

WEST MALLING PARISH COUNCIL

MINUTES OF A MEETING OF THE
PARISH COUNCIL
HELD ON 5TH NOVEMBER 2018, 7.30 PM
AT WEST MALLING VILLAGE HALL, WEST MALLING

Present: Mrs Trudy Dean (Chairman)
Miss Gwyneth Barkham
Mr Keith Bullard
Mr Richard Byatt
Mrs Linda Javens
Mrs Yvonne Smyth
Ms Min Stacpoole

Also present

Minute		Action by	Action taken	Response
18/610	<u>APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE</u> were received from, Mr Peter Stevens, Mr Nick Stapleton; Borough Councillor Sasha Luck and PCSO Dylan Mcelligott			
18/611	<u>DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST</u> – none			
18/612	<u>MINUTES</u> – the minutes of the meeting held on 1 st October 2018 were approved and signed.			
18/613	<u>MATTERS ARISING</u> from the minutes not otherwise on the agenda. [18/554] Illuminated internal shop sign. Clerk to speak with T&MBC.	Clerk	✓	
18/614	<u>CHAIRMAN'S ANNOUNCEMENTS</u> – <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Vice-Chairman Peter Stevens has broken his ankle whilst on holiday and has undergone surgery on his return. The Parish Council send him their best wishes for a speedy recovery. 			
18/615	<u>QUESTIONS FROM MEMBERS OF THE PUBLIC</u> - none			
615.1	<u>QUESTIONS FROM COUNCILLORS</u> Mr Byatt requested that a short environmental policy be drafted for use within the Parish Office; this policy would cover purchasing, contractors etc. This was agreed. Mr Byatt and Clerk to research and draft.	Clerk RB		
615.2	Mrs Javens reported that the smell from Blaise Farm has reoccurred. Clerk to speak with Mrs Innes to establish when the next meeting was due to be held.	Clerk		
615.3	Miss Stacpoole reported that at the Alma Road / Macey's Meadow gate the wild rose was beginning to encroach on the telegraph pole and wires. Clerk to speak with the volunteers.	Clerk	✓	

18/616	<u>POLICING MATTERS</u>			
616.1	Policing report – updated crime figures produced by Mr Bullard were circulated.			
616.2	<p>Other Policing matters – In his absence, PCSO Dylan Mcelligott had provided the Parish Council with a brief report of incidents with the parish.</p> <p>Attempt burglary (outbuilding) – Ewell Avenue Theft of bicycle – West Malling train station Theft of a motor vehicle – Ewell Avenue Fight – West Malling High street</p>			
18/617	<u>CASUAL VACANCY/CO-OPTION</u>			
	The resignation of Mr Larry Collins was formally noted.			
	<p>Mrs Dean reported:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • There are now 2 vacancies which T&MBC have advised can be filled by co-option at this meeting. • 3 applications have been received . • A panel of members (Mrs Dean, Mr Byatt, Mr Stapleton, Ms Barkham and Mrs Javens) had met and interviewed the applicants. 			
	Mrs Dean proposed that Mr Thompson and Mrs Medhurst be co-opted, seconded by Mr Byatt and agreed unanimously.			
	The Clerk was to ask the successful applicants to attend the office to sign the relevant paperwork and the unsuccessful applicant to be approached regarding an option to work alongside the Parish Council possibly as a co-opted non-voting member – exact role to be decided. Mrs Dean to speak with the unsuccessful applicant.	Clerk	✓	
	Clerk to notify TMBC	TD		
		Clerk	✓	
18/618	<u>LOCAL PLAN</u>			
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Public Meeting – Sunday 14th October. Mrs Dean thanked all those that delivered leaflets and attended the meeting. 49 new questionnaire responses had been collected. • Regulation 19 response to be submitted to T&MBC by 4pm on 19th November. Members of the council have attended TM KALC and T&MBC training sessions and alongside East Malling & Larkfield Parish Council had a meeting with planner Richard Bate. • It was agreed that the drafting of the response be delegated to Mrs Dean and Mr Byatt. It was further agreed that that members would receive a copy of the draft response by email rather than convening another meeting. • Broadwater Farm – north of Kings Hill <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1) It was agreed that WMPC would respond that the northern boundary should be softened, drawing the northern boundary further away from the Conservation Areas of New Barns and Broadwater. 2) It was agreed that WMPC would also comment on the proposed access road including the need for a traffic assessment and that as it currently stands the access road will cut across the Conservation Areas of New Barn and Broadwater. • It was agreed that the WMPC response would incorporate submissions on both climate change and sustainable design response. 			
18/619	<u>REMEMBRANCE 2018</u>			
	Mrs Dean to issue stewarding instructions. Meeting to be arranged with Tesco volunteers to run through the arrangements			
18/620	<u>WEST MALLING CHRISTMAS TREE FESTIVAL</u>			
	It was agreed that the Parish Council would not participate in the Christmas Tree Festival which is to take place on the 1 st & 2 nd December at St Mary's Church.			

