## **WEST MALLING PARISH COUNCIL**

# MINUTES OF A MEETING OF THE PARISH COUNCIL HELD ON 10<sup>TH</sup> SEPTEMBER 2018, 7.30 PM AT WEST MALLING VILLAGE HALL, WEST MALLING

Present: Mrs Trudy Dean (Chairman)

Mrs Linda Javens
Mr Ben Merchant
Mrs Yvonne Smyth
Ms Min Stacpoole
Mr Nick Stapleton
Mr Peter Stevens

Also present Norman Road residents

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Minute		Action by	Action taken	Response
18/480	APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE were received from, Miss Gwyneth Barkham, Mr Keith Bullard, Mt Richard Byatt, Borough Councillor Mrs Sasha Luck & Borough Councillor Sophie Shrubsole.			
18/481	<u>DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST</u> – Mr Stevens declared an interest in the village hall security measures [minute number <b>18/489</b> ] as he has relatives living close to the area. <i>Mrs Javens also expressed an interest as her house backs onto the playing field</i> – added Full Council 1 <sup>st</sup> October 2018			
18/482	MINUTES of the meeting held on 9th July 2018 were approved and signed.			
18/483	MATTERS ARISING from the minutes not otherwise on the agenda – none			
18/484	It was with sadness that Mrs Dean reported the death of Mr Tim Baldock. Members wished to express their appreciation for his commitment to West Malling.			
18/485	QUESTIONS FROM MEMBERS OF THE PUBLIC - none			
18/486	QUESTIONS FROM MEMBERS OF THE COUNCILLORS - none			
18/487	POLICING MATTERS			
487.1	Policing report – updated crime figures to be circulated.			
487.2	Other Policing matters –     The Clerk reported that in excess of 170 'laughing gas' canisters had been collected from the village hall car park; this number had been accumulated in one evening. The PCSO had been notified and had been asked to increase evening patrols. Use of canisters is currently not illegal.      Mrs Dean reported that there has been a significant increase in the number of attacks on persons aged 65+, in particular on women.	Clerk	<b>√</b>	

18/488	WEST MALLING GROUP PRACTICE		
	<ul> <li>A buyer for the site has been agreed and the premises have been leased back to WMGP; the length of the lease is unknown.</li> <li>Face to face appointments will remain at the West Malling site 'for many years to come'.</li> <li>Two more GP's have been recruited.</li> <li>Dr Reichhelm has now returned to the practice. Mrs Dean suggested that a meeting be arranged with Dr Reichhelm; Mrs Javens and Ms Stacpoole expressed an interest in attending any future meeting.</li> </ul>		
18/489	VILLAGE HALL PLAYING FIELD SECURITY		
	Recommendation from the Amenities Committee for increased security to the village hall playing field was agreed unanimously. Quote from Tonbridge Fencing agreed as follows:  Entrance side of village hall – removal of hedge, supply of 868 mesh, posts to be concreted into the ground and concrete bollard to be set behind the fence. £1220 + VAT Left hand side of village hall – supply of Disabled Access kissing gate, 868 mesh fencing, posts to be concreted into the ground and height barrier. £2541 + VAT Clerk to notify Tonbridge Fencing.	Clerk	<b>✓</b>
	Mr Stevens reported that he and Mr Stapleton had recently met with 2 representatives from Town Malling Cricket Club to discuss increased security at the cricket meadow.		
18/490	T&MBC PROVISION OF PUBLIC CONVENIENCES – SCOPING REPORT		
	The Borough Council are currently undertaking a review of the public conveniences within the Borough. Parish Council response agreed - see below. This response will be incorporated into the Overview and Scrutiny Report.  West Malling Parish Council ask that the following response be incorporated into the Overview and Scrutiny Report in respect of the public conveniences review:  The West Malling/King Street toilets are an important facility within the town and need to remain open. The toilets are regularly used by visitors, bus and coach drivers and those enjoying the busy nightlife in the town. The Parish Council feel that the closure of this important facility may result in anti social behaviour.  As West Malling is a lively bustling town during both the day and evening, the toilets are essential and the Parish Council would therefore be open to discussions of a potential transfer of the facility.  The Parish Council receive regular complaints on the condition of the toilets. On many occasions they are dirty with toilet paper strewn over the floor and in the toilets, flies are also an issue. We understand that these toilets are cleaned once a day yet we continue to receive complaints regarding their condition.  The Parish Council believe that consideration ought to be given to relocation of the King		
	Street toilets to a more suitable and central location such as the Tesco car park.		
	The Parish Council would encourage use of the community toilet scheme.		
18/491	REMOVAL OF SHRUBBERY BOUNDARY OF CHURCHYARD / CHURCHFIELDS		
	Recommendation from the Amenities Committee to accept quote from Four Seasons Ltd in the sum of £340.00 plus VAT – agreed.  Clerk to notify Four Seasons	Clerk	~
18/492	BLAISE FARM		

