

WEST MALLING PARISH COUNCIL

MINUTES OF A MEETING OF THE
AMENITIES COMMITTEE
HELD ON MONDAY, 12 JANUARY 2015, 7.30PM
AT VILLAGE HALL, NORMAN ROAD, WEST MALLING

Present: Mr P Stevens (Chairman)
Mr R Selkirk
Mrs A Turner
Mr A West
Co-opted Member:
Mr S Mullins
Also in attendance:
Mr John Collins (WMPC employee)
Two allotment tenants

Mrs Sarah Howard (Assistant Clerk, minute-taker)
Carole D'Silva (Clerk)

Minute		Action by	Action taken	Response
15/23	APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE were received from Mrs Y Smyth and co-opted member Mr Doyle.			
15/24	DECLARATION OF INTEREST Mrs A Turner declared an interest in 15/32 as her husband was involved in the organisation of the event.			
15/25	MINUTES of the meeting held on 8 th December 2014 were approved and signed.			
15/	MATTERS ARISING from the minutes not otherwise on the agenda			
26.1	(14/557.1) Draft Amenities Budget for 2015/2016 (Other than Allotments and Churchyards) The Chairman asked if any costs had been received in respect of the benches on land next to Age Concern. The Clerk said none had been received to date but would chase.	Clerk		
26.2	(14/565.1) Village Green/Open Spaces – Draft List The Clerk asked Mr Selkirk if he had received a response from the Borough Council regarding the above. To date no reply had been received.	RS		
26.3	Site Meeting with Mrs B's Pre-School The Clerk reported that no response had been received from Mrs B's Pre-School and it was, therefore, AGREED to defer this matter until further notice.			
15/27	ALLOTMENT REPORT FROM WMPC Mrs Turner apologised for not been able to carry out a full report but had visited the allotments. Plot 5A needs attention. Plot 1 has a fence long the boundary of Plot 1B.			
	The Clerk reported that she had received a letter from the Tenant of Plot 5A explaining why the plot had not been worked. After discussion it was AGREED that a first letter be sent giving them one month to carry out work on the plot.	Clerk		

15/ 28	<p><u>ALLOTMENT REPORT FROM RYARSH LANE ALLOTMENT SOCIETY (RLAS)</u></p> <p>Mr Mullins reported:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Plot 5A neglected. • Plot 18B neglected. • Plot 19A Vacant • Plot 19B neglected. • Plots 20 and 24A have broken marker posts 			
	Mr Mullins will re-fix the marker posts as soon as possible.			
	After discussion it was AGREED that a first letter be sent to the Tenant of plot 18B giving them one month to carry out work on the plot.	Clerk		
	The Clerk reported that the Tenant of plot 19B had relinquished his tenancy and that plots 19A and 19B had been re-let as one plot.			
	<p><u>Plot 19B</u></p> <p>It was NOTED that a letter had been received from the tenant of Plot 28B. He will not be renewing his tenancy. Mr Stevens had inspected the half-plot and proposed that the deposit of £50 be refunded; this was seconded by Mrs Turner and agreed unanimously. Clerk to arrange refund.</p> <p>The Clerk said that the tenant of plot 28A would like plot 28B. This was AGREED.</p>	Clerk Clerk	✓	
15/ 29	<p><u>Allotment Gates</u></p> <p>Mr Mullins reported that he had obtained costs from McVeigh Parker for new gates at the allotments. Cost for 2 gates inc. VAT, posts and hooks was £330. There will be an additional cost of concrete and galvanised mesh for the gates. After discussion it was AGREED that £400 be included in the budget for 2015/2016. Clerk to note.</p>	Clerk	✓	
15/ 30	<p><u>Other Allotments Matters</u></p> <p>Discussion took place regarding the cutting of the boundary hedge between the Cricket Club and the allotments. The Clerk was asked to ask Turfsoil when this would be carried out.</p>	Clerk	✓	
15/ 31	<p><u>Macey's Meadow</u></p> <p>Mr West said an area had been planted with wild flower seed and had been partially protected by rabbit proof mesh.</p> <p>The next meeting will be held on Wednesday, 28th January 2015 .</p>			
15/ 32	<p><u>Playing Field</u></p> <p><u>Mark II Spring Meet</u></p> <p>It was NOTED that a letter had been received requesting use of the playing field for parking as part of their booking of the Village Hall on Sunday, 3rd May 2015. Mr Stevens proposed that that a fee of £50 be charged; this was seconded by Mr West and agreed with one abstention; the usual conditions would apply. Clerk to respond.</p>	Clerk	✓	
15/ 33	<p><u>Village Hall Management Committee</u></p> <p>It was NOTED that their next meeting will be on Wednesday, 25th February 2015 at 8pm. It is planned to have a small celebration to mark the 40th Anniversary of the official opening of the Village Hall and also presentation of their Hallmark certificate. Members are invited to attend.</p>			

15/ 34	<u>Recycling, Cleansing & Environmental Issues</u>		
	<p><u>Love Where You Live</u></p> <p>It was NOTED that Tonbridge & Malling Borough Council will be holding a Love Kent Hate Litter Campaign during February. They would like to encourage local activity across the Borough. It was felt that West Malling did not suffer too highly with litter problems.</p>		
15/ 35	<p><u>Open Space Assessment</u></p> <p>It was NOTED that a letter had been received from Tonbridge & Malling Borough Council regarding the assessment of open spaces in the parish. The Borough Council is embarking on the preparation of a new Local Plan and would like an update. A map highlighting existing open spaces was enclosed. To help the Borough Council understand the level of usage of existing facilities they would like additional information indicating level of bookings</p> <p>It was NOTED that many open spaces had been omitted from the map and that the allotments in Norman Road were shown but had not been allocated a site reference.</p> <p>It was AGREED the following open spaces be included in the plan and that the map be amended accordingly:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Churchyard • More Park School • Douces Manor • Pilsdon • Banky Meadow • The Abbey • Leybourne Woods • Allotments (to be allocated a site reference). <p>In respect of usage of the facilities at the Cricket Club the Clerk was asked to write to the Cricket Club.</p>	Clerk	
15/ 36	<u>Questions From Members Of The Public And Councillors</u> – None.		
	<p><u>Dates of next meetings</u> - Monday 9 February 2015 (concentrating on Churchyard)</p> <p>It was AGREED to discuss the date of the April Meeting at the next meeting.</p>		
	<p>There being no further business, the Chairman thanked members for attending and closed the meeting at 8.35p.m.</p> <p>Signed.....</p> <p>Date</p>		