

# **Little Malvern & Welland Parish Council**

Minutes of the Parish Council Meeting held on Monday 18<sup>th</sup> November 2024

<https://www.littlemalvernandwelland-pc.gov.uk>

@wellandparishnoticeboard

## **Present**

Cllrs. Mr M Davies (Chair), Mr P Hancock, Mr P Henderson Brown, Mr D Iles, Mrs V Nelson, Mr P Riordan, Ms R Sampson, Mrs M Sumner, Mr G Ware and Mr M Whaley.

## **In Attendance**

Mr D Sharp (Clerk) and four members of the public.

## **147/24 Public Participation**

**The Council invites local residents attending the meeting to make comments and suggestions, and question the Parish Council on issues on the agenda, or raise issues for future consideration:**

No matters were discussed.

## **148/24 Apologies**

**To consider acceptance of apologies for absence from Councillors:** Barbara Stephens (Community Development Coordinator).

## **149/24 Interests**

**i. Councillors Declarations of Disclosable Pecuniary Interests, Other Disclosable Interests and Non Registrable Interests regarding items on the agenda:** There were none.

**ii. Notification of changes to the register of interests:** There were none.

**iii. To consider written requests from councillors for the council to grant a dispensation for those with Disclosable Interests to take part in discussions or voting:** There were none.

## **150/24 Planning**

**i. To consider a response to the following and any late submitted applications:**

| <b>Application No</b> | <b>At</b>                     | <b>Details</b>                         |
|-----------------------|-------------------------------|--|
| M/24/01293/FUL        | The Croft, Welland Court Lane | Erection of two agricultural buildings |

The following response was agreed:

"The Parish Council has no objection to the principle of this development however we are concerned that no consideration has been made to the PRow that passes through the site nor of the visual impact that the development will have for those using the PRow. We would also be interested in what has been redacted from the environmental report."

## **ii. Decisions notified:**

No decisions had been received.

## **151/24 Minutes**

**To consider for adoption the minutes of the Parish Council meeting held on 21<sup>st</sup> October:** These were accepted as an accurate record and they were signed by the Chairman.

## **152/24 Progress reports and matters arising from these minutes**

The Chair confirmed that he had been in correspondence with Atlas Tower Group, MHDC and WCC and a meeting was to be arranged to discuss the possible visual impact of a phone mast and how best to mitigate any effect it might have.

The Clerk confirmed that he had contacted Airband over the pending wifi contract for the Parish Hall.

The PCC were to provide further costings for the clock winding mechanism.

## **153/24 Community Development Coordinator**

Barbara Stephens' report was read by the Chair:

Both Gym sessions and Art classes were progressing well however the Saturday walking group had been suspended for the winter.

A meeting had been arranged with the film maker who is running a film making workshop for 11-16 year olds in February half term 2025.

She was liaising with 'Wellbeing Coordinators' to try to identify any 'hidden' residents who may need assistance.

There were still tickets available for the Festive Quiz on 30<sup>th</sup> November.

Finally she would lay out her ideas for 2025 at the December meeting and the Community Developments in Section 6.1 of the Neighbourhood Plan were to be reviewed.

### 153/24 Reports by District and County Councillors and other Representatives

County Cllr. Malcolm Victory had forwarded a report prior to the meeting. In it he confirmed that the majority group at MHDC had altered following some political 'rearrangement' and it was hoped that the current issues could be resolved soon.

### 154/24 Working Party & Other Reports & Recommendations

i. **Projects** – To consider the following projects:

**a) Tree works in cemetery and associated utilising grant funding from Natural Networks –**

**update:** It was agreed that the Parish Council would contribute £500 out of the £2500 for tree carvings in the cemetery. When the leylandii are remove several trunks would be stored for later use. The principle of undertaking the biodiversity enhancements was approved and the finances were to be finalised.

**b) Pump Track – To review design and plan next steps:** Clark and Kent had assessed two sites and had provided an outline sketch. The Clerk was to ask for a more detailed plan showing the visual impact of the track that would be suitable to present at a public consultation.

**c) Giffard Drive Play Areas – To consider ownership transfer:** This decision was to be deferred until a consultation with residents had taken place. An individual or company specialising in public consultations was to be sought.

**d) Update on footpath improvement project:** Two quotes had been received for the track on Castlemorton Common and one more was awaited. Investigations were underway to determine the status of a suspected badger set.

The two projects at Kingstone Close/Drake St and Rosebud Meadow were awaiting confirmation from WCC.

There were still some legal issues to resolve over the permissive path off Giffard Drive.

Pippin Drive/Drake Street project was to be assessed at the next MHDC S106 meeting to increase the budget by £16,000 to enable land purchase from Holly Cottage.

**e) To consider car park refurbishment:** A quote was awaited for the restoning/drainage of the Parish Hall car park and for the resurfacing of part of the Spitalfields car park.

**f) To consider application for grant funding from National Landscape and Ward Budget:**

Funding to aid the Castlemorton path project of £4,000 was to be applied for. It was also noted that funding was available to convert styles to gates on PRoW.

ii **Highways – Review of meeting with WCC Highways discussing road safety and to consider**

**options:** An online meeting had taken place with Tanya Crake the Highways liaison officer. White lines at the carriageway edges on Garret Bank with more roundels had been requested. Better crossing points at the village centre had also been discussed but the lack of RTC injuries recently and the requirement of street lighting for zebra or pelican crossings made this unlikely. A survey of road signs was to be undertaken to assess if any improvements could be made and further requests were to be made through County Cllr. Tom Wells.

iii **Other Reports**

**Communications:** The number of notices posted outside the shop by the public was increasing and it was agreed to regularly remove them all.

