

WEST MALLING PARISH COUNCIL

MINUTES OF A MEETING OF THE AMENITIES COMMITTEE
HELD ON MONDAY 09 DECEMBER 2019 AT 7.30PM
AT VILLAGE HALL, NORMAN ROAD, WEST MALLING

Present
Mr P Stevens
Mrs L Javens
Miss G Barkham
Ms S Margetts
Ms M Stacpoole
Co-opted Members:
Mr M Doyle
Mr J Musker

Also in Attendance:
One Resident of Norman Road

Minute		Action by	Action	Response
19/711	<u>APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE</u> were received from Mrs Y Smyth, Rev D Green and Ms I Macdonald.			
19/712	<u>DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST</u> – none other than those routinely declared.			
19/713	<u>ELECTION OF VICE-CHAIRMAN</u> Mr Stevens asked Ms Stacpoole is she would serve as vice-chair. There being no other nominations Ms Stacpoole was duly elected.			
19/714	<u>MINUTES</u> – the Minutes of the Meeting held on Monday 11 November 2019 were approved and signed.			
19/715	<u>MATTERS ARISING</u>			
	[19/647] – It was noted that a quotation had been received from RBLI, for the emergency contact sign for the playing fields, for the sum of £25.59 + VAT. It was agreed that this be accepted.	SH	✓	
19/716	<u>CHURCHYARD</u>			
	<u>Report by Rev David Green</u> <u>Memorial Stone Incidents</u> The situation with Mr Wilkinson's ashes tablet stone has been resolved. The damage was relatively minor and he has been able to smooth things over with the family without further action required. There was also a headstone knocked loose by a car unknown during Music at Malling. Music at Malling have paid for the stone to be repaired and that's now all finished.			

	<p>It is a concern that they've had three incidents in the last two years involving headstone and cars in recent years. However, he is not sure if there's anything we can do about it.</p> <p><u>Trees</u></p> <p>The next tranche of tree work was completed on 7 November.</p> <p><u>War Memorial</u></p> <p>He has not heard anything further from Heritage Stone about the loosing of screws on the plaque.</p> <p><u>Hedges</u></p> <p>Around Remembrance Sunday, they had a reminder about the need for the hedges to be kept tidy around the perimeter of the churchyard, especially since some of the Commonwealth War Graves are very close to some of them. Hedges are technically the home owners' responsibility, but long-term Parish Councillors will remember this has come up at various times before and with varying levels of success in getting home owners to pay attention to the problem. Would it be feasible to factor into the 2020 specification some trimming of hedges when they are overhanging in the churchyard.</p> <p><u>Topple Testing</u></p> <p>PCC are still unable to give further consideration to the medium and low risk stones in the Topple Testing report. They continue to wait for clarification as to what constitutes a 'medium' risk or 'low' risk from the company who did the work.</p> <p><u>Proposed Extension to St Mary's</u></p> <p>Although this is not technically 'Churchyard' the Diocesan Advisory Council have provided feedback to them in November which they are now taking forward and PCC met recently to decide upon certain responses to issues raised. They will be writing back to them shortly. He has said to Trudy Dean that he would be happy to present to the Parish Council as well to keep abreast of the progress, should that be requested.</p> <p>Miss Barkham said thanks to Roy, a relative of Mr Stapleton, for helping to maintain the war memorial garden.</p> <p>In respect of hedge cutting the tenders have already been decided. It was agreed to discuss this further in 2020/21. Mr Stevens said that should there be any issues, in the meantime, the Parish Council maybe able to help.</p>						
	Mr Musker left the meeting at 7.37p.m.						
19/7/17	<p><u>MACEY'S MEADOW</u></p> <p>Mr Doyle said about replacement hedging, to fill the gaps, along Norman Road. Two quotations have been received, as follows:</p> <table data-bbox="260 1653 1225 1742"> <tr> <td>Four Seasons Gardens</td> <td>£688.00 + VAT</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Mervyn Carr</td> <td>£250.00 (an additional £80.00 if top soil is required)</td> </tr> </table> <p>It was agreed to accept Mervyn Carr, at this meeting, as the next Macey's Meadow meeting is February and the volunteers would like to plant the trees in January .</p> <p>Ms Margetts said she had spoken with a hedge company and would be keen to order the National Trust Bee and Butterfly selection of hedge plants. Cost is £95.99 for 100 bare root plants. This cost is covered by a donation.</p> <p>Mr Doyle said that consideration is being given to the Blossom event taking place on</p>	Four Seasons Gardens	£688.00 + VAT	Mervyn Carr	£250.00 (an additional £80.00 if top soil is required)		
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	Friday 8 May 2020 as this an early bank holiday rather than Saturday 9 May 2020. Mr Doyle said that the newly made gap in the hedge will be blocked up.			
19/718	<u>PLAYING FIELD</u> There was not anything to report.			
19/719	<u>CRICKET MEADOW</u> There was not anything to report.			
19/720	<u>BALL PARK</u>			
	It was noted that a quotation had been received for replacement backboards, as follows: 1200 x 1050mm £207.00 each 1800 x 1050mm £392.80 each Installation cost £250.00 Full cost would, therefore, be either £414.00 or £785.60 plus installation. Price subject to VAT. A letter to be sent to West Malling School for their views of replacement backboards. Quote to be obtained from RBLI.	SH		
19/721	<u>WASTE/RECYCLING SERVICES</u> Comments were made about the continuing problems with the waste collection.			
19/722	<u>VILLAGE HALL</u> Mrs Javens reported that the WMVHMC thanked the Parish Council for their contribution. There was a discussion on which photos to use on the website. Chris Gosney will take some update photos in the spring but in the meantime any suitable old one to be used. Date of next meeting Thursday 13 February 2020.			
19/723	<u>FINANCE</u>			
723.1	<u>Budget Statements</u> Budget statements were circulated to members.			
723.2	<u>Accounts for Payment</u> Accounts for payment - £800.00 were approved. See attached.			
19/724	<u>QUESTIONS FROM MEMBERS OF THE PUBLIC AND COUNCILLORS</u> Miss Barkham asked if West Malling Flowers were maintaining the Magnolia planter. The Assistant Clerk said that the owner had confirmed he was watering it.			
	<u>Date of Next Meeting</u> – Monday 13 January 2020 (concentrating on Allotments)			
	There being no further business the Chairman thanked Members for attending and closed the meeting at 8.17 p.m. Signed..... Date.....			

Accounts for Payment 9th December 2019

			cheques to be drawn
Mr M Carr (cheque 2144) (Repair of table in playing area & gateway between field and play area)			90.00
Alison Judge (cheque 2145) (Refund of allotment deposit - Plot 15)			50.00
Zip Promotions Ltd (cheque 2146) (invoice ZIP0707 Macey's Meadow merchandise)		£ 550.00	660.00
	VAT	£ 110.00	
		TOTAL	<u>£ 800.00</u>