

WEST MALLING PARISH COUNCIL

MINUTES OF A MEETING OF THE
PARISH COUNCIL
HELD ON 6TH JUNE 2022, 7.30 PM
AT WEST MALLING VILLAGE HALL, NORMAN ROAD

Present: Mrs Trudy Dean (Chair)
Mrs Gwyneth Barkham
Mrs Linda Javens
Mr Keith Mann
Ms Sara Margetts
Ms Camilla Medhurst
Mrs Lorna Miles
Mrs Yvonne Smyth
Ms Min Stacpoole
Mr Peter Stevens
Mr David Thompson

Also Present:

Minute		Action by	Action taken	Response
22/289	<u>APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE</u> were received from Borough Councillor Paul Boxall.			
22/290	<u>DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST</u> Mrs Dean declared an interest at minute number 22/298 and 22/299 as she is a KCC Member.			
22/291	<u>MINUTES</u> - the minutes of the Parish Council meeting held on 9 th May were approved and signed.			
22/292	<u>MATTERS ARISING</u> 22/252.7 Rotary House Working Group – Ms Stacpoole confirmed that she did not want to officially be part of the working group but that she would join the group on an ad hoc basis. 22/258 Queen’s Platinum Jubilee – Mrs Dean reported that the picnic in Macey’s Meadow was a great success with a number of children entering the youth eco hub bake off. It was noted that the Eco-Hub would like to be involved with Macey’s Meadow events moving forward.			
22/293	<u>CHAIRMAN’S ANNOUNCEMENTS</u> London Road Retirement Village - Mrs Dean reported that Retirement Villages had sent a letter to local residents and herself as Chair of the Parish Council. An application for 79			

	<p>retirement apartments and cottages had been approved on appeal in 2018; the letter states that the developers have identified a number of ways in which the plans could be improved in response to a 'changing policy and market landscape'. Retirement Villages will consult with the community and request a meeting with the Parish Council to discuss their emerging plans and consultation process.</p> <p>It was agreed that a representative of Retirement Villages would be invited to attend a meeting of the planning committee – date to be confirmed.</p> <p>Clare Lane – East Malling – the Clerk has been made aware that Gladman developers intend to apply for outline permission for 150 houses on Clare Lane. East Malling & Larkfield Parish Council are aware of the potential application.</p>			
22/294	<u>QUESTIONS FROM MEMBERS OF THE PUBLIC</u> - none			
22/295	<p><u>QUESTIONS FROM COUNCILLORS</u></p> <p>Tesco, West Malling - Mr Stevens raised concerns expressed by residents about an apparent change in policy which is impacting on the elderly and those with mobility issues.</p> <p>It is understood that staff are no longer manning the tills between 7-9 am and that shoppers are told to use the self-service or kiosk till; residents with a large amount of shopping or those with mobility scooters are unable to make use of the smaller tills and many residents do not feel comfortable using the self-service tills.</p> <p>In addition, there would appear to have been an increase in shelf re-stocking during the day, in particular early in the morning and negotiating the metal cages is causing difficulties for the elderly and those using mobility aids.</p> <p>It was agreed that a letter be sent to Tesco asking that they comment on these concerns and that it be stressed that West Malling has a high percentage of elderly residents who use the early morning slot for ease and that they appear to be being disadvantaged for doing so.</p>	Clerk	✓	
22/296	<u>POLICING MATTERS</u>			
296.1	<p><u>Police Update</u> – receipt was noted of the May police report</p> <p>Members requested that a letter be drafted to Inspector Jones of Kent Police regarding a lack of visible policing in West Malling.</p> <p>Police report – members would like to see more detail in the monthly reports and ask that this also be addressed in the letter.</p>	TD/ Clerk		
296.2	<p><u>Other Policing Matters</u></p> <p>Reports of door knocking and wing mirrors being broken in Swan Street. Reports of a youth repeatedly riding his bike in a dangerous manner on the High Street.</p>			
22/297	<u>LOCAL PLAN</u>			
	<p>It was reported that the Cabinet Member for Strategic Planning and Infrastructure, Councillor Dave Davis provided an update on the Local Plan to the Parish Partnership Panel, outlining the timetable for consultation and submission to the Secretary of State.</p> <p>Reg 18 Consultation – August to October 2022 Reg 19 Consultation - August to October 2023 Inspector's Final Report expected to be in 2025</p>			
22/298	<u>ROTARY HOUSE</u>			
	It was agreed that in view of the confidential nature of the business to be transacted (purchase of land) 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.			
298.1	<p>Recommendation from the F&GP Committee that the monies set aside in the 22/23 budget for Rotary House (£10,210.64 for loan repayments and £105 loan set up fee) be safeguarded until the situation with the successful bidder is clearer.</p> <p>This was agreed unanimously.</p>			
298.2	<p>Recommendation from the F&GP Committee that if the Council does not ultimately proceed with the Rotary House site, that the Council consider the option of exploring alternative sites on which similar services, as per the Rotary House bid, could be provided.</p> <p>This was agreed with Ms Barkham and Mr Thompson abstaining.</p> <p>There was a general discussion regarding the need to confirm with adult social services what would be required by them to facilitate such services.</p>			
22/299	<u>WEST MALLING PUBLIC CONVENIENCES</u>			
	<p>It was noted that a letter dated 17th May had been sent to T&MBC regarding the way forward for both a potential new toilet site and the existing King Street site. Unfortunately the letter was not received by T&MBC and has not therefore been considered; due to this, the Clerk has requested that the Licence to manage the existing toilets be extended for a further month – the Parish Council is awaiting a response on this.</p> <p>It was agreed that the Council would be prepared to agree to an extended Licence whilst waiting on a response from T&MBC, this is to be reviewed at the September Full Council.</p> <p>The future of the King Street site will be discussed further once a response is received from T&MBC and the proposed terms of sale are established.</p>			
22/300	<u>PARISH INFRASTRUCTURE STATEMENT</u>			
	This is to be considered by all committees by the end of June and will be considered further / agreed at the July Full Council and if necessary at the F&GP meeting on 6 th July.	DT/ Clerk		
22/301	<u>SECTION 137 DONATION</u>			
	<p><u>Air Ambulance Kent Surrey Sussex</u></p> <p>Recommendation from the F&GP Committee that a donation in the sum of £300.00 be approved.</p> <p>Agreed unanimously.</p>			
22/302	<u>SPACE NEXT TO K2 CARPETS</u>			
	<p>It was noted that the Parish Council has been granted a Cultivation Licence (by KCC) for an initial period of 1 year.</p> <p>It was agreed that management of the area be considered further at the June Amenities Committee meeting.</p>			
22/303	<u>FINANCIAL MATTERS</u>			
303.1	Accounts for payment - totalling £5037.45 were approved - see attached.			
303.2	It was noted that payments of £2621.00 were authorised at the F&GP meeting held on 16 th May.			
303.3	Financial Statement – bank reconciliation as at 30 th May was received – see attached			
22/304	<u>MATTERS FOR REPORT</u>			

