

# WEST MALLING PARISH COUNCIL

## MINUTES OF A MEETING OF THE AMENITIES COMMITTEE HELD ON MONDAY 14 SEPTEMBER 2015, 7.30PM AT VILLAGE HALL, NORMAN ROAD, WEST MALLING

**Present:**        **Mr P Stevens (Chairman)**  
                     **Mrs T Dean**  
                     **Mrs L Javens**  
                     **Mrs Y Smyth**

**Also in Attendance:**  
**Mr J Collins (WMPC Employee)**  
**Mrs A Turner**  
**1 Allotment Tenant**  
**Mrs Sarah Howard (Assistant Clerk )**

Minute		Action by	Action taken	Response
15/ 424	<b><u>APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE</u></b> were received from Mrs H Marlor, Mr R Selkirk and Co-opted members Mr M Doyle, Rev David Green and Mr S Mullins			
15/ 425	<b><u>DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST</u></b> –Mrs Javens declared an interest in 15/430.2 as the trees in the Children’s Play Area are behind her property.			
15/ 426	<b><u>MINUTES</u></b> after an amendment to 15/363.1, stating that faculty permissions are sent to the Diocesan Advisory Council, the Minutes of the meeting held on Monday 10 August 2015 were approved and signed.			
15/	<b><u>MATTERS ARISING</u></b> from the minutes not otherwise on the agenda			
427.1	<b>(15/362.3) Footpath MR139, Rear of Woodland Close</b> – Mr Stevens reported that FP MR139 had been strimmed by Kent County Council.  Mrs Javens said that a tree in a property on the boundary of the footpath from Alma Road to Woodland Close is pushing the concrete fence out. Mr Stevens said he would look at the area concerned.	<b>PS</b>		
15/	<b><u>ALLOTMENTS</u></b>			
428.1	<b><u>Allotment Report from WMPC</u></b>  Mr Stevens carried out the allotment inspection on behalf of WMPC and presented his report: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 12 – still very poor. Little sign of activity. Unproductive holly bush planted in centre of plot</li> <li>• 18B – unworked</li> <li>• 19 – Poor. Significant weeds at Ryarsh Lane end. Small beds and long grass</li> <li>• 24A – Marker post missing</li> <li>• 25 – Poor towards Ryarsh Lane end</li> <li>• 28 – Poor. Overgrown, significant piles of rubbish and weed</li> </ul> <p>It was agreed that second letters be sent to plots 12 and 18B subject to a member of the RLAS inspecting the plots, in the absence of a report from the RLAS, and reporting back to the Assistant Clerk .</p>	<b>SH</b>	✓	

	<p>It was agreed that first letters be sent to plots 19 and 28. Plot 25 should be monitored.</p> <p>Mr Stevens said about the recent spate of ASB at the allotments and urged that all incidents be reported to 101.</p> <p>Mrs Dean said that the fence on the boundary of the School and plot 1 has broken down. It is the responsibility of the School and they are to secure it.</p> <p>The Assistant Clerk reported that the cutting of the hedge will take place on Wednesday 16 September 2015.</p> <p>Mr Stevens reported that the Management Plan meeting for allotments will take place on Thursday 24 September 2015.</p>			
<b>428.2</b>	<p><b><u>Ryarsh Lane Allotment Society</u></b></p> <p>In the absence of the RLAS Chairman there was nothing further to report.</p>			
<b>428.3</b>	<p><b><u>Fencing Project Funding</u></b></p> <p>It was noted that one Tender had been received from G Stevens Landscapes for rabbit-proof fencing at the allotments. The Tender was received one day after closure. The cost of the Tender, as follows:</p> <p>Materials/Plant Hire     £1765.00  Labour                             £1220.00  Total Cost                        £2985.00</p> <p>After discussion it was agreed that the Tender be accepted subject to Lottery funding criteria being satisfied. The Parish Council will fund the labour cost only.</p> <p>The allotment tenant left the Meeting at 8.40p.m.</p>	<b>SH</b>	✓	
<b>15/ 429</b>	<p><b><u>MACEY'S MEADOW</u></b></p> <p>It was noted that the Minutes of the Macey's Meadow Advisory Committee held on 12 August 2015 had been received.</p> <p>It was noted that ASB is continuing to happen at the Meadow and that the Police are now giving priority to this and action has already been taken against some of the perpetrators. The Parish Council would like to thank all the volunteers for their hard work dealing with these incidents. Any suspicious activity needs to be reported to 101 immediately.</p> <p>It was noted that there will be an Applefest at the Meadow on 3 October 2015.</p> <p>The Assistant Clerk said that she had plans showing the sponsored trees in the Meadow. She said she would pass this information to the Macey's Meadow Advisory Committee.</p>	<b>SH</b>		
<b>15/</b>	<p><b><u>PLAYING FIELDS</u></b></p>			
<b>430.1</b>	<p><b><u>Norman Road Playing Field &amp; Children's Playground Specification</u></b></p> <p>After discussion it was agreed that the Tenders go out on the 16 October 2015 and deadline for receipt is 6 November 2015.</p>	<b>SH</b>	✓	
<b>430.2</b>	<p><b><u>Tree Cutting, Children's Playground</u></b></p> <p>It was noted that a quote had been received, from Down to Earth, for work to the trees in the children's playground, as follows:</p> <p>3 no mature Lime Trees and 1 no mid-aged Ash Tree within the children's playground – Prune to lift the crowns of all 4 no trees to approximately 3m by the removal of growth</p>	<b>SH</b>	✓	

