

WEST MALLING PARISH COUNCIL

MINUTES OF A MEETING OF THE AMENITIES COMMITTEE
HELD ON MONDAY 12 JUNE 2023 AT 7.30PM
WEST MALLING VILLAGE HALL, NORMAN ROAD, WEST MALLING

Present: Mr P Stevens
Miss G Barkham
Ms S Margetts
Ms M Stacpoole
Mrs L Miles

**Representative of WMVHMC
Chairman and member of the RLAS**

Minute		Action by	Action taken	Response
23/345	<u>APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE</u> : Rev D Green, Ms I Mcdonald and Mr J Musker.			
23/346	<u>DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST</u> – Mr P Stevens declared an interest in [353.2] as has family living adjacent to the children’s play area. Subsequently, Mrs Javens declared an interest in [353.2] as lives adjacent to the children’s play area.			
23/347	<u>ELECTION OF CHAIR AND VICE CHAIR</u> Ms Margetts proposed that Mr Stevens serve as Chair, seconded by Ms Stacpoole. There being no other nominations Mr Stevens was duly elected. Ms Stacpoole proposed that Mrs Miles serve as Vice Chair, seconded by Ms Margetts. There being no other nominations Mrs Miles was duly elected.			
23/348	<u>CONSIDERATION OF CO-OPTION FOR ALLOTMENTS AND VILLAGE HALL REPRESENTATIVES AND TO REVIEW DISCLOSABLE PECUNIARY INTERESTS FORMS FOR CO-OPTED MEMBERS</u> It was agreed that Mr Yeoman be co-opted as allotments representative on the Amenities Committee. It was agreed that Mrs Javens be co-opted as the village hall management committee representative on the Amenities Committee.			
23/349	<u>MINUTES</u> – the minutes of the meeting held on Thursday 13 April 2023 were approved and signed.			
23/350	<u>MATTERS ARISING</u> <u>[23/231 – Allotments</u> The Assistant Clerk reported that the artefacts from the allotments are now with The Malling Society. They will be on display at The Twitch Inn.			
23/351	<u>ALLOTMENTS</u>			
351.1	<u>Allotment Inspection Report</u>			

	<p>It was noted that an inspection had been carried out by the Paris Council and RLAS.</p> <p>1A – gentle first reminder 1B – boundary definition and clearance. Quotes to be obtained 3A – monitor 4A – hedge to be cut back 5B – monitor 6 – monitor 9A – monitor 9B – monitor. Path to be reinstated 10 – first letter 12A – monitor 15A – first letter 15B – monitor 18B – monitor 19A – first letter 21A – gentle first letter 22 – offer half plot 23A - monitor 24A – monitor 25B – monitor 27B – monitor 29A – new tenant. Tenant adjacent has offered to trim 30A – first letter</p> <p>Gate opposite plot 3A requires oiling.</p> <p>Comment was made regarding the very narrow path between plots 16 and 17. This has been ongoing for some time.</p> <p>Comment was made regarding the Christmas trees, in pots, on plot 23A. The tenant has said that the spruce needles are used in cooking. Six trees seems excessive. Mr Yeoman said he would speak with the tenant.</p>	SH	√	
		PY		
351.2	<p><u>Allotment Management Plan – 2023-2027</u></p> <p>A draft allotment management plan was circulated. It was agreed to arrange a sub group to discuss any change. Mrs Miles and Ms Stacpoole agreed to help on behalf of the Parish Council. Mr Yeoman and Mr Moon agreed to help on behalf of the allotment society. A date to be arranged.</p>			
	Representatives from the allotment society left the meeting at 8.08pm			
23/352	<p><u>MACEY'S MEADOW</u></p> <p>There was not anything to report.</p>			
23/353	<u>PLAYING FIELD</u>			
353.1	<p><u>MK11 Classic Car Meet</u></p> <p>Due to the cancellation of the Spring meet the club have requested use of the field on Saturday 5 August 2023. Permission was granted subject to the usual conditions.</p>	SH	√	
353.2	<p><u>Lime Tree – Children's Play Area</u></p> <p>It was noted that a letter has been received from a resident of Woodland Close who lives adjacent to the children's play area. They raise concerns regarding the large Lime Tree near to their property. It was agreed to ask Down to Earth to inspect the tree for safety and to advise if it is suitable for crowning.</p>	SH	√	