**Playing Fields:** The Clerk reported that the football club were suspending playing on the school field due to the increase in dog mess since the clocks changed. A plea was to be put in the next newsletter. Further solutions were to be sought.

### 155/24 Correspondence

**To consider the responses to the following correspondence previously circulated:**

| FROM                         | SUBJECT   |
|------------------------------|---|
| CALC                         | Updates/Training/Pay Scales/Remote Meetings (i) |
| NALC                         | Events and Bulletins                            |
| MHDC                         | October Business e-Bulletin                     |
| Tom Arthur                   | Fish and chip van                               |
| Clerk                        | Bank Charges                                    |
| Kent and Clark               | Pump Track Design                               |
| MHDC                         | Giffard Drive Play Areas (ii)                   |
| Clerk                        | Highways Meeting                                |
| County Cllr. Malcolm Victory | Report  |
| Atlas Tower                  | Phone Mast                                      |
| Commercial Play              | Giffard Drive Play Areas                        |
| Sue Haywood                  | Biodiversity Action Plan                        |

(i) The Clerk was to respond to the consultation approving that councils should be able to hold meetings online.

(ii) The Clerk was to reply deferring the decision to take ownership until all options for their use had been reviewed.

**156/24 Finance*****i To consider payment of invoices presented:***

The following payments were made from the **Main Account** between meetings and were ratified:

| From/Due To        | Date  | Amount           | Details                            |
|--------------------|-------|------------------|------------------------------------|
| Barbara Stephens   | 01/11 | £977.15          | Community Development Co-Ordinator |
| Welland Pre School | -     | £194.00          | Donation from Quiz                 |
| <b>Total</b>       |       | <b>£1,171.15</b> |                                    |

The following payments were approved from the **Main Account**:

| From/Due To               | Date  | Amount           | Details  |
|---------------------------|-------|------------------|--|
| J Moore                   | 30/10 | £144.00          | Lengthman Duties (October)   |
| Broadleaf Tree Care       | 23/10 | £480.00          | Grass Cutting  |
| Welland Parish Hall       | 30/10 | £225.00          | Library/Warm Space Hire (Undercharge Apr,May,Jun)                                |
| Hanley Castle High School | 14/11 | £375.00          | Spitalfields Maintenance   |
| Wild Native Bulbs         | 13/11 | £250.95          | National Networks Scheme   |
| NHBS                      | 13/11 | £892.84          | Bat/Bird Boxes   |
| Hedges Direct             | 12/11 | £687.73          | Hedge Whips  |
| NW Office Furniture       | 14/11 | £295.20          | Library Chairs (Ward Budget)   |
| Royal British Legion      | -     | £40.00           | Poppy Wreath   |
| E Hardman                 | 18/11 | £200.00          | Handyman (£200 Gross)  |
| D Sharp                   | 18/11 | £619.60          | Clerk's Fee (40 hrs @ SCP 17. £623.20 Gross)*<br>(+ 6 Months @ £25.20 = £151.20) |
| <b>TOTAL</b>              |       | <b>£4,210.32</b> |  |

\* New Pay Scales

**Accounts Summary**

|                               |                   |                   |
|-------------------------------|-------------------|-------------------|
| <b>Reserves Lloyds B/F</b>    | <b>£3,035.25</b>  |                   |
| Interest                      | £2.74             | <b>£3,037.99</b>  |
| <b>Saver Account</b>          | <b>£51,148.24</b> |                   |
| Interest                      | £221.18           | <b>£51,369.42</b> |
| <b>Fête Account</b>           | <b>£2,429.33</b>  | <b>£2,429.33</b>  |
| <b>Buildings Account</b>      | <b>£6.47</b>      | <b>£6.47</b>      |
| <b>Neighbourhood Plan Ac.</b> | <b>£0.00</b>      | <b>£0.00</b>      |
| <b>Funding Account</b>        | <b>£0.00</b>      |                   |
| Ticket Sales                  | £120.00           |                   |
| Ticket Source                 | £39.00            | <b>£159.00</b>    |
| <b>Total C/F</b>              |                   | <b>£56,843.21</b> |

|                          |                   |
|--------------------------|-------------------|
| <b>Main Account B/F</b>  | <b>£38,545.45</b> |
| MHDC Community Art Grant | £1,300.00         |
| WCC MV Ward Budget       | £250.00           |
| Cemetery Fee             | £80.00            |
| Pre Payments             | -£1,171.15        |
| November Payments        | -£4,210.32        |
| <b>Main Account C/F</b>  | <b>£34,793.98</b> |

***ii. To review management of bank accounts:*** Prior to the introduction of bank charges in January the Buildings Account and the NP account were to be closed and the Funding Account merged with the Fete Account and rename 'Events Account'.

**157/24 Any other matters for report or for future consideration**

A Climate Change statement was to be prepared for approval at the December meeting.

Other options for Christmas lights were to be sought.

The Chair confirmed that he was standing down and a new Chair would be elected at the start of the December meeting.

**158/24 To consider excluding the public during discussions over Clerks income.**

This was agreed and a closed session was held.

Councillors voted unanimously to increase the current Clerks income for 40 hours per month from SCP 17 to SCP 28 This change to be effective from and backdated to 1st April 2024. The motion was proposed by Mark Whaley and seconded by Viv Nelson.

Councillors expressed their strong appreciation for the unstinting work that the Clerk did for the Council.

**159/24 Date of the next meeting**

The next Parish Council Meeting will be held on Monday 16<sup>th</sup> December 2024 in Welland Parish Hall at 7.30pm

There being no further business the meeting closed at 10:20 pm