18/621	<u>DONATIONS - 2374 (DITTON) SQUADRON ATC</u>			
	It was agreed to re-issue a cheque in the sum of £150 to mark the attendance of the squadron at the Remembrance Parade in 2017. The previous cheque had not been cashed. Clerk to issue a cheque to be authorised at the next F&GP Committee meeting. It was noted that the squadron were unable to attend the 2018 Remembrance Parade.	Clerk	✓	
18/622	<u>HIGHWAYS ENGLAND LOWER THAMES CROSSING CONSULTATION</u>			
	To be considered at the Highways meeting on the 17 th December. Committee to look at in particular how traffic will filter into the rest of the roadwork network in Kent.			
18/623	<u>KCC BUDGET CONSULTATION 2019-2020</u>			
	It was agreed that WMPC would not formally respond to this consultation.			
18/624	<u>WEST MALLING PARISH COUNCIL NEWSLETTER</u>			
	Due to time constraints, it was agreed that this matter be listed on the next Full Council agenda.			
18/625	<u>FINANCIAL MATTERS</u>			
625.1	Accounts for payment - totalling £16,708.09 were approved - see attached.			
625.2	To note the following payment made since the last Full Council Meeting £438.64 authorised at Amenities Committee on 8 th October 2018.			
625.3	Financial Statement – bank reconciliation as of 23 rd October was received – see attached			
625.4	External Audit – 2017/18 - to note receipt of notice from external auditor PKF Littlejohn of completion of audit for the year ended 31 March 2018. No matters were raised by the external auditor.			
625.5	Inside Track no. 254 – receipt noted			
625.6	Budget 19/20 – it was agreed that the Amenities and Highways Committee draft budgets be ready for consideration at the next Full Council meeting. F&GP committee budget to be considered at November meeting.			
18/626	<u>MATTERS FOR REPORT</u>			
626.1	Amenities Committee – receipt was noted, for information of the draft minutes of the meeting held on 8 th October 2018. There were no questions.			
626.2	Highways, Transportation & Streetlighting Committee - receipt was noted, for information of the draft minutes of the meeting held on 15 th October 2018. There were no questions.			
626.3	Planning Committee - receipt was noted, for information of the draft minutes of the meeting held on 23 rd October 2018 Mr Byatt drew members' attention to the following T&MBC decisions, the planning committee had objected to both applications. [18/601.1] - The Crest 44 King Hill West Malling ME19 4PL Demolition of existing dwelling & domestic outbuildings & erection of 3 detached dwelling houses, 3 detached garages and associated alterations to access, parking, turning & landscaping. T&MBC refused this			

	<p>application. [18/601.2] 108 High Street West Malling Extensions and conversion from single dwelling to create three apartments. T&MBC refused this application.</p>			
626.4	Malling Action Partnership – no report			
626.5	Rotary House – no report			
626.6	School Governors – no report			
626.7	Malling Society – the AGM date of Tuesday 20th November and the committee meeting date of 8th January were noted.			
626.8	Chamber of Commerce / Christmas Lights Committee – no report			
626.9	<p>Tonbridge & Malling Borough Council</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Parish Partnership Panel meeting – next meeting date of 15th November was noted. 			
626.10	<p>KALC/NALC/ACRK</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • KALC– AGM date of 17th November was noted. • KALC T&M – minutes of the meeting held on 4th October were received. Next meeting date of 10th January 2019 was noted. • KALC News – KALC news October 2018 was received • ACRK – AGM date of Tuesday 13th November was noted 			
18/627	<p><u>MEETING DATES</u></p> <p>Amenities Committee – Monday 12th November (concentrating on Allotments)</p> <p>Finance & General Purposes Committee – TBC</p> <p>Planning Committee – Wednesday 28th November</p> <p>West Malling Village Hall Committee – 29th November 2018</p> <p>Macey’s Meadow Advisory Committee – 23rd January 2019</p>			
18/628	<u>REPORT OF BOROUGH COUNCILLOR</u> - The Malling Jug are applying to vary their premises licence, comments to be with T&MBC by 22 nd November.			
18/629	<u>REPORT OF COUNTY COUNCILLOR</u> – see below			
	<p>There being no other business, the Chairman thanked members for attending and closed the meeting at 10.10</p> <p>Signed..... Dated.....</p>			

