

WEST MALLING PARISH COUNCIL

MINUTES OF A MEETING OF THE HIGHWAYS, TRANSPORTATION & STREETLIGHTING COMMITTEE HELD ON 19TH FEBRUARY 2018, 7.30PM AT 9 HIGH STREET, WEST MALLING

Present: **Mr B Merchant (Chairman)**
 Miss G Barkham
 Mr K Bullard
 Mr N Stapleton

Minute		Action by	Action taken	Response
18/101	APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE – Borough Cllr. Luck			
18/102	DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST – none.			
18/103	MINUTES of the meeting held on 13 th December 2017 were approved and signed.			
18/104	MATTERS ARISING from the minutes not otherwise on the agenda - none			
18/105	STREETLIGHTING			
105.1	Phase 3 Other than delivery of the heritage lanterns, the bulk of the Phase 3 work has been completed. Mr Bonner (Streetlight contractor) has confirmed that delivery of the lanterns is expected by the end of the month; Mr Bonner will consider other supplier options should the lanterns not be delivered as agreed. The replacement columns are now being painted. It was agreed that the Clerk notify Mr Bonner that if the lanterns do not arrive at the end of the month then he should seek an alternative supplier. It was agreed that the Clerk request that Mr Bonner invoice for work done to date to ensure that payment can be made out of the 17/18 budget. It was agreed that a recommendation be made to the F&GP committee that any sums owed to Streetlights be safeguarded. Clerk to note agenda.	Clerk Clerk Clerk	✓ ✓ ✓	
105.2	Phase 4 The following columns were identified as 'poor in the recent structural survey.' Column 3 - London Road Column 48 – St Leonards Street Column 10 – Town Hill Column 23 – King Street (already identified and factored into Phase 3) These columns have been added to the Phase 4 programme which is to be funded from the 2018/19 budget. It was agreed to ask Mr Bonner to obtain a quote from UKPN for the works. It was agreed to ask Streetlights to confirm if replacement of the columns could wait until after the start of the 2018/19 financial year. It is hoped that the columns could be replaced by mid May unless they are deemed urgent.	Clerk Clerk	✓ ✓	
105.3	Unknown lights Query over ownership of heritage style lantern in one of the alleys between the High Street and King Street. The lantern (which is not working) is situated on the premises of Woodgate & Clark who are currently trying to identify if there is a power source running from their building to the lantern. Woodgate & Clark would like the lantern to be brought back into use and have			

	asked an electrician to look at power source. Awaiting a response from Woodgate & Clark.			
	Query over ownership of a non-working streetlight in between Norman Road and Epsom Close. Clerk to contact KCC & Streetlights to discuss.	Clerk		
105.4	<u>Streetlights Support Contract</u>			
	It was agreed to monitor the streetlight contract on a regular basis as over time our requirements will change and it may not be necessary to have the complete support contract. No less than 6 months' notice is needed to terminate the contract; it was agreed that this be reviewed every 6 months. Clerk to note for August agenda. It was agreed to invite Mr Bonner to attend a future meeting of the Highways Committee.	Clerk	✓	
18/106	<u>REINSTATEMENT OF PAVEMENTS FOLLOWING WORKS</u>			
	It was noted that over recent months, residents have complained about either the lack of reinstatement or the poor quality of reinstatement following works. It was agreed that utility companies had recently completed a number of reinstatement projects, The Clock Shop and West Malling Flowers being the most obvious ones on the High Street. It was agreed to monitor the situation and to make the Clerk aware of any new issues.			
18/107	<u>SALT BIN</u>			
	Currently, KCC deliver a large sack of sand and salt to the village hall car park, this is an open bag which deteriorates over time and also takes up a parking space. It was agreed to purchase a large salt bin in the sum of £134.37 plus £10.00 delivery. Clerk to discuss with Mrs Dean if KCC will supply one.			
18/108	<u>PARKING</u>			
	T&MBC (off street) car park charges consultation – due to T&MBC time constraints, a response to this consultation was agreed by members outside of a meeting. It was agreed to ratify this response – see below for response. T&MBC on street consultation - Members felt that it was not necessary to respond to this consultation. RESPONSE TO TMBC PARKING CHARGES CONSULTATION. <i>In the town of West Malling, High Street car park</i> • an increase of 10 pence per hour (or part of) on each existing parking tariff <i>The Parish Council notes that in West Malling this is a higher rate of increase than CPI, RPI or average wage level increases and so opposes the level of increase.</i> • the introduction of a new £3.20 for a 4 hour tariff <i>The Council supports the reintroduction of a 4 hour parking period but remains concerned that it may be abused by workers in the town who are struggling to find alternative parking. We therefore urge the council to keep this issue under review. We also believe the charge should be in line with other tariff periods (currently at 60p per hour).</i> Ryarsh Lane car park • an increase of £25 (to £175) for 12 month car park season tickets <i>Although Chamber of Commerce members of the Liaison Group acknowledged that the existing rate is good value for money, they felt a rise of £25 was too great an increase, particularly bearing in mind that it is a permit system with no guarantee of a space. We support these comments and urge the council to reduce this level of increase and support the Parish Council efforts to secure a dedicated business car park through the Local Plan process.</i> <i>The Council reaffirms its opposition to charging in the High Street shoppers car park and continues to believe it is having a harmful effect on retail premises. We refer you to a list of comments received from 26 of our shops by the TMBC/WMPC</i>			

