybourne City (existing team) and Barming Blues.</p> <p>The Assistant Clerk reported that, last season, Leybourne City had failed to provide fixture</p>	SH	✓	

	<p>details and had played on the pitch when it was unavailable due to goal mouth reseeding. After discussion it was agreed that Leybourne City have use of the pitch but the conditions of hire to be adhered. If there is no improvement by January 2023 they will be refused use for 2023/24.</p> <p>Barming Blues granted permission to use on alternative weeks.</p> <p>Leybourne City has requested use of the pitch for training and friendly games. It was agreed subject to them paying for line marking. Cost of training £25.00 and games £35.00.</p> <p>Consideration to be given to increasing the pitch fee for 2022/23 at budget time.</p>			
315.2	<p><u>S106 Funds</u></p> <p>Mr Stevens reported that it is possible the Parish Council will be receiving some S106 funds to be allocated to the playing fields and children's play area. Members were asked to consider projects. It was suggested that the tennis courts be refurbished with new fencing, an inclusive roundabout with access path, new play equipment, adult gym equipment, new benches and tables. The Assistant Clerk to arrange to meet with contractors to obtain costs.</p>	SH	✓	
315.3	<p><u>Play Equipment Inspection Report</u></p> <p>It was noted that the inspection report has been received. The cable on the zip wire needs tensioning. Playspaces to be asked to return and fix. There are several low risk repairs. The Assistant Clerk to obtain costs.</p>	SH	✓	
21/316	<p><u>CRICKET MEADOW</u></p> <p>The Assistant Clerk reported that she is meeting a contractor on Thursday to obtain a cost for the footpath from the ball park to the allotments.</p>	SH	✓	
22/317	<p><u>BALL PARK</u></p> <p>There was not anything to report.</p>			
22/318	<p><u>VILLAGE HALL</u></p>			
	<p><u>Report by Parish Council Representative</u></p> <p>Mrs Javens reported as follows:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • AGM took place on 23 May. Mrs Javens was thanked for liaising with the Parish Council. The Parish Council was thanked for its support over the year. • Mrs Turner has stepped down as booking secretary. Shirley Jacobs has taken over the role. • There are now 7 trustees. • Financial position is good. • A smart meter to be installed. • Wifi is now installed. • The hall floor to be filled in places, this is due to settling. • New curtains to be put up in the hall. • Bar to be painted. • Compliments have been received on the appearance of the hall. • There has been a suggestion that new photos be taken to put on the website. • Very pleased with new cleaner. <p>Clearance of the car park has taken place and it was agreed to carry this out annually.</p>			

22/319	<u>WASTE/RECYCLING SERVICES</u> Mr Stevens commented on there being no facility to dispose of small electrical items with normal waste collection. He asked that this be referred to the Borough Councillor, with a view to reinstating the facility, as the Town has many elderly residents and non-drivers that are unable to use the large recycling sites.	SH		
22/320	<u>NEIGHBOURHOOD PLAN</u> It was agreed to forward previous comments.	SH	✓	
22/321	<u>BYE-LAWS</u> The Assistant Clerk said she had started on updating the bye-laws and will forward to Mrs Smyth when completed.	SH	✓	
22/322	<u>LAND ADJACENT TO K2</u> It was noted that the licence has been agreed by KCC. The Macey's meadow volunteers will look after the area.			
22/323	<u>PARISH INFRASTRUCTURE STATEMENT</u> After discussion it was agreed that the following be put forward for consideration: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Continuation of footpath from ball park to allotments • Upgrade of ball park – new back boards • Electric vehicle charging points – village hall car park • Extension of village hall car park • Pond in Macey's Meadow • New fence on boundary of the allotments and cricket meadow • Redevelopment of village hall • Redevelopment of the cricket pavilion • Additional solar panels on the village hall • Public toilets. • Refurbishment of tennis courts • New and replacement play equipment, safety surfaces, benches and tables • Adult gym equipment at the playing field 	SH	✓	
22/324	<u>PUBLIC RIGHTS OF WAY</u>			
324.1	<u>Claimed upgrading to Bridleway status of FP MR144(part) and MR144A at Kings Hill</u> It was noted that an application has been submitted on behalf of the British Horse Society to upgrade the above footpath to a bridleway. The Parish Council has no views on this. Ramblers Association to be asked for their comments.	SM	✓	
324.2	<u>Japanese Knotweed – FP MR136 – Ryarsh Lane</u> It was noted that a quotation has been received for a survey and follow up report detailing findings for the sum of £300.00 + VAT. The knotweed has been reported to KCC. As it is on a public footpath it was agreed to chase KCC and continue to monitor.	SH	✓	
22/325	<u>FINANCE</u>			
	<u>Budget Statements</u> The monthly budget statements were noted.			

<p>22/326</p>	<p><u>QUESTIONS FROM MEMBERS OF THE PUBLIC AND COUNCILLORS</u></p> <p>An adult with a child on the back has been seen on a dirt bike along MR139 (adjacent to the playing fields). Neither were wearing crash helmets. To be reported to KCC.</p> <p>Mrs Javens said that the no cycle sign on the entrance to MR139 from Alma Road towards town had faded and it does not clearly show no cycles permitted. To be reported to KCC.</p>	<p>SH</p>	<p>✓</p>	
	<p><u>Date of Next Meeting</u> – Monday 11 July 2022 (concentrating on Churchyard)</p>			
	<p>There being no further business the Chairman thanked members for attending and closed the meeting at 9.22 p.m.</p> <p>Signed..... Date.....</p>			