

WEST MALLING PARISH COUNCIL

MINUTES OF A MEETING OF THE AMENITIES COMMITTEE
HELD ON TUESDAY 13 JULY 2021 AT 7.30PM
AT VILLAGE HALL, NORMAN ROAD, WEST MALLING

Present: Mr P Stevens (Chairman)
Miss G Barkham
Ms S Margetts
Mrs L Javens

Mr J Collins - Resident
Mr K Mann - Resident

Minute		Action by	Action taken	Response
21/373	APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE : Ms M Stacpoole, Mrs Y Smyth, Mr M Doyle, Rev D Green, Mr J Musker and Ms I Macdonald			
21/374	DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST – Mrs Javens declared an interest in [21/380] as she lives adjacent to the children’s play area.			
21/375	ELECTION OF VICE CHAIRMAN The Assistant Clerk reported that Ms Stacpoole had agreed to serve as vice-chairman. There being no other nominations Ms Stacpoole was duly elected.			
21/376	MINUTES – after an amendment to [21/328.3] being an incorrect volunteer day the minutes of the meeting held on Tuesday 15 June 2021 were approved and signed.			
21/377	MATTERS ARISING [21/335] – Byelaws to be an agenda item for August. [21/328.2] – Miss Barkham reported that The Malling Society were appreciative of our letter of thanks for their kind donation.			
21/378	ALLOTMENTS			
	Allotment Inspections The allotment inspection report was presented as follows: 1A – less than 75% cultivated, weeds not controlled and hedge not maintained. To send a reminder. 3A – less than 75% cultivated, weeds not controlled and grass not maintained. To send a reminder. 4A – less than 75% cultivated, weeds not controlled and grass not maintained. To obtain update. 4B – less than 75% cultivated, weeds not controlled. Letter of termination to be sent. 19A – new tenant. 20 – weeds not controlled. Monitor 21A – less than 75% cultivated, weeds not controlled. To send a reminder.	SH	✓	

	<p>26A – new tenant. 29A – less than 75% cultivated, weeds not controlled, hedges and grass not maintained. Letter of termination to be sent.</p> <p>Miss Barkham said that some of the paths, between plots, are very narrow.</p> <p>Strimming problems still remain.</p> <p>It was noted that a quotation had been received from Four Seasons to strim plot 1B for the sum of £45.00 + VAT. It was agreed this be accepted and funded from Allotments maintenance general.</p>			
21/379	<u>MACEY'S MEADOW</u>			
	<p><u>Tree Report Update</u></p> <p>Ms Margetts and the Clerk met with a tree surgeon to discuss the Oak and other tree works outstanding. A quote is awaited.</p> <p>The boundary hedge with Norman Road has been cut back.</p>			
21/380	<u>PLAYING FIELD</u>			
380.1	<p><u>Tennis Courts</u></p> <p>Mr Barton was not able to attend. It was agreed to invite to the August meeting.</p>	SH	✓	
380.2	<p><u>Summer Football Training</u></p> <p>It was noted that a request had been received for summer football training. It will take place over 8 weeks. Mr Stevens had agreed this use, under delegated powers, and a charge of £20.00 per session will apply. The Assistant Clerk said that the goal mouths will be reseeded, at some point, and the goal areas will be out of use. The hirer has been informed of this and has agreed to use his own goals elsewhere on the pitch. A reduced rate will be charged. This action was ratified.</p>			
21/381	<p><u>CRICKET MEADOW</u></p> <p>There was not anything to report.</p>			
21/382	<p><u>BALL PARK</u></p> <p>The tree stumps to be ground out on 28th July 2021.</p>			
21/383	<u>VILLAGE HALL</u>			
383.1	<p><u>Report by Parish Council Representative and Replacement Hall Floor</u></p> <p>Mrs Javens reported the following:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Shirley and Julian Jacobs continued to work hard. • Reported on financial matters and grants received. • Looking into costs to provide WIFI in the hall. • Hall fully booked during the week with availability at weekends. • The outside lights have been replaced with LED light sensitive. • Heater timer replaced. • Front door lock replaced. • Fire inspection has taken place. • Drains have been cleared after blockage. • New cleaners of the hall. • Next meeting is Tuesday 24 August 2021. 			

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Members of the photographic group attended the AGM and are hoping to use the hall for photo competitions and exhibitions. <p>Mrs Javens was congratulated on becoming a Trustee for the VHMC.</p> <p>It is necessary to replace the hall floor due to the following:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> The flooring has faulty tongue and groove header joins at around forty locations in the hall floor; Some of the 13 repairs previously carried out last year to sections within the hall now need repairing again; The flooring has excessive bounce and movement at the rear right hand side and a few other locations; More splits and cracks along individual board edges are raising concerns for future insurance liability; and The flooring is proving harder to keep clean and splinter free (some areas are taped where the boards are lifting). <p>This work will be carried out from 9th to 22nd August 2021.</p> <p>The Assistant Clerk to check if access will be possible to the committee room.</p>	SH	✓	
383.2	<p><u>Garage Storage – Preschool</u></p> <p>Discussion took place regarding the Preschool's use of the garage adjacent to the tennis courts. It is currently be used to store their equipment. In 2006 a rent agreement was agreed, with the Preschool, for £120.00 pa payable in advance on the 1st April each year. Payment was received in 2007/08 but it would appear that no further payments were made. It was agreed that a new rent agreement to be negotiated in line with inflation. The committee will not be looking to reopen previous years and that they are only looking to correct things going forward. The garage to be kept clean, tidy and insured by themselves. A copy of the insurance to be provided. A letter to be sent to the Preschool.</p>	SH	✓	
383.3	<p><u>Electric Vehicle Charging</u></p> <p>Members had been circulated with Mr Stevens key points from the talk. It is a KCC scheme looking into locations for public electric vehicle charging points. The biggest issue would be the loss of two parking spaces in the village hall car park. As these would be designated spaces.</p> <p>It was agreed that we look into expressing an interest and registering.</p>	SH	✓	
21/384	<u>WASTE/RECYCLING SERVICES</u>			
384.1	<p><u>Recycling Collections</u></p> <p>It was noted that after a temporary suspension of recycling collections the service has now restarted.</p>			
384.2	<p><u>Kent Understanding Plastic Project</u></p> <p>Members had been circulated with Ms Margetts notes on the above project.</p>			
21/385	<u>FINANCE</u>			
	<p><u>Budget Statements</u></p> <p>The monthly budget statements were noted.</p>			
21/386	<u>QUESTIONS FROM MEMBERS OF THE PUBLIC AND COUNCILLORS</u>			

	<p>The Assistant Clerk reported that the tree stumps at the ball park and the one in the children’s play area are to be removed on Wednesday 28 July 2021.</p> <p>Mrs Javens asked about the new litter bin, and the re-siting of the existing bin, in the children’s play area. The Assistant Clerk will chase Mr Carr.</p> <p>Mrs Javens said a resident had noticed, what they thought was, human excrement by the zip wire. <i>(subsequent to this it was dog excrement and Ms Margetts very kindly put it in the dog waste bin).</i></p> <p>Mr Stevens said that the benches at the cricket meadow had not been strimmed. The Assistant Clerk to chase Landscape Services. Also the area in front of the Age Concern building was very unkempt. The Assistant Clerk to report to KCC.</p>	<p>SH</p> <p>SH</p>	<p>✓</p> <p>✓</p>	
	<p>Date of Next Meeting – Monday 9 August 2021 (concentrating on Churchyard)</p>			
	<p>There being no further business the Chairman thanked members for attending and closed the meeting at 9.07 p.m.</p> <p>Signed..... Date.....</p>			