	<p><i>Parking Liaison Group at its last meeting to demonstrate this response.</i></p> <p><i>The sums collected from WM car parks are far in excess of the running costs and a free first half hour or hour if affordable and should be implemented to attract small purchase daily shoppers back to the town.</i></p> <p><i>We draw attention to the announced closure of the High Street GP Surgery to be replaced perhaps by a smaller premises, and the potential knock on effect on the pharmacy. A Senior Partner reported verbally to one of our members during 2017 that charges had proved 'disastrous' to the surgery.</i></p> <p><i>We currently have empty premises in Arundel house, the former Police Shop and former Swan Street cafe, and are aware the premises at 37 High Street is also on the market for a new tenant. The former cafe: restaurant the Fancy Goat has been converted of offices. That constitutes 10 per cent of our retail premises.</i></p> <p><i>West Malling needs the support of the Borough Council in this issue to survive losses to online purchasing.</i></p>			
18/109	<u>SPEEDWATCH</u>			
	<p>West Malling now has a number of approved sites. Unfortunately we are still awaiting delivery of our Speedwatch device, this was ordered in November 2017 and is being regularly chased. The active Speedwatch sites are as follows:</p> <p>4 on St Leonards Street, 2 on Town Hill 2 on Swan Street 2 on Offham Road.</p> <p>It is agreed that as soon as the device arrives, Speedwatch will be advertised on social media, Speedwatch sessions can be timetabled and new volunteers trained.</p>			
18/110	<u>MOBILE SPEED INDICATION DEVICES</u>			
	<p>It was agreed that West Malling be part of this joint initiative with East Malling and Larkfield Parish Councils and it was proposed that St Leonards Street would be the suggested location for the mobile device.</p>			
18/111	<u>DEPT. FOR TRANSPORT- PROPOSALS FOR THE CREATION OF A MAJOR ROAD NETWORK</u>			
	<p>Members of the committee were not minded to respond to this consultation, however it was agreed to add this item to the Full Council agenda.</p>			
18/112	<u>JOINT PARISH TRAFFIC CONSULTATIVE GROUP</u>			
	<p>The minutes of the last meeting held on 1st February were not yet available. Philip Lightowler, Head of Public Transport for KCC gave an update on the bus consultation and funding for community buses.</p> <p>It was agreed to invite Norman Kempt (of Nu Venture) to a future meeting of the Highways Committee.</p> <p>The next meeting is scheduled for 21st May which is to concentrate on the Local Plan with specific emphasis on the impact on transport.</p>			
18/113	<u>QUESTIONS FROM MEMBERS OF THE PUBLIC & COUNCILLORS –</u>			
	<p>Mr Merchant is in receipt of an email from a resident requesting that a push button pedestrian crossing be installed at the junction of Swan Street and the High Street. It was agreed that this was a valid request as this is a particularly dangerous road to cross but that KCC would need to consider (and they may have done so in the past) if this is a suitable spot for a pedestrian crossing. It was agreed to meet initially with the resident and then to ask for a site visit with KCC.</p> <p>Mr Bullard stated that St Leonards Street is in a bad state of repair with drains sinking etc. It</p>			

	<p>was agreed to ask KCC to come out and look at the road. The warning signs near the bus stop are still twisted the wrong way round – Clerk to report.</p> <p>Mr Stapleton mentioned that the 20mph speed limit on the right of Swan Street as you come in is in need of cleaning as it is not very legible.</p> <p>Miss Barkham enquired if we receive feedback from T&MBC with regards to the Hackney carriage draft policy, the Clerk confirmed that we had not received a response.</p>	Clerk		
	<p>Next meeting of this committee – the next scheduled date is Monday 30th April 2018 @ 9 High Street.</p>			
	<p>There being no further business the Chairman thanked members for attending and closed the meeting at 9.34</p> <p>Signed.....</p> <p>Date.....</p>			

Highways and Transportation Committee								
Income		Budget 2017-18	YTD		Budget 2016-17	End of Year		
TMBC s136 allocation					1647.00	1647.00		
Members Grant - Speed sign			6000.00					
Members Grant - Speed Equipment			600.00					
	Total	0.00	6600.00		1647.00	1647.00		
Expenditure		Budget 2017/18	YTD		Budget 2016-17	End of Year		
Energy		7500.00	4684.18		6120.00	7026.74		
Energy (Oct-March)		3139.36	3139.36				safeguarded 2016/17	
Maintenance		6000.00	4375.48		6000.00	3281.61		
Upgrading of Mercury Lights					10000.00	37.50		
Phased repair programme		20000.00	1335.00		10000.00	10826.75		
Phased repair programme 16/17		11146.00	11146.00				safeguarded 2016/17	
Visual structural inspection			4295.74		5000.00	0.00	plus uk power networks	
One off repairs		3000.00	611.50		3000.00	1375.00		
Seasonal (Salt, Floodsax)		400.00	245.50		250.00	299.96		
WMPC Signage					5000.00	97.50		
	Total	51185.36	29832.76		45370.00	22945.06		
Surplus/-deficit		-51185.36	-23232.76		-43723.00	-21298.06		