West Malling Parish Council			
Accounts for Payment 5th November 2018			cheques to be drawn
Payments authorised under Section 137			
Pauline Fisher (cheque 5545) (expenses, bugler, Remembrance Sunday)			£ 75.00
ATC 2374 Squadron (cheque 5546) (donation for attendance at Remembrance Parade)			
Casement Signs & Graphics (Cheque 5547) (Invoice 10728 road closure signage)	VAT	£ 58.00 £ 11.60	£ 69.60
Mr David Cooper (cheque 5548) (Reimbursement for Remembrance Sunday wreath)			£ 20.00
Mr Nick Stapleton (5549) (reimbursemnt for war memorial flowers - Sec 137 & reimbursement for car tally counter - Speedwatch)			£ 28.90
Music @ Malling (cheque 5550) (donation towards school / young musician element)			£ 1,000.00
Streetlights (single cheque 5551) (invoice 9896 - repairs to column 128)	VAT	£ 385.00 £ 77.00	£ 462.00
Streetlights (invoice 9920 repairs column 42)	VAT	£ 97.75 £ 19.55	£ 117.30
Streetlights (Inv 10022 maintenance contract payment 3 of 4)	VAT	£ 1,126.68 £ 225.34	£ 1,352.02
Heritage Stone Restoration Co Ltd (cheque 5552) Invoice 469710- works to war memorial)	VAT	£ 6,450.00 £ 1,290.00	£ 7,740.00
KCC Laser (cheque 5553) Electricity supply 1/9/18 - 30/9/18)	VAT	£ 522.65 £ 81.42	604.07
Gavin Jones LTD (single cheque 5554) (Inv 1230 C/yard, 1 x mow / 1 x strim - September)	VAT	£ 125.45 £ 25.09	£ 150.54
(Inv 1231 Playing field September, 2 mows, 2 strims initial marking & remarking x2)	VAT	£ 288.65 £ 57.73	346.38
Four Seasons Gardens Ltd (5555) (Inv. 2412 - covering of allotment plot, strimming of staples & memorial stone, Churchyard shrub removal & Macey's Meadow hedge cut)	VAT	£ 1,440.00 £ 288.00	1728.00
CF Corporate (cheque 5556) (Invoice MI/0275895 photocopier lease for period 1/12/18 - 28/02/19)	VAT	£ 102.23 £ 20.45	£ 122.68
Mr Mick Pearce (cheque 5557) (reimbursement for diesel)			£ 70.00
Malling Memorial Institute (cheque 5558) (invoices for room hire 29/10/18)			£ 15.00
Mr William Moreno (cheque 5559) (Reimbursement for Macey's Meadow padlocks invoice made out to WMPC)	VAT	£ 46.98 £ 9.40	£ 56.38
Viking (cheque 5560) Inv 918545 - stationery including 100 stamps, & items for public meeting)	VAT	£ 103.71 £ 7.34	£ 111.05
Outdoorsy Living Ltd (cheque 5561) (invoice 33 - play area inspection report)	VAT	£ 150.00 £ 30.00	£ 180.00
GeoXphere Ltd (Parish Online map) (cheque 5562) (Annual fee)	VAT	£ 90.00 £ 18.00	£ 108.00
Mrs Claire Christmas - authorisation to pay via Faster Payments (Clerk - net salary for November £1429.84 + faxes £1.20)			£1,431.04
Mrs Sarah Howard authorisation to pay via Faster Payments (Asst. Clerk - net salary for November £336.15)			£336.15
HMRC - authorisation to pay via Faster Payments (Deductions from salaries - November)			£506.98
Nest - authorisation to pay pension contributions by Direct Debit for November '18			
Employer's contributions			£ 35.00
Employee's contributions (Employees's contributions have already been deducted from salary)			£ 42.00
		TOTAL	£ 16,708.09

