

WEST MALLING PARISH COUNCIL

MINUTES OF AN EXTRAORDINARY MEETING OF THE
PARISH COUNCIL
HELD ON THURSDAY 21ST JANUARY 2021, 7.30PM
VIA ZOOM CONFERENCE CALL

Present: Mrs T Dean (Chairman)
Ms G Barkham
Mr K Bullard
Mrs L Javens
Ms S Margetts
Ms C Medhurst
Mrs Y Smyth
Ms M Stacpoole
Mr N Stapleton
Mr P Stevens
Mr D Thompson

Also Present Mr Francis Gahan

Minute		Action by	Action taken	Response
21/51	<u>APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE</u> - none			
21/52	<u>DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST</u> – none other than those routinely declared			
21/53	<u>CHAIRMAN'S ANNOUNCEMENTS</u>			
53.1	<p><u>Rotary House</u></p> <p>ACV - Mrs Dean reported that T&MBC have now confirmed that Rotary House has been registered as an Asset of Community Value – for details of the decision see: https://democracy.tmbc.gov.uk/ieDecisionDetails.aspx?ID=984 Registration as an ACV means that the building is now subject to moratorium provisions.</p> <p>It was noted that the landowner (in this instance KCC) has the right to request a review of the decision, this request must be made within 8 weeks of notification of the decision.</p> <p>Survey - it was agreed that for the time being, not to proceed with the additional estimate of £750 for a survey of the electrics within the building and to proceed with the quote of £1099.50 + VAT as agreed at the extraordinary meeting of 18/1/21.</p>			
53.2	Local Plan – letter to Tom Tugendhat – the letter has been circulated to other local Parish Councils, all of which have expressed their support for its contents.			
21/54	<u>LOCAL PLAN / WATES COSTS</u>			
	The Clerk is now in receipt of solicitor / counsel fees for Wates legal representation and is expecting to reimburse East Malling & Larkfield Parish Council in the sum of £9813.93 (one third share of invoice); a further £294.66 share is payable for work recently undertaken but it is anticipated that this sum will be paid out of donations received directly by East Malling &			

	Larkfield Parish Council – this is to be confirmed. Wates & Local Plan total combined costs - £18,421.74 – to be confirmed on receipt of invoice.			
21/55	<u>BUDGET 21/22</u>			
55.1	<p><u>Financial position as of Monday 18th January 2021</u> A report had been provided to members detailing the financial position of the Council as of Monday 18th January and 21/22 committee budgets.</p> <p>It was noted that committee underspends of £7,485 have been identified It was noted that once safeguarded sums have been taken into account, that the Council has reserves in the region of £57,000.</p> <p>Potential purchase of Rotary House, Norman Road during 21/22</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. From August 2022 the PWLB repayments of £5,233.84 pa on the Macey's Meadow loan (loan number 480383) will terminate. 2. If a successful purchase were to be achieved, a transfer of the Parish Council office would save the Council £3550 annual rent. 3. Reports on the building condition and site valuation are not expected to be available until the February Full Council meeting. <p>In view of the above, Councillors agreed that the first repayment of any PWLB loan could be met from general uncommitted reserves which were expected to be approximately £57,000 at 1/4/21. It was noted that £5000 has placed into the F&GP budget for Rotary House.</p>			
55.2	<p><u>Council Tax Base</u> Notification has been received from T&MBC that the Council Tax Base for West Malling for 2021/22 is 1,138.21 (this being the number of equivalent Band D properties)</p>			
55.3	<p><u>Committee Budgets</u> Mrs Dean reported that since the last Full Council meeting the following amendments to the F&GP and Planning Committee had been made: F&GP Committee – an additional £300 for IT update and £5000 for Rotary House expenses. Planning Committee – an additional £10,000 for Local Plan EIP These amendments were agreed.</p> <p>Gross Committee Budgets: £139,724.78 Less income £11,370.00</p> <p>Total Net Committee Budgets: F&GP total budget = £60,580.00 Highways total budget £23,694.00 Amenities total budget £13,861.43 Allotments total budget £1,510.00 Churchyard total budget £6,835 Macey's Meadow total budget £11,664.35 Planning total budget £10,210.00</p> <p>Committee budgets total <u>£128,354.78</u></p>			
55.4	<p><u>Precept:</u></p> <p>Following a general discussion regarding the level of precept to be set, Ms Barkham proposed that the precept remain as per 20/21 financial year, Mr Thompson seconded her proposal. Following a vote, with 8 members voting in favour of a 0% increase, 1 against and 2 abstaining, It was agreed that the precept be set at £126,015.13 which is a 0% increase or a reduction of 5p or 0.045% on a band D property at £110.71.</p> <p>The Committee budget total of £128,354.78 was agreed and it was further agreed that the Committee budget shortfall of £2339.65 be funded from general reserves.</p>			

	<p>Gross Committee Budgets £139,724.78 Less income £11,370.00 Less contribution from reserves £2339.65 Total Precept Requirement £126,015.13.</p> <p>Clerk to notify T&MBC</p>	<p>Clerk</p>	<p>✓</p>	
	<p>There being no further business, the Chairman thanked members for attending and closed the meeting at 8.01 pm</p> <p>Signed.....</p> <p>Date.....</p>			