	Blaise Farm liaison meeting to be held on 25 <sup>th</sup> September. Miss Barkham hoped to be in attendance. A number of residents have complained about the increased number of flies during the summer period and it is understood that the Environment Agency have been investigating the issue. There is no evidence that an increase in flies is linked to Blaise Farm.		
18/493	REMEMBRANCE 2018		
	Meeting to take place with Rev'd Green, David Cooper, Mrs Dean and Clerk on Wednesday 19th September to finalise Remembrance Day arrangements. A total of 9 stewards are needed to assist with road closures. Mrs Dean to email previous volunteers and Councillors to confirm if they are able to help.		
18/494	PRIVACY POLICY		
	It was agreed to amend the notice as follows: 'The Council will process some or all of the following personal data where necessary to perform its tasks where they are relevant to the services provided by the council <i>for instance for the hiring of an allotment, taking part in the Speedwatch programme or completing a resident survey</i> '.		
18/495	HIGHWAYS COMMITTEE – ELECTION OF CHAIRMAN		
10/493	INGITIVATO COMMITTEE - ELECTION OF CHARMIAN		
	Mr Merchant has taken the decision to step down as the Chairman of the Highways Committee due to his imminent house move which will take him out of the Parish. Mr Stapleton had previously volunteered for the position of Chairman and there being no other nominations his appointment was agreed unanimously.  Mr Merchant was thanked for his hard work on the committee, in particular for setting up Speedwatch.		
18/496	FINANCIAL MATTERS		
496.1	Accounts for payment - totalling £9842.40 were approved - see attached.  To note the following payments made since the last Full Council Meeting £2078.79 authorised at Amenities Committee on 13 <sup>th</sup> August.  £180.00 authorised at Planning Committee on 28 <sup>th</sup> August		
496.2	Financial Statement – bank reconciliation as of 23 <sup>rd</sup> August was received – see attached		
496.3	Clerks' conference – attendance at the KALC conference on 13 <sup>th</sup> September was agreed. £72 plus VAT		
18/497	MATTERS FOR REPORT		
497.1	Amenities Committee – receipt was noted, for information of the approved minutes of the meeting held on 2 <sup>nd</sup> July 2018 and draft minutes of the meeting held on 13 <sup>th</sup> August 2018.		
	2 <sup>nd</sup> July – <b>[18/382] - Solar panels at the village hall</b> . General discussion regarding subsidy / government tariff. Mrs Dean to speak with members of the VH Management Committee.	TD	
	[18/384] – Compost toilet at allotments. Issue of cost and location. Mrs Dean asked the Clerk to speak with Rushcliffe Borough Council as she is aware that Rushcliffe Country Park has compost toilets.	Clerk/ SH	
	13th August – [18/438.3] There but not there. Mrs Dean reported that a member of the public is keen to purchase a silent soldier silhouette.		
497.2	Highways, Transportation & Streetlighting Committee - receipt was noted, for information of the draft minutes of the meeting held on 20th August 2018.		
	[18/454] Speedwatch – Speedwatch sessions have now been undertaken with new volunteers, it was agreed that more volunteers are needed to ensure the scheme is successful.		

