

WEST MALLING PARISH COUNCIL

MINUTES OF A MEETING OF THE AMENITIES COMMITTEE
HELD ON MONDAY 11 JUNE 2018 AT 7.30PM
AT VILLAGE HALL, NORMAN ROAD, WEST MALLING

Present
Mr P Stevens
Ms M Stacpoole
Mrs L Javens

Co-opted Members:

Mr M Doyle
Ms I Macdonald
Mr J Musker
Mrs C Medhurst

Also in Attendance:

Mrs Sarah Howard (Assistant Clerk)
Mr J Collins – employee of West Malling Parish Council
Two residents of Norman Road

Minute		Action by	Action	Response
18/326	<u>APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE</u> were received from Miss G Barkham, Mrs Y Smyth, Mr N Stapleton and Rev David Green			
18/327	<u>DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST</u> – Mr Stevens and Mrs Javens declared an interest in [18/333] of the Minutes as Mr Stevens has relatives living close to the area and Mrs Javens lives on the boundary of the playing fields.			
18/328	<u>MINUTES</u> - the Minutes of the meeting held on Wednesday 23 May 2018 were approved and signed.			
18/329	<u>MATTERS ARISING</u> There were no matters arising.			
18/330	<u>CHURCHYARD</u>			
330.1	<u>Report by Rev Green</u> In the absence of Rev Green no report had been received. Ms Macdonald raised concern over fungus growing at the base of two dead cherry trees in the churchyard. The Assistant Clerk to ask Day Tree Fellers to look at the trees in case it is honey fungus.	SH	✓	
330.2	<u>West Malling War Memorial</u> The Assistant Clerk reported that the grant had been reapplied for with the War Memorial Trust as on further inspection we would have a response by mid August.			

	Ms Macdonald had received a reply from the Royal British Legion regarding biodegradable poppies and wreaths. They state that the poppies are environmentally friendly and all of the parts are either biodegradable or able to be recycled locally. The petals and leaf are made of paper and the stem and centre of recyclable plastic. They continue to work on producing a stem and centre that are biodegradable.			
330.3	<p><u>Silent soldier/there but not there</u></p> <p>Mrs Javens had obtained information regarding the Silent Soldier. The soldiers are manufactured by British Legion Industries but are supplied through 'There but not there'. There are three types of soldiers:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Perspex silhouettes for benches £42.00 • Perspex silhouettes for chairs £42.00 • Aluminium 6ft standing £750.00. <p>Discussion took place regarding the options and members and co-opted members would prefer an aluminium silent soldier possibly sited to the rear of the war memorial. It was agreed that this be considered by the Finance and General Purposes meeting. The Assistant Clerk said she had spoken with Rev Green and he raised no objection.</p>			
	Churchyard representatives left the meeting at 7.43p.m.			
18/331	<u>ALLOTMENTS</u>			
331.1	<p><u>Report by West Malling Parish Council and Ryarsh Lane Allotment Society</u></p> <p>It was noted that Miss Barkham had carried out the allotment inspection on behalf of the Parish Council. Due to the late May meeting no action will be taken at this time.</p> <p>Mrs Medhurst said that the possibility of a compost toilet had been discussed at the last RLAS meeting. It was generally felt that it should be sited by the hedge more to the middle of the larger site.</p> <p>Their members had also discussed the letting of plots to people outside of West Malling. They felt it would be better than vacant plots but priority given to residents of West Malling. To be discussed further at the review of the Management Plan.</p>			
18/332	<p><u>MACEY'S MEADOW</u></p> <p>Mr Doyle reported that the tractor and hay baler are to be delivered on Friday. They will be given a demonstration of Saturday.</p> <p>All the sheep have been removed from the meadow as a result of several recent dog worrying incident and will not be returning. The latest incident resulted in a lamb with a badly broken leg being put down. It is a decision that, the owners, have not taken lightly but sheep welfare is top priority. It was agreed that this be put out on social media.</p> <p>Details of information on the bench from Malling Lionesses is still awaited. Mr Doyle said that we may be able to obtain a bench through the meadows project.</p> <p>Comment was made regarding the possibility of giant hogweed and Japanese knotweed on the meadow. Mr Doyle to check.</p> <p>Discussion took place regarding additional security around the meadow. Mr Doyle said that the trailer had been parked behind the gate from Norman Road. The gap between Macey's Meadow and the Cricket Meadow was of concern. The Assistant Clerk to obtain a quotation for a kissing gate and field gate. The padlock and chain to be put on the gate from Norman Road.</p> <p>A resident reported that whilst walking his dog in Macey's Meadow the dog had escaped through a hole in the fence, by the bug hotel, onto the railway line. This should be</p>	MC SH	✓	

