

WEST MALLING PARISH COUNCIL

MINUTES OF A MEETING OF THE AMENITIES COMMITTEE HELD ON MONDAY 11 APRIL 2022 AT 7.30PM THE CLOUT, HIGH STREET, WEST MALLING

Present: Mr Stevens
Ms Stacpoole
Miss G Barkham
Mrs L Javens
Mrs Y Smyth

Minute		Action by	Action taken	Response
22/204	<u>APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE</u> : Ms S Margetts and Ms I Macdonald.			
22/205	<u>DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST</u> – none other than routinely declared.			
22/206	<u>MINUTES</u> –the Minutes of the Meeting held on Monday 14 March 2022 were approved and signed.			
22/207	<u>MATTERS ARISING</u> There were no matters arising.			
22/208	<u>CHURCHYARD</u> The Assistant Clerk reported that the Clerk and herself had met with the church working party volunteer regarding tending the flowers around the war memorial. He will prepare a planting scheme and will also meet with Rev David Green to discuss his plan. Permission has been granted to fell the two Lime trees. A date with the contractor to be confirmed when Rev David Green returns. Ms Stacpoole reported that the path ways, in the wildflower meadow, had been marked out.			
22/209	<u>ALLOTMENTS</u>			
209.1	<u>Allotment Inspection Reports</u> It was noted that inspections had been carried out by the Parish Council and the RLAS. It was agreed to monitor the following plots: 4A, 5A, 6,10, 18B,19A, 19B, 21A,27B, 28B, 29B. Mr Moon will make repairs to parts of the rabbit proof fencing. There is still an issue with dogs not been kept on leads. Notices to be put on the gates. There is a non fruit tree on plot 29A. The tenant to be asked to remove.	SH	✓	
209.2	<u>Removal of Dead Cherry Tree</u> It was noted that a quotation had been received, from Day Tree Fellers, to fell the dead	SH	✓	

	cherry tree at the top of plot 5B for the sum of £166.67 + VAT. It was agreed that this be accepted and funded from general maintenance.			
22/210	<u>MACEY'S MEADOW</u> Ms Stacpoole reported that the volunteers had finished pruning the cobnuts and apple trees. The chipper has been repaired.			
22/211	<u>PLAYING FIELD</u>			
211.1	It was agreed that in view of the confidential nature of the business to be transacted it was advisable in the public interest that the public and press be temporarily excluded and asked to withdraw in accordance with the Public Bodies (Admission to Meetings) Act 1960. The meeting with the Assessor took place and a way forward was agreed.			
211.2	<u>Playground Inspections</u> In view of the above [211.1] the Assistant Clerk had obtained a quotation for the play inspections to be carried out by ROSPA for the cost of £240.00. It was agreed that this be accepted and the inspection to be carried out as soon as possible.			
21/212	<u>CRICKET MEADOW</u> It was noted that the Cricket club have no objection to the path being extended from the ball park down to the allotments. They would like it as close to the boundary with the school as possible. The Assistant Clerk to obtain costs.	SH		
22/213	<u>BALL PARK</u> There was not anything to report.			
22/214	<u>VILLAGE HALL</u>			
214.1	<u>Report by Parish Council Representative</u> Mrs Javens reported as follows: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Maintenance is taking place during the school holidays. Windows in the main hall and bar area have been made secure. • Paintwork is being carried out. • New thermostat has been fitted in the hall and the radiator in the committee room is working. • Changing rooms to have radiators installed. • WIFI – ongoing and quotations being obtained. 			
214.2	<u>Clean Up of Car Park</u> The Assistant Clerk reported that TMBC will be providing sacks and it has been arranged for the rubbish to be collected from the car park by the waste contractor.			
22/215	<u>WASTE/RECYCLING SERVICES</u> Miss Barkham said about the bins, on the pavement, outside The Rain Grill. This has been reported to TMBC. Emptying of the food bins in Parsonage Court has been reported to Waste Services.			
22/216	<u>ST LEONARD'S TOWER</u>			

	<p>It was noted that a bridge inspector had met with the Clerk and Ms Margetts at the culvert. He has researched the structure and found the following information:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The structure under the road is not classed as a highway structure but is managed by KCC Drainage. • The structure to the north of this culvert is classed as a highway structure and the section under the highway is maintained by this office. • Some investigations have taken place, in the past, of these structures and there is a possibility that the two culverts are connected under Malling Place, and it is this connection that feeds the pond. This could be the outfall that the Representative from English Heritage mentioned. <p>In summary: The pond is not the responsibility of Kent County Council, and any tidying up should be promoted by the parish Council. The out fall from Malling Place should be uncovered during this process and cleared if there is a blockage. You may wish to line the pond with ragstone blocks as discussed.</p> <p>Miss Barkham suggested that Mike North be asked if he knows any of the history.</p>			
<p>22/217</p>	<p><u>BYE-LAWS</u></p> <p>The Assistant Clerk had obtained a copy of the Cranbrook and Sissinghurst Parish Council bye laws. She said she had started to update the Council's. Mrs Smyth to be sent a copy.</p>	<p>SH</p>	<p>✓</p>	
<p>22/218</p>	<p><u>CLIMATE CHANGE & BIODIVERSITY</u></p> <p>Members had received a draft letter to be sent to contractors informing them of our aim to cut carbon emissions. Several amendments were made and it was agreed this be sent out to contractors.</p>	<p>SH</p>	<p>✓</p>	
<p>22/219</p>	<p><u>FINANCE</u></p>			
	<p><u>Budget Statements</u></p> <p>The monthly budget statements were noted.</p>			
<p>22/220</p>	<p><u>QUESTIONS FROM MEMBERS OF THE PUBLIC AND COUNCILLORS</u></p> <p>Miss Barkham commented on the large rubbish bins, on the pavement, by the Parish Council noticeboard. The Assistant Clerk to find out ownership.</p> <p>The land next to K2 Flooring is owned by KCC. They have advised we apply for a Cultivation Licence.</p>	<p>SH</p> <p>SH</p>	<p>✓</p> <p>✓</p>	
	<p><u>Date of Next Meeting</u> – Monday 23 May 2022 (concentrating on Allotments)</p>			
	<p>There being no further business the Chairman thanked members for attending and closed the meeting at 8.50 p.m.</p> <p>Signed..... Date.....</p>			