353.3	<p><u>Reinstatement of Goal Mouths</u></p> <p>The Assistant Clerk reported that the goal mouths have been turfed and that Barming Blues have been watering the turfs so that they take. It was agreed that they be given one free game for all their help</p>	SH	√	
353.4	<p><u>Play Equipment Inspection Report</u></p> <p>It was noted that the ROSPA play equipment inspection report has been received. There are no areas of concern.</p> <p>A routine inspection sheet had been prepared by ROSPA for fortnightly checks. Mrs Miles and Ms Stacpoole will carry these out alternately.</p>			
23/354	<p><u>CRICKET MEADOW</u></p> <p>There was not anything to report.</p>			
23/355	<p><u>BALL PARK</u></p>			
	<p><u>Basketball Backboard</u></p> <p>The Assistant Clerk reported that one of the basketball backboards was missing. The cost of replacement is £555.00 + VAT. The school to be asked if they have removed it.</p> <p>There is insufficient budget to cover the cost of replacement but funds are available from a payment from South East Water. This to be referred to Full Council.</p>	SH	√	
23/356	<p><u>VILLAGE GREEN</u></p> <p>There was not anything to report.</p>			
23/357	<p><u>VILLAGE HALL</u></p>			
	<p><u>Report by Parish Council Representative</u></p> <p>Mrs Javens reported on the following:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The quarterly meeting and AGM took place on Monday 24 April 2023 • A large water bill has been received, this is due to a water leak that has now been repaired • Refuse collection to be slimmed down • Consideration be given to installing a Smart Meter • A wedding has been booked for next year • The day nursery proprietor has asked if he could disconnect the alarm and sound reducer when the doors are open, at his expense. He is also looking to become a committee member • The next meeting is Monday 21 August 2023 • A member of the photography club has stood down as trustee due to ill health • The secretary has stood down as trustee • They have agreed to hold future AGM's in August to enable the treasurer to prepare the accounts 			
23/358	<p><u>ST LEONARD'S TOWER</u></p> <p>It was noted that English Heritage have completely cleared the culvert of all debris and the water is flowing and running into the lake in Manor Park. The area in front of the tower ground has also been cleared of rubbish and weeds.</p> <p>Ownership of a small triangular piece of land next to the culvert is in question. English Heritage says their responsibility ends at the culvert and that it is the responsibility of the</p>	SH		

	Parish Council. There is no evidence of the Parish Council having ownership and there is a plan showing it as unregistered. A copy of this to be sent to English Heritage.			
23/359	<u>WASTE/RECYCLING SERVICES</u>			
	<u>Recycling Site, West Malling Car Park</u>	SH	√	
	The recycling bins in the car park have not been returned after the sinkhole. With the loss of these bins there is no provision of recycling units in West Malling. A letter to be sent to Waste Services. Miss Barkham made comment that a resident of Ditton had set up a petition for better containers for cardboard, etc, as the current bins are unsuitable.			
22/360	<u>CLIMATE CHANGE AND BIODIVERSITY ACTION GROUP</u>			
	It was noted that the village hall car park has been selected as a site for Parish EV project, subject to quotes being acceptable to KCC. At the climate meeting it was agreed to hold an additional litter pick in the Autumn. To consider overuse of weed killers on parish land.			
23/361	<u>FINANCE</u>			
	<u>Budget Statements</u>			
	The monthly budget statements were noted.			
23/632	<u>QUESTIONS FROM MEMBERS OF THE PUBLIC AND COUNCILLORS</u>			
	There were no questions from members of the public and councillors.			
	<u>Date of Next Meeting</u> – Monday 10 July 2023 (concentrating on Churchyard)			
	There being no further business the Chairman thanked members for attending and closed the meeting at 9.07p.m.			
	Signed.....			
	Date.....			