	<p>reported to Network Rail as a matter of urgency.</p> <p>Comment was made regarding the encroachment of the hedge onto the pedestrian pavement in Norman Road. Permission will need to be sought from KCC. It was agreed to monitor and if it continues to grow at a quick rate the Assistant Clerk to obtain the necessary permission and Four Seasons to be asked to do the light cut.</p>			
18/333	<u>PLAYING FIELD</u>			
	<p><u>Additional Security of the Car Park</u></p> <p>Mr Stevens reported on the working party meeting and said that quotations were being obtained for additional security. Notes outlining the proposals appended to the Minutes. Proposal to be agreed at the July Amenities meeting for agreement at July Full Council.</p> <p>Plans and quotations to be made available to working party member prior to the July Amenities meeting.</p> <p>The dumped trees and rubbish will be removed from the site tomorrow.</p>	SH	✓	
18/334	<u>CRICKET MEADOW</u>			
	<p>Mr Stevens said about additional security at the Cricket Meadow. This is to be discussed at the next cricket club meeting.</p>			
18/335	<u>BALL PARK</u>	SH	✓	
	<p>The Assistant Clerk to obtain updated quotes for the removal of the two smaller trees at the entrance to the ball park and the replacement bench.</p>			
18/336	<u>VILLAGE HALL</u>	SH	✓	
	<p>It was noted that the following points of note had been received from the WMVHMC:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • A meeting will take place in relation to the recent traveller problem with attendees from the Parish Council, WMVH committee members and local residents to discuss issues arising and preventative measures to be put in place to prevent these issues arising again. • A new GDPR policy to be put in place in accordance with regulations which came into effect from 25 May 2018 • Installation of the new village hall boilers has shown a cost saving of circa £500.00 to date. • Next meeting is scheduled for Thursday 23 August 2018. <p>Mrs Javens reported that after investigation into solar panels it was felt that they it would not be beneficial to this hall as there are not any water tanks. Mr Gosney to look at other village halls.</p> <p>Mrs Javens said that the Clerk will be in talks with a member of the WMVH committee to assist with the website.</p> <p>Comment was made regarding the overhanging trees from the car park over the pedestrian pavement. Day Tree Fellers to be asked to quote for cutting back.</p>			
18/337	<u>PUBLIC RIGHTS OF WAY</u>			
	<p><u>Footpath Clearance</u></p> <p>Mr Stevens said he had received a complaint from a resident regarding the nettles on the footpath to the rear of Sandown Close. This has been reported to KCC.</p> <p>KCC have been through a new tendering process for vegetation clearance and they are</p>	SH	✓	

	behind schedule. The new contractor are due to begin end of week 8 June and they will be able to provide us with a date. The Assistant Clerk to chase.			
18/338	<u>FINANCE</u>			
338.1	<u>Budget Statement</u> There were no budget statements available.			
18/339	<u>QUESTIONS FROM MEMBERS OF THE PUBLIC AND COUNCILLORS</u> Mr Doyle said he felt the lime tree on the cricket meadow requires a tree guard. The Assistant Clerk to obtain a quote from Four Seasons	SH	✓	
	<u>Date of Next Meeting</u> – Monday 2 July 2018 (concentrating on Allotments)			
	There being no further business the Chairman thanked Members for attending and closed the meeting at 8.32 p.m. Signed..... Date.....			

Appendix

NOTES ON WORKING PARTY MEETING HELD ON THURSDAY 7 JUNE 2018 AT VILLAGE HALL, NORMAN ROAD, WEST MALLING

PRESENT: Mr P Stevens (Chairman Amenities)
Mr N Stapleton

Two residents from Norman Road
Two representatives from WMVHMC

Mrs S Howard (Assistant Clerk)

- Remaining rubbish to be cleared on Tuesday 12 June 2018
- Comment was made regarding installation of stone boulders along the strip of grass at the entrance to the village hall. No further action as it was felt that would not serve as a deterrent
- Installation of temporary concrete block obscuring part of field gate and remaining fencing. Assistant Clerk has details of this
- Consideration of closing existing entrance and a new entrance by the garage blocks in Woodland Close. No further action.
- Erect height restriction barrier and fencing further into the entrance of the village hall at last tree on the strip of grass. With shroud cover and shutter padlock. This would still enable the refuse and recycling lorries to gain access to the car park in front of the barrier. Assistant Clerk to obtain quotes
- Mound up strip of grass on the left. Assistant Clerk to obtain quotes
- New field gate next to village hall, install DDA compliant kissing gate and new fence. Field gate to be fitted with a shroud cover and shutter padlock. Assistant Clerk to obtain quotes and an additional quote for a height restriction barrier
- WMVHMC are happy to make a contribution to the security works. Mr Stevens thanked the them for the offer
- Replacement anti climb fence between the village hall and the farmer field with bollard in front. Assistant Clerk to obtain quotes

Discussion took place regarding additional security measures at the Cricket Meadow. These to be discussed at the next cricket club meeting.

Meeting closed at 8.30p.m.