

WEST MALLING PARISH COUNCIL

MINUTES OF A MEETING OF THE
PARISH COUNCIL
HELD ON 4TH OCTOBER 2021, 7.45 PM
AT WEST MALLING VILLAGE HALL NORMAN ROAD

Present: Mrs Trudy Dean (Chairman)
Ms Gwyneth Barkham
Mrs Linda Javens
Mr Keith Mann
Ms Sara Margetts
Ms Camilla Medhurst
Mr Nick Stapleton
Mr Peter Stevens

Also Present:

Minute		Action by	Action taken	Response
21/498	<u>APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE</u> were received from, Mrs Yvonne Smyth , Ms Min Stacpoole, Mr David Thompson and Borough Councillor Brian Luker			
21/499	<u>DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST</u> – none.			
21/500	<u>CASUAL VACANCY</u>			
500.1	It was noted that T&MBC had notified the Parish Council that the casual vacancy could be filled by co-option at this meeting. One application had been received from Mr Keith Mann.			
500.2	Mrs Dean proposed that Mr Keith Mann be co-opted and this was agreed by a majority vote.			
500.3	Clerk to notify TMBC	Clerk	✓	
21/501	<u>MINUTES</u> – the minutes of the Parish Council Meeting held on 6 th September 2021 were approved and signed.			
21/502	<u>MATTERS ARISING</u> - none			
21/503	<u>CHAIRMAN'S ANNOUNCEMENTS</u> – Kings Hill and West Malling Eco Hub held a meeting at Ragamuffins café on 23 rd September. A pledge tree is to be placed in the High Street to mark COP 26. Street furniture – Mrs Dean has written to T&MBC regarding the addition of A Boards outside of Desh and a bench outside of Roses – both of which restrict access when the			

	street is busy.			
21/504	<u>QUESTIONS FROM MEMBERS OF THE PUBLIC</u> - none			
21/505	<u>QUESTIONS FROM COUNCILLORS</u> - none			
21/506	<u>POLICING MATTERS</u>			
506.1	<u>Police Update</u> – receipt of the August Tonbridge & Malling police update was noted.			
506.2	<p><u>Other Policing Matters</u></p> <p>It was noted that a number of cars had been broken into in Leybourne.</p> <p>The Clerk informed members that Kent PCC had just started a public consultation - https://www.smartsurvey.co.uk/s/PCC2021/</p>			
21/507	<u>LOCAL PLAN</u>			
	<p>No update from T&MBC however, there is an expectation of an announcement of changes to the framework.</p> <p>There was a general discussion regarding the Gladman application for Development Site South West of West Malling Railway Station.</p>			
21/508	<u>ROTARY HOUSE</u>			
	<p>It was agreed that in view of the confidential nature of the business to be transacted it was advisable in the public interest that the public and press be temporarily excluded and asked to withdraw in accordance with the Public Bodies (Admission to Meetings) Act 1960.</p> <p>A bid is to be submitted to KCC by 22nd October with an update from KCC expected on 29th October.</p> <p>Outside organisations that have expressed an interest in using a community hub in West Malling are to visit the premises with Mrs Dean on 14th October.</p> <p>Members agreed initial bids for the Rotary House site, however it was felt that it would be beneficial for all members to be present. It was agreed that another meeting date be set for final bids to be agreed.</p> <p><i>Subsequent to the meeting, the date of Thursday 14th October was set for an extraordinary meeting.</i></p>			
21/509	<u>WEST MALLING PUBLIC TOILET PROVISION/WELCOME BACK FUND</u>			
	<p>Mrs Dean reported that she met with the new leader of T&MBC, Matt Boughton. who agreed that the current toilets were in an unacceptable place and did not meet modern standards. Alternative sites to be considered.</p> <p>Due to time constraints there was insufficient time to discuss this agenda item. Ms Margetts requested that the Welcome back Fund be considered in the near future.</p>			
21/510	<u>WEST MALLING VOLUNTEERS SCHEME</u> – insufficient meeting time to consider			
21/511	<u>CLIMATE EMERGENCY</u> – insufficient meeting time to consider			
21/512	<u>REMEMBRANCE DAY / ARMISTICE DAY</u> – insufficient meeting time to consider			
21/513	<u>FINANCIAL MATTERS</u>			