304.1	<p>F&GP Committee – receipt was noted, of the draft minutes of the meeting held on 16th May 2022</p> <p>There were no questions.</p>			
304.2	<p>Macey's Meadow Advisory Committee – a verbal report of the meeting held on 25th May was provided.</p> <p>At the meeting the committee considered the management of the woodland area, items to be added to the Parish Infrastructure Statement and reviewed the meadow management plan.</p> <p>There were no questions.</p>			
304.3	<p>Malling Action Partnership – no report</p>			
304.4	<p>School Governors – no report</p>			
304.5	<p>Malling Society – Ms Barkham reported that the number of public meetings had been reduced and that the meetings would now take place in the school hall (rather than a classroom). Meetings to take place on a Tuesday rather than a Wednesday.</p>			
304.6	<p>Chamber of Commerce / Christmas Lights Committee – it was noted that the new chamber representatives will be making contact with businesses within West Malling and that the next meeting will concentrate of the Christmas festival.</p>			
304.7	<p>Tonbridge & Malling Borough Council</p> <p>Parish Partnership Panel – Mr Mann provided a verbal report of the meeting held on 26th May which focused on general policing and anti-social behaviour. Alison Finch (T&MBC safer & Stronger Communities Manager) and Inspector Lizzie Jones of Kent Police addressed the meeting.</p> <p>Link to draft minutes & Powerpoint presentation https://democracy.tmbc.gov.uk/ieListDocuments.aspx?MId=4904&x=1</p> <p>The next meeting is to be held on 1st September and will concentrate on waste issues.</p>			
304.8	<p>KALC/NALC/ACRK/CPRE:</p> <p>KALC News for April was received.</p> <p>KALC T&M meeting will be held on Thursday 21st July via Zoom.</p>			
22/305	<p><u>MEETING DATES</u></p> <p>Amenities – 13th June at WM Village Hall Highways Committee – Tuesday 20th June at the Clout Planning – tbc</p> <p>May Full Council – Monday 4th July 2022</p>			
22/306	<p><u>REPORT OF BOROUGH COUNCILLOR, PAUL BOXALL</u> – no report</p>			
22/307	<p><u>REPORT OF COUNTY COUNCILLOR</u></p> <p>Platinum Jubilee - Mrs Dean reported that she attended the unveiling of a new flowerbed (and plaque) which is outside Larkfield Fire Station.</p>			
	<p>There being no other business, the Chairman thanked members for attending and closed the meeting at 9.32</p>			

	<p>Signed..... Dated.....</p>			
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West Malling Parish Council

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Accounts for Payment 6th June 2022						cheques to be drawn
Kent Surrey & Sussex Air Ambulance Trust (Cheque 2433) (Donation agreed at Full Council on 6/6/22) Authorised under Section 137						£ 300.00
Kent County Council (Laser) (Single cheque 2434) (Electricity supply period April 22 at 5% VAT)						6.89 £ 7.23
						VAT 0.34
Kent County Council (Laser) (Electricity supply period April 22 at 20% VAT)						432.57 £ 519.08
						VAT 86.51
Mr M Pearce (cheque 2435) (reimbursement for diesel - Macey's Meadow)						£ 95.01
C Medhurst (single cheque 2436) (Allotment deposit refund Plot 26B)						£ 25.00
Kents Handyman (2437) (invoice 10089 - clearnace of ivy & refelt of garage roof)						£ 874.00
Mrs C Christmas (single cheque 2438) (invoice 2925884 - reimbursement for renewal of Multisite Hosting)						169.95 £ 203.94
						VAT 33.99
(reimbursement for bunting (£34.56) & First Aid Kit (£20.12))						£ 54.68
June Salaries						
Mrs Claire Christmas - authorisation to pay via Faster Payments (Clerk - net salary for June £1842.98 + reimbursement for fax £1.20, sundries £11.57)						£1,855.75
Mrs Sarah Howard authorisation to pay via Faster Payments (Ass. Clerk - net salary for June)						£394.08
HMRC - authorisation to pay via Faster Payments (Deductions from salaries - June)						£838.65
Nest - authorisation to pay pension contributions by Direct Debit for June						£ 72.87
Employer's contributions						£ 97.16
Employee's contributions						
TOTAL						£ 5,037.45

