

**MINUTES OF A PARISH COUNCIL MEETING HELD IN THE VILLAGE HALL
ON MONDAY 14th JULY 2014**

Present

Councillor Dr	P	Mayner	Chairman
Councillor Mr	A	Medcalf	
Councillor Mrs	B	Hill	
	Mr	R	Chamings Malvern Hills Conservators representative
	Mr	S	Bound Director Malvern Hills Conservators
	Mr	J	Sommerville Clerk

1. Apologies

Cllr Huskinson Cllr Jones Cllr Hadley-Roberts and Mr West

2. Public question and answer

No members of the public were present.

3. Code of Conduct and Declarations of Interest

- 3.1. Parish Councillors were reminded that, as required by the Parish Council Code of Conduct Order 2001, they should notify the MHDC Monitoring Officer of any changes to their Register of Interests or the receipt of any unrecorded gifts or hospitality. They should also declare any personal or prejudicial interests in any of the items of this meeting.
- 3.2. There were no declarations of personal or prejudicial interest.

4. The Race Relations and Crime and Disorder Acts

All the business carried out and decisions made at this meeting have observed the requirements of the above acts.

5. Acceptance of the Previous Minutes

- 5.1 The minutes of the Annual Parish Meeting held on 12th May 2014, having been circulated, were taken as read, approved by the Council as a true record and were signed by the Chairman.
- 5.2 The minutes of the Parish Council Annual Meeting held on 12th May 2014, having been circulated, were taken as read and approved by the Council as a true record and were signed by the Chairman.

6. Report by Councillor T Wells

There was no report.

7. Report by Mr T West Tree Warden

Mr West had sent his apologies and said he had nothing to report.

8. Report by Mr Tony Stock, Public Path Warden and a Neighbourhood Watch Leader

There was no report but Cllr Medcalf was aware that Mr Stock had been trimming overgrowth around local stiles.

9. Report by Mr R Chamings, Malvern Hills Conservators

- 9.1. This part of the meeting was taken up with a discussion session with Mr Stephen Bound of MHC (who had recently sent a long letter to the Clerk in regard to MHC policy on easements and the

Separate

D. P. E. N. Mayner

particular cases of Mill Lane and Roe's Barn) and who answered questions put to him. There was no separate report from Mr Chamings.

- 9.2. Mr Bound reiterated that it was only possible for MHC to grant an easement from the public highway over its land to a particular property. It could not grant an easement from one property to another.
- 9.3. Wilesmith builders had offered MHC £8.5 million for an easement.
- 9.4. The Mill Lane development would not be visible from the Common although it may be from the Hills.
- 9.5. The test is whether a proposed development will have a significant impact on the views from the Hills as well as to the Hills. For this reason he would recommend that MHC should turn down applications for easements by Wilesmith.
- 9.6. He did not disagree with Cllr Mayner that the Guarlford Straight provided the most attractive routes into Malvern.
- 9.7. He stressed that contrary to the wording of a 1989 document MHC do not have powers to influence planning matters throughout Malvern. MHC are not the Malvern Protection Society.
- 9.8. On the issue of the enforcement notice under s25 of the Land Drainage Act he said he would approach the Highways Department to ensure the drain was re-instated.
- 9.9. Lastly he confirmed that an officer of MHC was looking into the issue of the dockleaves around the Village Pond.
- 9.10. The Chairman thanked Mr Bound for his comprehensive letter, for attending the meeting and answering questions.

10. Report by Mr D Hill, Chairman Village Hall Committee

- 10.1. There was no report but the Clerk read to the meeting two letters from Don Hill with requests for grants to the Churchyard for maintenance and to the Village Hall. Following discussion the Councillors authorised the payment of £450 for the former and £200 for the latter, the same sums as last year. In view of the financial position of GPC at the present time the payments will not be made immediately but will be made before the end of 2014. **(Action Clerk)**
- 10.2. In response to an enquiry from Cllr Hill for the sum for the Churchyard to be increased next year the Clerk did not rule this out but stated it would have to be approved by the Councillors and may result in the precept being increased to accommodate it.

11. Report by Cllr Dr E Jones, Chairman Guarlford History Group

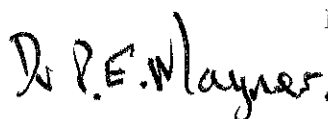
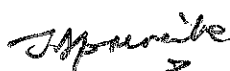
Cllr Jones had sent his apologies. There was no report. Cllr Dr Mayner as a member of the History Group said no meetings had taken place since the last GPC meeting.

12. Parish Environment

- 12.1 Mr Bound confirmed that MHC would attend to the clearing of dock leaves around the Village pond.
- 12.2 The meeting noted that the Clerk had written to Sevenoaks Town Council to say GPC are willing to support the initiative under the Sustainable Communities Act provided this does not result in a significant increase in business rates for those who run businesses in the parish.

13. Planning

- 13.1. SWDP update. Nothing of significance to report.
- 13.2. Planning application no 14/000516/FUL. The Chairman informed the meeting that this application had been withdrawn.



14. Liaison with Other Bodies

- 14.1. Neighbourhood Plans. The Clerk reported to the meeting on a CALC course on Neighbourhood Plans which he had attended on July 8th at County Hall. There had been an informative presentation by Councillor David Thomas of Chaddesley Corbett Parish Council. That Parish Council had taken 18 months to produce their 121 page document and there was due to be a referendum in the village on 11th September as to whether it is adopted by the electorate.
- 14.2. Cllr Thomas said that Chaddesley Corbett had been aided by getting started early; by having a supportive local authority (Wyre Forest); a first class employee at the LA who provided great assistance; a core of keen and committed people to get involved in the project; and a grant of £20,000 to help defray the costs of hiring consultants.
- 14.3. Cllr Thomas had described the strategy and tactics to push forward such an initiative. It was also helpful that in Wyre Forest there was an adopted plan.
- 14.4. The Clerk had sat next to Cllr Heather Jeavons of Newland at the course.
- 14.5. The meeting agreed to defer discussion of this matter and Charles Eden's proposal until the next meeting.
- 14.6. The meeting had no particular views to put forward on the Malvern Town proposed Neighbourhood Area consultation.

15. Waste Recycling

- 15.1. There was nothing to report.

16. Finance

- 16.1. The Clerk confirmed that he had submitted the Annual Return to the External Auditors Grant Thornton after it had been signed by the Internal Auditor. Grant Thornton had acknowledged receipt.
- 16.2. The balances were as follows: Charity account £108.64; Instant Access account £188.51; Current account £1,200.18.
- 16.3. The meeting deferred approval of a contribution to the costs of the Newland Lengthsman re the Vehicle Activated Speed Signs. The Clerk was awaiting through the post the invoice from Newland. He had been unable to access the attachment to the email from Newland and had provided his postal address so that they can send it. **(Action Clerk)**

17. AOB

None

18. Date of Next Meeting

The next meeting will be held in the Village Hall at 7.30pm on Monday 8th September 2014..

J.A. Sommerville - Clerk

Cllr Dr Peter Mayner - Chairman