513.1	Accounts for payment - totalling £3955.52 were approved - see attached.			
513.2	Financial Statement – bank reconciliation as at 30 th September 2021 was received – see attached			
513.3	External Audit 2020/21 – due to insufficient meeting time this item will be considered at the November meeting.			
21/514	<u>MATTERS FOR REPORT</u> – insufficient meeting time to consider			
21/515	<p><u>MEETING DATES</u></p> <p>Amenities (concentrating on Churchyard) – Monday 11th October 2021 Highways – Monday 18th October Planning Committee - Tuesday 26th October 2021 Macey’s Meadow – Wednesday 27th October 2021</p> <p>Full Council October Full Council – Monday 1st November 2021</p>			
21/516	<p><u>REPORT OF BOROUGH COUNCILLOR, NICK STAPLETON</u></p> <p>Waste update - garden waste collections are still suspended and I've not yet seen an announcement as to when they will resume. Other collections have generally improved, although this week has seen a delay in some areas due to the issues with fuel.</p> <p>Speeding on Castle Way, Oxley Shaw, King Hill - I've received a number of complaints recently regarding speeding on these three roads in particular. The King Hill item will be added to WMPC's Highways agenda in October. Regarding Castle Way and Oxley Shaw, I will be having a meeting with KCC Officers regarding this.</p> <p>Birling Rd - I've received a number of complaints regarding litter and the general state of Birling Road. I've chased this up a number of times with TMBC. The street cleansing team have visited the road, but I have since visited and can't see much of an improvement. I have asked them to revisited urgently.</p> <p>I have managed to get a street cleansing update for West Malling and the surrounding area from TMBC. This has been passed to Claire.</p> <p>I have again received complaints from NuVenture regarding the parking by Tesco and the bus top. I have had a conversation with TMBC enforcement and asked that they please visit more regularly to keep an eye on it.</p>			
21/517	<u>REPORT OF COUNTY COUNCILLOR</u>			
	<p>Trudy has given grants to Brookfield Junior School for Mental Health Training for teachers; Brookfield Infants for play equipment and Larkfield Community Group for their Buddy Scheme.</p> <p>KCC has approved the extension of the 20mph scheme to north of the M20 – not originally thought to be affordable.</p> <p>KCC backlog of road repairs is now over £700 million.</p> <p>Larkfield Community Group are starting up a new Book Club.</p> <p>Trudy had a site meeting about West Malling Public toilets – very amicable. Officers look at a permanent site.</p> <p>There is a large increase in absenteeism at secondary school level – 14% nationally, but the Malling School figures are at 7% only.</p> <p>Music at Malling Festival closed last weekend after having had very good attendance.</p>			

	<p>There being no other business, the Chairman thanked members for attending and closed the meeting at 10.25</p> <p>Signed..... Dated.....</p>			

West Malling Parish Council							
<u>Accounts for Payment 4th October 2021</u>							cheques to be drawn
<u>Section 137 donation</u>							
Mr David Cooper (cheque 2326) (reimbursement for WMPC Remembrance wreath)							£ 20.00
Kent County Council (Laser) (Single cheque 2327) (Electricity supply period August 21 at 5% VAT)							9.91 VAT 0.50 £ 10.41
Kent County Council (Laser) (Electricity supply period August 21 at 20% VAT)							407.28 VAT 81.46 £ 488.74
Streetlights (cheque 2328) (invoice 12374 repair to column 89 - Churchfields)							125.25 25.05 £ 150.30
Silva Arboriculture Ltd (invoice 2329) (invoice 20064 survey of Lime trees at St Mary's Churchyard + mapping)							£ 383.00
Viking (cheque 2330) (invoice 7539297 cross shredder)							131.56 VAT 26.31 £ 157.87
October Salaries							
Mrs Claire Christmas - authorisation to pay via Faster Payments (Clerk - net salary for October £1565.96 + reimbursement for fax £1.20, macey's float £6.00 , sundries £5.33)							£1,578.49
Mrs Sarah Howard authorisation to pay via Faster Payments (Ass Clerk - net salary for October)							£426.92
HMRC - authorisation to pay via Faster Payments (Deductions from salaries - October)							£601.89
Nest - authorisation to pay pension contributions by Direct Debit for September							
Employer's contributions							£ 59.10
Employee's contributions							£ 78.80
TOTAL							£ 3,955.52