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	Leaflets to be produced to be delivered house to house.			
497.3	<b>Planning Committee -</b> receipt was noted, for information of the approved minutes of the meeting held on 25 <sup>th</sup> July and the draft minutes of the meeting held on 20 <sup>th</sup> August 2018. There were no questions.			
	Local Plan:			
	Approved at Cabinet on the 3 <sup>rd</sup> September and will now be considered at Full Council on the 12 <sup>th</sup> September			
	<ul> <li>Call for sites – Parish Councils are being encouraged to look at all previous sites identified in the call for sites. It was agreed that an exhibition be arranged at which all sites could be exhibited to residents who would be able to comment/provide information on the sites.</li> <li>KALC – TM have arranged a workshop on the 17<sup>th</sup> October at which Jennifer Bates (planning consultant and Shipbourne parish councillor) will be assisting parishes to prepare their Reg 19 response. It was agreed that Ms Bates be approached to ascertain if she would attend a meeting specifically with WMPC. It was noted that a fee may be charged for her advice. Clerk to contact Ms Bates.</li> </ul>	Clerk	<b>✓</b>	
497.4	<ul> <li>Macey's Meadow – verbal report of the meeting held on 29<sup>th</sup> August.</li> <li>Applefest date fixed for Saturday 22<sup>nd</sup> September 1-4 pm.</li> <li>It was noted that in excess of 400 hay bales had been produced during the hay baling season, with £330 raised in sales. Members wished to thank the volunteers, but in particular Mick Pearce for all their hard work in the meadow. Letter of appreciation to be sent to Mr Pearce.</li> </ul>	Clerk	<b>✓</b>	
	approximente se com te min i concer			
497.5	<b>Malling Action Partnership</b> – a fortnightly Silver Lunch Club for older people is to be held at the East Malling Centre Chapman Way. This is to be funded from the Lottery Fund Awards for All Programme.			
497.6	Rotary House – no report			
497.7	School Governors – no report			
497.8	Malling Society – the next meeting date of Tuesday 25 <sup>th</sup> September was noted. Mrs Earl (Secretary of the Malling Society) had advised the Clerk that new artefacts had been donated by June Briggs; these are to be displayed at The Twitch.			
497.9	Chamber of Commerce / Christmas Lights Committee – no report			
497.10	<ul> <li>Tonbridge &amp; Malling Borough Council</li> <li>Ms Stacpoole attended the Parish Partnership Panel meeting held on 6<sup>th</sup> September at which the Local Plan and the new waste contract were discussed.</li> <li>Receipt of T&amp;MBC Community Safety Partnership September/October newsletter was noted in particular the launch of the Tonbridge Community Alcohol Partnership. Clerk to ask T&amp;MBC (at the request of Mr Stevens) if this is an initiative that could be rolled out to the Malling area.</li> </ul>	Clerk	<b>✓</b>	
497.11	KALC/NALC/ACRK - Receipt was noted of September KALC news. KALC-TM - receipt was noted of the draft minutes of the meeting held on 2 <sup>nd</sup> August			
18/498	MEETING DATES			
	Finance & General Purposes Committee - 17th September @ The Clout			
	Amenities Committee – Monday 24 <sup>th</sup> September (concentrating on allotments)			
	Planning Committee – Tuesday 25 <sup>th</sup> September			

	Highways & Transportation Committee – 15 <sup>th</sup> October 2018		
	Macey's Meadow Advisory Committee – 24 <sup>th</sup> October 2018		
18/499	REPORT OF BOROUGH COUNCILLOR		
	Councillor's Report		
	·		
	M20 shut this weekend between Junction 4 and 6 to remove the Tea Pot Lane foot bridge		
	Rate Retention scheme, there will be grants for independent business up to £5.000, to		
	help renovate and improve their shop fronts, important in West Malling as so many of		
	the buildings are listed.	ļ	
	In discussion, Local Plan. Broadwater Road to be dead end, passage for fire and	ļ	
	emergency vehicles only,		
	They are going to use the quiet motorway surface, between Junction 4 and 3 M20	ļ	
	The Parish Council Notice Board looks very smart in the car park behind Tesco, puts the		
	parking meter to shame	ļ	
	Seven Mile Lane, speed limit of 30 mph for 6 days from 7th September.		
		ļ	
	Doctors have sold the building, and are renting it back, so the practice is safe until they can find a more suitable premises		
	<u> </u>		
18/500	REPORT OF COUNTY COUNCILLOR – see below		
	There being no other business, the Chairman thanked members for attending and closed the		
	meeting at 9.34		
	Signed Dated		