	<p>only. Prune to remove all significant deadwood, broken, hung-up and suspect branches present. All arisings to be removed from site: <b>For the sum of £432.00 + VAT.</b></p> <p>It was agreed that the Assistant Clerk put this on the budget Agenda.</p>			
15/431	<p><b><u>BALL PARK</u></b></p> <p>It was noted that a quote had been received from Safeplay, as follow: Dig out benches and make good surface. Defective bench to be disposed of at an approved waste site, other bench to be removed to the Safeplay depot – <b>For the sum of £235.00 + VAT.</b></p> <p>It was further noted that a revised quote had been received from Safeplay to remove the damaged bench only, as follows: Dig out damaged bench and make good surface. Defective bench to be removed to the Safeplay depot – <b>For the sum of £124.75 + VAT.</b></p> <p>Discussion took place regarding the removal of the benches and it was felt that the undamaged bench should remain in place. The Assistant Clerk said that Forge Engineering had replaced the top and seat slates on this bench, with all metal, in 2005. It was agreed that Forge Engineering be asked to quote to replace the top and seat slates on the damaged bench.</p> <p>It was noted that two quotes had been received from Turfsoil for the removal of the overgrown hedging and removal of the tree at the entrance to the Ball Park, as follows:</p> <p>1) Two sections of hedge fell to ground level, collect, remove and dispose of arisings – <b>For the sum of £285.00 + VAT</b></p> <p>2) Fell on number tree to ground level, collect, remove and dispose of arisings – <b>For the sum of £815.00 + VAT.</b></p> <p>It was agreed that a further quote be obtained for a 1m crown lift of the tree and reduce the height of the overgrown hedge and tidy.</p> <p>Discussion took place regarding ways to improve the Ball Park with the possibility of CCTV and netting over the top to prevent balls from going into the school ground.</p>	SH	✓	
15/432	<p><b><u>VILLAGE GREEN</u></b></p> <p>The Assistant Clerk reported that she was meeting with Down to Earth on Friday morning.</p>	SH	✓	
15/433	<p><b><u>LAND WEST OF AGE CONCERN</u></b></p> <p>The Assistant Clerk reported that Turfsoil do not have the technical expertise to provide a written report. They have a tree surgeon who would be able to provide a report for the sum of <b>£75.00 plus VAT.</b> It was agreed that this be accepted.</p>	SH	✓	
15/434	<p><b><u>VILLAGE HALL</u></b></p> <p>Mrs Turner did not have anything to report.</p>			
15/435	<p><b><u>Questions from Members of the Public and Councillors</u></b></p> <p>There were no question from Members of the Public and Councillors,</p>			
	<p><b><u>Date of next Meeting</u></b> – Monday 12 October 2015 (concentrating on Churchyards)</p>			
	<p>There being no further business the Chairman thanked members for attending and closed the meeting at 8.59p.m..</p> <p>Signed.....Date .....</p>			