WEST MALLING PARISH COUNCIL			
Financial Statement to be presented to Full Council 5 November 2018			
<u>Reconciliation</u>			
Balance b/f from 2017/18			£ 91,892.24
<u>plus</u>			
total receipts 1.04.18-31.03.19			£ 125,760.47
<u>less</u>			
total payments 1.04.18-31.03.19			£ 76,616.06
		Total	£ 141,036.65
Deposit account			£ 91,095.71
Current account		£50,261.14	
less unrepresented cheques		£320.20	
			<u>£ 49,940.94</u>
		Total	£ 141,036.65
<u>Unrepresented Cheques</u>			
			<u>Date Issued</u>
5498	Kent Asbestos	£ 144.00	09/07/2018
5538	WMVH	£ 66.00	01/10/2018
	DD NEST	£ 96.20	15/10/2018
5543	Mr Moon	<u>£ 14.00</u>	08/10/2018
		£ 320.20	

County Councillors Report November meeting 2018

Larkfield and West Malling Library Opening Hours to be Cut.

A meeting at County Hall next Thursday will discuss plans to save £1 million over three years by slashing Library Opening hours by 20% all over the County. Larkfield Library is to see its hours reduced from 42 to 37 hours a week, and West Malling Library is proposed for one of the biggest cuts from 40 hours to 23 hours per week. Some activities will be dependent on community volunteers to run them. A pilot scheme giving library users swipe card access to libraries out of hours is being trialled, and home delivery of books to people unable to visit the library will

be promoted further. Library buildings will also be inspected to see if they can share premises with other organisations, or transfer to more suitable premises..

The plans will be opened for public consultation next week, and the closing date is next March.

Liberty Property Trust has just announced a Public Consultation session on Monday 12th November at the Control Tower, 29, Liberty Square, Kings Hill, ME194RB. Sessions will run from 11am to 1pm and 6pm to 8pm.

The Trust have just indicated that they will be requesting the addition of five new housing sites to the Local Plan. Three sites are in East Malling and two in Kings Hill Parish. The Trust also indicates that it intends to make a planning application for each site. (It is likely that the areas affected lie within the zone which the Borough Council proposes to include within the new extended Green Belt. House builders are rushing in with proposals in the hope of getting permission before the new Green Belt is established and prevents further developments in these areas. This is a new proposal to add to several others already published plans for 108 houses on New Road East Malling, and 300 houses south of Cherry Orchard Ditton from East Malling Research Station. We also expect Wates to make an application for up to 400 houses on Forty Acres between the bypass, Lucks Hill and Winterfield Lane.

Bellway Application for 80 homes at West Malling Station.

Thank you to the over 170 objectors who took the trouble to write in to oppose the application for 80 houses on land between West Malling Station approach and Lavenders Lane where it borders the walls of St Mary's Abbey.

Both Parish Councils have also opposed the plan on grounds of destroying the rural setting of the station and Abbey, feeding traffic onto Swan Street which already suffers from congestion and dangerously speeding vehicles, and harming the significant wildlife of the fields involved.

A20 London Road Parking opposite Kia Garage

There have been lots of complaints about up to three white vans parked on A20 London Road opposite the Kia garage. They are causing obstructions of London Road itself and visibility problems for the nearby junction with Bradbourne Lane. I've asked the Borough Council to consider this stretch of road for double yellow lines.

New Government Money for Road and Pothole Repairs.

Government has announced that it is making £ 420 m funding available to local councils for highway repairs including bridges, barriers and so on, and another £150m for pothole repairs to be carried out this year. It seems likely Kent County Council may receive around £10 million of that. This extra money is of course welcome. But the entire Government Grant for the whole country would not pay Kent County Councils backlog of repairs which now stands at about £650m.

The late announcement may also mean that councils have difficulty spending it, since pothole repairs are generally not done in low winter temperatures and are carried out in Spring.

