

WEST MALLING PARISH COUNCIL

MINUTES OF A MEETING OF THE AMENITIES COMMITTEE
HELD ON MONDAY 15 APRIL 2024 AT 7.30PM
WEST MALLING VILLAGE HALL, NORMAN ROAD, WEST MALLING

Present: Mr P Stevens
Miss G Barkham
Mrs L Miles
Ms M Stacpoole
Mr K Mann

Minute		Action by	Action taken	Response
24/251	<u>APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE</u> : Ms S Margetts, Mrs Y Smyth, Mrs L Javens, Mr P Yeomans and Mr M Doyle.			
24/252	<u>DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST</u> – none other than routinely declared.			
24/253	<u>MINUTES</u> –after an amendment to 24/91, ‘are’ to be added the minutes of the meeting held on Monday 11 March 2024 were approved and signed.			
24/254	<u>MATTERS ARISING</u> [24/172] Miss Barkham asked if the consultation on Martyn’s Law had been forwarded to the VHMC. This was confirmed.			
24/255	<u>ALLOTMENTS</u>			
255.1	<u>Allotment Inspection Reports</u> The Assistant Clerk reported that she had carried out a quick inspection of the allotments. In general the site looks good. Report as follows: Plot 6 – 50/50. To be monitored Plot 12B – no work, overgrown. First letter. The Assistant Clerk reported that the tenant of plot 12B had made enquiries in regard to any potential refund of the rent. The tenant had been unwell. After discussion it was agreed that no refund be made. Tenant to receive first letter.	SH	√	
255.2	<u>Allotment Tree Inspection Report</u> Down to Earth carried out the tree inspection. There are no immediate works necessary. There are category 3 and 4 works to be carried out when budgets are available. The Assistant Clerk to obtain costs for category 3 works.	SH		
24/256	<u>TOILETS</u>			
256.1	<u>Standard Risk Assessment</u> It was noted that the risk assessment report had been received. There being no amendments it was agreed to refer to Full Council for agreement.			

256.2	<u>Money/Energy Saving Improvements</u> Costs for remedial work and improvements to the toilets was discussed. Mr Mann to obtain further information from the contractors.	KM		
256.3	<u>Electrical Installation/Pat Test Reports</u> Discussed as above. Mr Mann left the meeting at 8.08pm.			
24/257	<u>MACEY'S MEADOW</u> The Assistant Clerk reported that there is barbed wire and several scaffold poles in a small wooded area near the rear of the pavilion. The volunteers to be asked to look to see if it possible for them to remove. Contact Capel Groundcare for costs to remove.	SH	√	
24/258	<u>PLAYING FIELD</u>			
258.1	<u>Tennis Courts</u> Discussion took place regarding the official opening of the courts. It was felt a Friday would be suitable. To consider a joint opening with Jim's Tennis. Jim to be asked for his views. Possible hire of the village hall for refreshments. The developer and Sovereign Tennis to be invited.	SH	√	
258.2	<u>Outdoor Adult Gym</u> Three tenders had been received. Members were given specifications and costs, as follows: Beactive £32,243.50 + VAT Kompan £71,953.12 + VAT TGO £68,600.00 + VAT After considerable discussion it was agreed that the tender from Kompan be accepted. The equipment is of a very high spec and has good recommendations from other Borough Councils for its quality and endurance. The equipment allows for users of all sizes and abilities, from absolute beginners to more advanced users. Touch screen and app integration. It incorporates a sports and fitness app available free on Android and the App store via a QR code. Details to be sent to TMBC for confirmation. Upon receipt to be referred to Full Council, June, for approval.	SH	√	
258.3	<u>Zipwire Inspection</u> The annual inspection has taken place and it was concluded that it does not need any work and is in good order.	SH	√	
258.4	<u>Request for use of Football Pitch</u> It was noted that a request had been received for pitch use on alternate Sundays to BYFC. Due to overuse of the car park on a Sunday morning it was felt that a further team could not be accommodated. It was agreed that Barming Blues and Barming Ladies have use of the pitch for 2024/25.	SH	√	
24/259	<u>CRICKET MEADOW</u> Landscape Services have yet to start the grounds maintenance despite be contacted. It was agreed that a formal letter be sent stating they are in breach of the contract.	SH	√	

24/260	<u>BALL PARK</u> There was not anything to report.			
24/261	<u>VILLAGE GREEN</u> Landscape Services have yet to start the grounds maintenance. A letter being sent.			
24/262	<u>VILLAGE HALL</u>			
262.1	<u>Report by Village Hall Representative</u> In the absence of the village hall representative there was not anything to report.			
262.2	<u>EV Charging Points</u> The Clerk and Mr Stevens met with the Chair and Secretary of the VHMC. Concerns were raised at the loss of parking spaces, residents parking overnight and if the parking bays needed to be larger than the current bays. The Clerk to check with KCC	CC	√	
24/263	<u>WASTE/RECYCLING SERVICES</u>			
	<u>Free Standing Cigarette Bins in the Town</u> Concern was raised regarding the new cigarette butt bins that have appeared in West Malling. There was no consultation with the Parish Council although it is understood that the establishments in the Town had been approached. Although they are a great idea they are not working. They are unhygienic, unsightly, mainly used as litter bins and full of water. It appears that they are not being emptied. Letter to be sent to TMBC asking how thorough the consultation was and who is responsible for emptying them. The litter bin by the pedestrian crossing is damaged. To be reported.	SH	√	
24/264	<u>FINANCE</u>			
	<u>Budget Statements</u> The monthly budget statements were noted.			
24/265	<u>QUESTIONS FROM MEMBERS OF THE PUBLIC AND COUNCILLORS</u> There were no questions.			
	<u>Date of Next Meeting</u> – Monday 20 May 2024 (concentrating on Churchyard)			
	There being no further business the Chairman thanked members for attending and closed the meeting at 9.01p.m. Signed..... Date.....			