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	Kent Asbe		£	144.00	09/07/2018				
5504	MAP		£	50.00	09/07/2018				
	Nest		£	77.00	20/08/2018				
			£	421.00					

### **County Councillors Report September 2018**

#### **Borough Cabinet approves Local Plan**

TMBC's all Conservative Cabinet approved unanimously its latest draft of the Local Plan for the Borough's house building and employment sites up to 2031. This probably means that the ruling Conservative Group will give final approval to the Plan at its Full Council Meeting on September 12<sup>th</sup>. Many councillors referred to their 'concern' that they were under government instruction to find sites for the government requirement for an additional 6,500 houses, which they felt would have serious effects upon the local area, particularly in relation to traffic.

They also were unhappy that government had put further pressure on the Borough by instructing that the agreed Plan must be sent to the Secretary of State by 24<sup>th</sup> January 2019, or the government would impose a penalty of a further 23% increase in the number of houses required.

If the Council approves the Plan on September 12<sup>th</sup>, a six week public consultation exercise will start, at the end of which all comments will be submitted to the Government appointed Inspector who will hold a public Inquiry and make his recommendation to the Secretary of State for his decision.

Local landowners whose sites have not been chosen for housebuilding by the Borough, are likely to put in renewed requests for the Inspector to overrule the Council and grant them planning permission.

For the Malling area, the Plan includes proposals for

- \*1,000 houses to be built by extending Kings Hill north onto Broadwater Farm, with a new access joining the bypass opposite West Malling Station, including building 65 at the western end of Teston Road with vehicle access only onto Kings Hill,
- \* extending the Green Belt boundary from West Malling to Wateringbury Road, East Malling, protecting the remaining countryside between Kings Hill, West Malling, East Malling, Larkfield and Leybourne,
- \*205 houses off New Road, East Malling on East Malling Research land south of Bradbourne house.,
- \*110 houses south of London Road, West Malling
- \*12 houses on Manor Farm, Offham Road, West Malling
- \*1,200 houses in Aylesford, mainly off Hermitage Lane
- \*245 houses in Ditton, mainly on land belonging to East Malling Research.

\*Aylesford Newsprint will be developed possibly 'more intensively' than currently, and TMBC say the Borough Council will require the reopening and adoption of Bellingham Way as part of any development requiring planning consent.

\*9 houses on the site of Larkfield Library were deleted as not capable of being implemented in the current Plan period to 2030.

The revised draft included some stronger policies ensuring that there would be no vehicle access from the development into the surrounding lanes, and that the new approach road should be sensitively designed.

#### Motorway closures and quiet resurfacing

M20 closures have been announced for the demolition and rebuilding of the Teapot Lane footbridge, Aylesford, to create increased headroom necessary for the extra motorway lane.

The first closure for demolition of the bridge takes place from 10pm on Friday September 14 to 6am Monday September 17. The second closure for the installation of the new deck will be from pm on Friday November 9 to am on Monday November 12. These dates have been chosen to avoid peak travel dates and events such as the October half term and Bonfire Night.

I have asked for the closure to be dalyed as it coincides with Remembrance week, and also with the period when the A20 is in any event congested because of the sinkhole closure on A26 at Barming and the smart motorway works.

Quiet surfacing has been agreed for all lanes between junction 3 and 4, and Lanes 1 and 4 only elsewhere.

#### mavener injunction Action explored

A number of London Boroughs have successfully obtained High Court injunctions against specific named travellers to prevent them returning to camp sites they have invaded. I have asked TMBC whether they can use this process locally to prevent the problems we have had in Larkfield, Leybourne, East and West Malling in the last two years.