Number 58 Bus under threat again?

KCC has announced a new hourly feeder bus route from Wrotham Heath , Addington, Trottscliffe, Ryarsh, Leybourne, West Malling High Street and Station, East Malling, and Tesco Leybourne Way. A detailed route is to be the subject of consultation soon.

If this bus runs at helpful times it could provide a long needed link for children in North Larkfield to access The Malling School, and for a service to Larkfield Leisure Centre, and the Library and other shops and services in Martin Square.

However, it looks likely that the number 58 bus, long under threat, may be withdrawn, and passengers using the feeder bus will be expected to change to another bus service at Wealden Hall. All these local communities would be losing our only direct public transport link to Maidstone Hospital and this is not acceptable.

Thameslink Services Confirmed from Maidstone and West Malling by December 2019 The Government has at last confirmed that Thameslink rail services will be extended to Maidstone by December 2019. Chris Grayling wrote in a letter to the KCC Lib Dem leader Rob Bird that '*from December 2019, new Thameslink services between Maidstone East and Cambridge will also provide an extra two trains per hour in each direction all day' and that 'Journey times to the City are expected to be comparable to those using the High Speed service today'*. This means that there will be daily extra regular services from Maidstone and West Malling to Blackfriars, City Thameslink, Farringdon and St Pancras, and on to Cambridge, cutting out the need to use the higher cost High Speed trains from Snodland, Strood or Ebbsfleet. These extra and faster services have been delayed from May this year, and Grayling has until now refused to say if they were coming at all.

Out of Hours Surgery Appointments

The Government has set GPs a target of increasing the hours during which you can get a doctor's appointment.

But they are insisting that such appointments must cover 19 hours a week, or they must be offered to a private company instead. They also insist the appointments must be organised across a group of local surgeries. So Thornhills and West Malling practices are working together to sort this out. Between the practices, you should be able to access appointments every night of the week [till 8.00pm](#) and every Saturday. Appointments will be bookable from both surgeries. There will also be facilities for you to access appointments on a Sunday in Central Maidstone.

County Councillors Community Grants

Each year, County Councillors receive £20,000 to fund activities in their area. For many years, I have held a Dragons Den event where residents choose the city five or six most popular projects. Owing to staff changes at KCC, this has had to be delayed until Spring. In the meantime, if you have a project which, like the Larkfield Community Group, needs urgent funding, please let me know

ROADWORKS

[Nov 10th](#) and 11th I understand Highways England will NOT close the motorway over the weekend to allow Remembrance events to go ahead.

[12th November](#) for up to [4 days Sandy Lane](#) West Malling will be closed for gasworks.

[19th November](#) for up to four nights [between 21.00 and 5.00](#) hours A228 Castle Way Leybourne, Malling Road and Leybourne Way, Larkfield will be closed for resurfacing.

[29th November](#) for one night Lucks Hill will be closed from 22.00 hours to 06.00

[30th November](#) A20 London Road Aylesford closed [between 10 pm and 6am](#) for railway bridge inspection.

EVENTS.

Saturday 10th November

12pm. Twixmas Market Blacklands Scout Group 12– 4pm East Malling Institute, Mill Street, East Malling behind the King and Queen. Grab some home made cakes, jams, chutneys, jewellery, Xmas decs and cards, fabric gifts and bunting, handbags and scarves, Usborne Books, raffle, refreshments and lots more.

7pm."Coming Home" A concert of music in aid of the Royal British Legion celebrating the cease fire of 11th November 1918 which began to bring our forces home at last. 150 performers as Malling Community Choir join forces with Eynsford Concert Band to perform pieces made famous by [Vera Lynn](#) to the Army Wives. All finishing up with last night of the proms Land of Hope and Glory. Union jacks provided. £5 per ticket. Tickets on the door or ring 01732 843119.

Sunday 11th November.

9.45am Remembrance Service St James the Great Church, East Malling.

10.50am to 11.10am Cease Fire Remembrance Service, War Memorial High Street, West Malling. Maroons will be fired to mark the beginning and end of the 2 minutes silence.

2pm Civic Malling Remembrance Parade and Service. St Mary's Church West Malling. Parade [2pm](#) at the High Street. Wreath Laying and Dedication of refurbished War Memorial approximately [3.15 pm](#).