

# WEST MALLING PARISH COUNCIL

## MINUTES OF A MEETING OF THE HIGHWAYS, TRANSPORTATION & STREETLIGHTING COMMITTEE HELD ON 20<sup>TH</sup> DECEMBER 2021, 7.30PM AT 9 HIGH STREET WEST MALLING

**Present:** Ms Sara Margetts (Chair)  
Ms Gwyneth Barkham  
Mrs Trudy Dean

**Also Present** Mr Keith Mann

Minute		Action by	Action taken	Response
21/673	<b>APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE</b> – Mr David Thompson			
21/674	<b>DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST</b> – none			
21/675	<b>CHAIRMANSHIP</b>			
675.1	It was noted that Mr Nick Stapleton had recently resigned from the Parish Council. Members of the Highways Committee wished to thank Mr Stapleton for all of his hard work during his time as the Highways Committee Chairman  Clerk to write to Mr Stapleton	Clerk	✓	
675.2	Election of new Chair  Ms Barkham proposed that Ms Margetts be elected as Chair and this was seconded by Mr Mann. Agreed.			
21/676	<b>MINUTES</b> of the meeting held on 18 <sup>th</sup> October were approved and signed following an amendment at 21/544.1 which should read 'pruning of foliage on columns'.			
21/677	<b>MATTERS ARISING</b>  <b>[21/543] Parking enforcement</b> – following receipt of the parking enforcement figures, Mrs Dean agreed to seek clarification from the T&MBC officer as to how the figures are collated  <b>[21/545.2] Speedwatch</b> - The Clerk confirmed that she had not yet contacted Kent Police re Police attendance at Speedwatch sessions as the West Malling scheme will now need to recruit a new co-ordinator.  Mrs Dean confirmed that she may be able to buy a new device through her KCC Member's grant.  <b>[21/547] King Hill speeding complaints</b> – the Clerk confirmed that she had recently sent an initial letter to Crest Nicholson re speeding and it was agreed that she ask KCC for speed data on this stretch of road and others to be confirmed.	TD		

	<p><i>Subsequent to the meeting and in consultation with the Clerk, it was agreed to ask KCC for speed data for the following roads:</i>  <i>King Street</i>  <i>King Hill &amp; St Leonards Street</i>  <i>Swan Street</i></p> <p><b>[21/554] – Brickwork corner of Police Station Road / Swan Street</b> - KCC has advised that should the bricks lift again that KCC be asked to fill with a mixture of sand and cement rather than just sand which is washed away as soon as there is heavy rain. To be monitored.</p> <p><b>[21/554] – Manor Park</b> - Ms Margetts reported that the grate had now been replaced, the area cleared and that water was running freely.</p>			
<b>21/678</b>	<b><u>STREETLIGHTING</u></b>			
<b>678.1</b>	The Clerk reported that the pruning of foliage as identified in the annual report had now been completed. A number of day burning lanterns had been reported and repaired.			
<b>678.2</b>	Clerk to speak with Laser to establish what percentage of our energy supply is green energy.	<b>Clerk</b>		
<b>21/679</b>	<b><u>SPEEDWATCH</u></b>			
	<p>It was agreed that the WMPC scheme would take a break during the winter months – this to be reviewed at the February meeting.</p> <p>It was noted that a new co-ordinator would need to be appointed as Mr Stapleton is unable to carry on with Speedwatch duties.</p>			
<b>21/680</b>	<b><u>WMPC HIGHWAY IMPROVEMENT PLAN</u></b>			
	<p><b><u>Updated plan &amp; amendments</u></b></p> <p>The Clerk reported on her recent meeting with Claire Venner of KCC and members noted the updated HIP report and estimated costs for possible works to be undertaken.</p> <p><b><u>Police Station Road – junction visibility</u></b> – KCC to provide 2 location options for junction warning signs. Cost of signage approx. £700. KCC is unable to fund the works in the current financial year. To be considered further at the February meeting once in receipt of options.</p> <p><b><u>Parking outside of Tesco and loading bay misuse</u></b> – KCC to provide outline costs for 2 new signs and two new posts at the front of the footway. To be considered further at the February meeting once in receipt of options.</p> <p>Following a general discussion, it was agreed that the current parking practice of vehicles parking front on to the shop and then reversing out into the traffic was dangerous. It was noted that complaints had been received from Norman Kemp, the owner of Nu-Venture buses.</p> <p>T&amp;MBC to be asked to assess the current situation with the possibility of a consultation on changing this area to parallel parking.</p> <p>Clerk to speak with T&amp;MBC</p>	<b>Clerk</b>		
<b>21/681</b>	<b><u>SWAN STREET – POSSIBLE CROSSING</u></b>			
	Following discussion, it was agreed that the Parish would not, at this stage, pursue the installation of a crossing on Swan Street. Collating data of pedestrian crossings would be difficult due to people crossing at various places also placing a new crossing in a safe location was complex.			
<b>21/682</b>	<b><u>GREEN SPACE BY SCARED CROW / CHURCHFIELDS</u></b>			
	It was noted that cars continue to park on the grass by the Scared Crow and that that this is compacting the tree roots; should this continue the health of the tree would be compromised. Ms Margetts suggested that fencing be installed in an effort to stop people parking on the			