It may not be practical as I understand the London Boroughs who have obtained injunctions had much bigger problems, such as in Harlow where there were over 100 invasions in eighteen months. The process also costs tens of thousands of pounds and the injunctions must still ultimately be enforced through Police arrest and committal to prison. TMBC officers will be discussing the possibilities with the Police in coming months, and I've suggested that Parish

All local parish councils are considering various methods of physically barring the way to public spaces, but this legal process may be more effective.

#### A26 sinkhole

KCC has said the filling of the sinkhole and restoration of the road and pavement surface will not be completed until the end of October.

The closure of the A26 by this sinkhole has caused diversion of traffic on to the A20 locally. KCC say infill material equal to the weight of 78 double decker buses has been used. Sewer and gas mains have remained operational throughout.

#### **WEST MALLING GP PRACTICE: LATEST NEWS**

A buyer for the West Malling Site has been agreed. As part of the condition of sale, the practice has leased back the premises for the whole site for an unknown length of time. The West Malling Chiropractor Clinic will also remain.

#### **Face to face Appointments**

Face to face appointments for patients will remain at the West Malling site "for many years to come". More staff are being trained to take telephone calls and the call "queue" has been extended to 45 calls. Patients are asked to stay on the line ... usually you will be answered within 15 minutes. If you ring off and ring back later, it will take longer.

Two new GPs have been recruited and Dr Reichhelm is returning as senior partner of the practice in September. Many areas of the back office will move out from West Malling during 2019 into better accommodation when it can be found.

Several suggestions have been made of land available for a Super Practice (the NHS plan is for Super Practices of around 30,000 patients in one location -50% more than currently.) If moving to one site is suitable then this will take around five years to plan and create.

Monthly meetings are being held across the 3 practices so that patients can meet with Vicki Plummer the Business Manager to discuss practice plans. The next meetings are as follows: Kings Hill upstairs Waiting Area Monday 17th September 10-10.30AM

Leybourne Surgery <u>Tuesday 16th October</u> 12 - 12.30pm.

#### STOP NOTICE Served on Stickens Orchard Stickens Lane East Malling.

TMBC have served a Stop Notice after a resident drew their attention to work on the site which appeared to suggest it was being prepared for development. The Stop Notice remains in force until Planning Consent is given for any alterations to boundaries, or erection of buildings.

#### **EVENTS**

Heritage Weekend Sept 8<sup>th</sup> and 9<sup>th</sup>, and 15<sup>th</sup> and 16<sup>th</sup>.

Sat 8<sup>th</sup> September 10 till 4pm.There is an exhibition of Historical material at East Malling Institute and

St James Church is open 10 till 5pm.

In West Malling St Marys Abbey, the Pilsdon Community, St Marys Church will be open

Wednesday 12<sup>th</sup> September Larkfield Community Group are running weekly get-togethers for Expectant Mums at Cup Cake 9,30 to 11,30am

Thursday 13<sup>th</sup> September 12.30am Liz Simpson is organising fortnightly Silver Lunch Club for older people at 12.30am at the East Malling Centre Chapman Way. Transport can be provided. Ring 01732 846314 for info. Funding for this project was won by Malling Action Partnership from the Lottery Fund Awards for All Programme

The Music@Malling Festival starts

Sunday 16<sup>th</sup> September David will be leading a historical Larkfield Walk on Sunday 16<sup>th</sup> Sunday 16<sup>th</sup> Larfield Athletic Club are organising a 10k run in and around the Research site

Saturday 22<sup>nd</sup> September Applefest in West Malling. Pick apples, enjoy the pressed juice with cake stall and fold music available.

Sat 29<sup>th</sup> September 10.30 to 12.30 litter picking Winterfield Lane to New Road. Meet by garages at top of Carnation Crescent.

Sat 20<sup>th</sup> October Larkfield Community Group Quiz at Lunsford School 7 for 7.30pm Teams of 6, £5 per head, bring your own drinks and nibbles.

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