

WEST MALLING PARISH COUNCIL

MINUTES OF A MEETING OF THE AMENITIES COMMITTEE
HELD ON MONDAY 10 JULY 2023 AT 7.30PM
WEST MALLING VILLAGE HALL, NORMAN ROAD, WEST MALLING

Present: Mr P Stevens
Miss G Barkham
Mrs Y Smyth
Ms S Margetts
Ms M Stacpoole

Rev David Green
Mr P Yeoman - Chairman of RLAS

Minute		Action by	Action taken	Response
23/419	<u>APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE</u> : Mrs L Miles, Ms I Macdonald and Mrs L Javens.			
23/420	<u>DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST –</u> Mr P Stevens declared an interest in [23/426.1] as has family living adjacent to the children’s play area.			
23/421	<u>MINUTES</u> – the minutes of the meeting held on Monday 12 June 2023 were approved and signed.			
23/422	<u>MATTERS ARISING</u> <u>23/358 – St Leonard’s Tower</u> Ms Barkham asked if a response had been receive from English Heritage. No response to date. It was noted that English Heritage buildings are now the responsibility of English Heritage Trust.			
23/423	<u>CHURCHYARD</u>			
423.1	<u>REPORT BY DAVID GREEN</u> Rev David Green reported that a section of wall by the allotments is being repaired. Taps are working and benches are fine. The small Yew Tree by the north porch is not listed on any of the tree inspection reports. To be added at the next tree inspection			
423.2	<u>CHURCHYARD MANAGEMENT PLAN</u> The draft Churchyard Management Plan was circulated. Subject to amendments to tree work/inspection dates it was agreed to refer to Full Council and PCC for approval.	SH	√	
	Rev David Green left the meeting at 7.43p.m.			
23/424	<u>ALLOTMENTS</u>			
424.1	<u>Allotment Inspection Report</u> It was noted that an inspection had been carried out by the Parish Council and RLAS.			

	<p>1A – monitor 1B – Assistant Clerk meeting contractor to look a clearing and defining plot 2 – monitor 3A – Monitor 5A – monitor 5B – tenant to be contacted as moving from West Malling 10 – second letter 14A – monitor 15B – remove conifer 21A – first letter 25A – monitor 25B – monitor 27B – first letter 30A – second letter 30B – monitor</p> <p>Comment was made regarding the weeds on the footpath between the allotments. The contractor has been instructed to weed kill.</p>	SH	√	
424.2	<p><u>Allotment Management Plan – 2023-2027</u></p> <p>A meeting to discuss the management plan has been arranged for Tuesday 1 August 2023.</p> <p>Mr Yeoman left the meeting at 8.16pm</p>			
23/425	<p><u>MACEY'S MEADOW</u></p> <p>It was noted that the hedge on Norman Road has been given a light cut by the contractor.</p>			
23/426	<p><u>PLAYING FIELD</u></p>			
426.1	<p><u>Lime Tree – Children's Play Area</u></p> <p>The arboricultural consultant, from Down to Earth, feels that it may not be necessary to inspect the tree as an inspection was carried out early 2022 and it was deemed safe and no work was necessary. Crowning or pollarding work may increase growth. Should the Parish Council wish an inspection the cost would be £130.00 + VAT.</p> <p>After discussion it was agreed no action be taken at this time. The tree will be inspected in 2025 in line with the 3 year plan.</p>	SH	√	
426.2	<p><u>Bouncy Castle, Children's Party – Sunday 23 July 2023</u></p> <p>It was noted that an application has been received for a bouncy castle in the playing field next to the village hall for a children's party on Sunday 23 July 2023. No objection was raised subject to the usual conditions and a receiving a copy of the public liability insurance.</p>			
23/427	<p><u>CRICKET MEADOW</u></p> <p>There was not anything to report.</p>			
23/428	<p><u>BALL PARK</u></p> <p><u>Basketball Backboard</u></p> <p>The Assistant Clerk reported that the school have not removed the backboard and are not aware of its removal. Further quotes to be obtained.</p>	SH	√	
23/429	<p><u>VILLAGE GREEN</u></p>	SH		

	Ms Margetts said that the village sign may need re-oiling. The Assistant Clerk to contact the contractor.			
23/430	<u>VILLAGE HALL</u>			
430.1	<u>Report by Village Hall Representative</u> In the absence of Mrs Javens there was not anything to report.			
430.2	<u>Clearance of Water Meter Area</u> It was noted that a quotation had been received to clear the corner of the car park to enable access to the water meter. To clear approximately 1 metre of soil and remove from site and to clean up area for the sum of £500.00 with an additional £100.00 to remove one branch of the tree. It was agreed to obtain a further quote.	SH	√	
23/431	<u>WASTE/RECYCLING SERVICES</u>			
	<u>Recycling Site, West Malling Car Park</u> It was noted that a reply had been received from TMBC. Following the sinkhole appearing and no cause of the collapse identified it was advised not to return the recycling units at the location. As no alternative locations were identified and with the rollout of the improved recycling collections it is unlikely that the units will be replaced.			
23/432	<u>FINANCE</u>			
	<u>Budget Statements</u> The monthly budget statements were noted.			
23/433	<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 14 August 2023 (concentrating on Allotments)			
	There being no further business the Chairman thanked members for attending and closed the meeting at 8.30p.m. Signed..... Date.....			