	grass and to protect the trees. Ms Margetts to provide the Clerk with an example of similar fencing.  Clerk to contact TMBC	SM  Clerk	✓	
<b>21/683</b>	<b><u>PAVEMENT PARKING ON HIGH STREET</u></b>			
	The Clerk reported that she had received a complaint from the owner of The Chocolate Umbrella regarding cars / vans mounting and then parking on the pavement outside of the shop. This is of particular concern because of the number of children using this particular shop and the owner has reported that there has been a 'near-miss' when a child went to run out of the shop just after a delivery van had mounted the pavement at speed.  Following a general discussion it was agreed that the Clerk discuss this issue with KCC and ask for further information on the use of bells / half bells rather than bollards that can be dented, causing the brickwork surrounding the bollard to lift.  Mrs Dean mentioned the possibility of a bell / half bell near the King Street (K2 Carpets) junction.	Clerk		
<b>21/684</b>	<b><u>PUBLIC TRANSPORT</u></b>			
	<b><u>Maidstone Borough Council Park &amp; Ride Scheme</u></b> – it was noted that the Park and Ride scheme which is run by Arriva is to stop from February 2022.			
<b>21/685</b>	<b><u>JOINT PARISH COUNCILS TRAFFIC CONSULTATIVE GROUP</u></b>			
	It was noted that the date of the next meeting is to be confirmed.			
<b>21/686</b>	<b><u>FINANCE</u></b>			
<b>686.1</b>	The committee budget year to date was noted – see below.			
<b>686.2</b>	The draft budget for 2022/23 was considered – see below.  Streetlights have now confirmed that their fee will remain as per 21/22 – draft budget amended to reflect this.  Based on predicted energy costs and savings made due to the installation of LED lanterns, the energy budget was reduced by £500.			
<b>686.3</b>	Safeguarded Sums – it was agreed that the monies set aside for additional energy payments to Laser can now be released into general reserves as the account is now up to date.  Light on vets – enquiries to be made with the new owner of the practice to see if they would be happy to have a new heritage lantern fitted; monies set aside for this to remain safeguarded.			
<b>21/687</b>	<b><u>QUESTIONS FROM MEMBERS OF THE PUBLIC</u></b> - none			
<b>21/688</b>	<b><u>QUESTIONS FROM COUNCILLORS</u></b>  Ms Margetts reported that changes to the Highway Code are to be brought into force shortly. One major change being to the Hierarchy of Road Users in favour of the most vulnerable.			
	<b><u>DATE OF NEXT MEETING</u></b> – 21 <sup>st</sup> February 2021			
	There being no further business the Chairman thanked members for attending and closed the meeting at 9.16pm			

	Signed.....			
	Date.....			

**Budget 2021/22**

<b>Highways and Transportation Committee</b>					
<b>Income</b>		<b>Budget 2021-22</b>	<b>YTD</b>	<b>Budget 2020-21</b>	<b>End of Year</b>
Written Back Cheque			£117.00		
	<b>Total</b>	<b>0.00</b>	<b>117.00</b>	<b>0.00</b>	<b>0.00</b>
<b>Expenditure</b>		<b>Budget 2021-22</b>	<b>YTD</b>	<b>Budget 2021-22</b>	<b>End of Year</b>
Energy		7000.00	5310.41	7489.00	3129.10
Maintenance		5000.00	3481.44	5000.00	4641.92
Painting & numbering of columns		1408.00	1056.00	1408.00	1408.00
Phased repair programme		8086.00	7477.00	7530.00	7530.00
Additional Swan Street Streetlight				5993.00	
One off repairs		2000.00	341.50	2000.00	2181.25
Seasonal (Salt, Floodsax)		100.00	100.00	300.00	100.00
Fingerposts and Noticeboard					1175.85
Speedwatch materials (safeguarded)		100.00		100.00	
	<b>Total</b>	<b>23694.00</b>	<b>17766.35</b>	<b>29820.00</b>	<b>20166.12</b>
<b>Surplus/-deficit</b>		<b>-23694.00</b>	<b>-17649.35</b>	<b>-29820.00</b>	<b>-20166.12</b>

## Draft budget 2022/23

<b>Highways and Transportation Committee</b>					
<b>Income</b>		<b>Budget 2022-23</b>	<b>YTD</b>	<b>Budget 2021-22</b>	<b>End of Year</b>
Written Back Cheque					
	<b>Total</b>	<b>0.00</b>	<b>0.00</b>	<b>0.00</b>	<b>0.00</b>
<b>Expenditure</b>		<b>Budget 2022-23</b>	<b>YTD</b>	<b>Budget 2021-22</b>	<b>End of Year</b>
Energy		6500.00		7000.00	4510.52
Maintenance		4641.92		5000.00	2320.96
Painting & numbering of columns		1408.00		1408.00	704.00
Phased repair programme		6000.00		8086.00	6987.00
One off repairs		2000.00		2000.00	341.50
Seasonal (Salt, Floodsax)		100.00		100.00	
Fingerposts and Noticeboard					
Speedwatch materials (safeguarded)		100.00		100.00	
	<b>Total</b>	<b>20749.92</b>	<b>0.00</b>	<b>23694.00</b>	<b>14863.98</b>
<b>Surplus/-deficit</b>		<b>-20749.92</b>	<b>0.00</b>	<b>-23694.00</b>	<b>-14863.98</b>