

Little Malvern & Welland Parish Council

Minutes of the Parish Council Meeting held on Monday 16th February 2026

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@wellandparishnoticeboard

Present

Cllrs. Mr P Hancock (Chair), Dr A Davis, Mr P Henderson-Brown and Mrs M Sumner.

In the absence of the Chair and Vice Chair the meeting was Chaired by Cllr Hancock.

In Attendance

County Cllr. Mr T Wells, Community Development Coordinator Mrs B Stephens, Environment and Planning Advisor Mrs S Haywood, Mr D Sharp (Clerk) and 5 members of the public.

14/26 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: It was noted that another RTC had occurred at Danemoor Cross when the temporary traffic lights were not in place.

An obstructed ProW on the Steam Rally site was to be investigated by the PPW.

A request to consider an environmental project on the bank at the far end of Spitalfields was to be addressed at the next meeting of the Group.

15/26 Apologies

To consider acceptance of apologies for absence from Councillors: Cllrs. Mrs V Nelson, Mr P Riordan, Ms R Sampson and Mr M Whaley (accepted). Also County Cllr. Mr M Victory and District Cllrs. Mr J Gallaway and Mrs C Wild.

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.

17/26 Co-Option

To consider applicants for co-option to the Parish Council: Mrs Debbie Macklin was co-opted unanimously onto the Parish Council and duly completed her acceptance of office.

She declared a DPI on agenda item 10ia – Update on Footpaths Projects - since she owned land through which a permissive path was planned.

She was duly granted a dispensation to discuss but not vote on any matters relating to this subject. This dispensation to last until the next ordinary election.

18/26 Planning

i. To consider responses to the following and any late submitted applications:

Application No	At	Details
M/26/00119/HP	Holly Cottage Drake Street	Proposed single storey side and front extension to replace conservatory
M/25/00849/TC	Hillcourt Farm Welland	Appeal - Installation of a 20m lattice tower
M/26/00154/PIP	Land At OS 8001 4009, Drake Street	Permission in Principle for the proposed erection of 1 self-build dwelling

The following responses were agreed:

M/26/00119/HP – Comment - "Little Malvern and Welland Parish Council has no objection to the proposals in the application M/26/00119/HP. Notwithstanding this, we would ask that MHDC ensure that the relevant policies in the Welland Neighbourhood Plan are considered in their decision making on this application and apply conditions, if an application is approved and as appropriate, that reference these policies (including the Welland Neighbourhood Plan Design Guide and Code, e.g. for the choice of materials and colours used). Specifically we would welcome that the ecological mitigation and enhancements recommended in the homeowners ecology report are included in any such conditions."

M/25/00849/TC – Support - "The Parish Council's initial response and support for this application still stands. Furthermore the Parish Council was surprised that the support from the vast majority of the local population for this application did not carry weight and it was interesting to note that the majority of those who objected to the application were not from the local area."

M/26/00154/PIP – Comment - "This is a PIP application and therefore the parish council is making reference solely to relevant matters and reserves the right to make further comment, approval or objection dependent on any design, access and other technical consideration at full application stage. Little Malvern and Welland Parish Council notes that the proposal M/26/00154/PIP is outside of the development boundary and therefore Policy DB1 and Policy HLP of the Welland Neighbourhood Plan (WNP) applies for any decision making. We also note the applicant's planning statement makes erroneous reference to the WNP in paragraphs 34, 35 and 42 (twice) where we believe they are citing a neighbourhood plan from a different parish.

The parish council agrees that the site lies outside of the National Landscape, however we would suggest the proposal could be considered to be in the setting of the NL and therefore would ask that relevant policies and guidance from the Malvern Hills National Landscape should be considered and applied in decision making.

We would also ask that MHDC ensure that the policies relevant for decision making for a PIP that are in the WNP are considered. Specifically, it would be welcome if the ecology assessment promised by the applicant could be made available for consideration during the consultation period, especially in the context of WNP policies B1 and I3 and the protection of existing protected species or habitats. Further, Policy LC1 and Policy DB1 requests some evaluation of landscape impact and of views into and out of the NL, should be provided for consideration, albeit proportionate to the type and scale of the proposed development.

Dependent on this further information, the parish council will be able to clarify its position.

ii. Decisions notified: M/25/01790/LB – St James Church – Approved.

iii. Update on reviews of Neighbourhood Plan, NPPF and SWDPR: Updates to the NP and a response to the revised NPPF were in progress. A response to the SWDPR was approved and is appended to these minutes.

19/26 Minutes

To consider for adoption the minutes of the Parish Council Meeting held on 19th January:

These were accepted as an accurate record and they were signed by the Chair.

20/26 Progress reports and matters arising from these minutes

Update on Steam Rally event for 2026: Cllr. Ann Davis confirmed that a meeting would be held at the end of February or early March to discuss traffic issues and waste disposal with the organisers. WCC had responded with requests to share traffic data which showed considerable delays. It was also noted that traction engines were not covered by the clean air act.

21/26 Community Development Coordinator

To Receive Report: Barbara Stevens' report had been circulated prior to the meeting. She had arranged a collaborative meeting of local groups to look at closer ties and was currently collating findings. The wine tasting and vine pruning event had been cancelled due to the bad weather. The new landlords of the Marlbank Pub had attended the collaborative meeting and we due to reopen on 18th February. The Improv. workshop was now set for Wednesdays in April commencing on 8th. Finally the Community Action Team had arranged a Sunday tea party in the parish hall for 24th May. It was also hoped that Welland would be included as a pick up and drop off point for the community transport bus.

22/26 Reports by District and County Councillors and other Representatives

County Cllr. Tom Wells reported on a meeting with the Castlemorton Commoners where the number of livestock highway injuries were discussed. They were pursuing a 40 mph speed limit over the commons and this was to be an agenda item next month. He also questioned whether the 30mph roundels in Giffard Drive were having an adverse effect. There was a public consultation currently being held concerning the development in Redmarley adjacent to junction 2 on the M50 for about 3,500 houses and a response to this would be discussed next meeting. Finally he reported that a £70M loan to WCC had been approved by central government and an allowance to raise council tax by 9%. The WCC budget would be voted on 26th February.

County Cllr Malcolm Victory's report had been circulated and included details of the WCC budget and that a decision on Unitary Authority status was expected in July.

23/26 Working Party and other reports and recommendations

i. Projects:

- a) **Update on Footpaths Projects:** 70 m² of wildflower turf had been ordered to curb erosion of the banks to the Drake Street footpath.
The legal agreement for the permissive path was nearing completion.
- b) **Update on other S106 projects:** The application for £112,000 approved last month had been submitted and progress was awaited.
- c) **Update on Pavilion Legacy Fund:** The Clerk reported that work was being carried out this week. It was further noted that the Legacy Project for the Parish Hall was also ongoing.

ii. Environment/Biodiversity:

To consider report and update on current projects: Sue Haywood's report was received and the schemes funded by Natural Networks and MHNL were nearly completed and grants would be claimed later this month.

24/26 Correspondence

To consider the responses to the following correspondence previously circulated:

FROM	SUBJECT
CALC	Updates/Training/Area Meeting
CALC	Health and Wellbeing Newsletter
NALC	Events and Bulletins
Cllr Wild	Glynchbrook Development
MHDC	Rural Pub Opportunities
WCC	PRoW Blockage Garret Bank
Parish Hall	External Lighting (i)
WCC	Steam Rally Traffic Data
MHDC	SWDPR Modifications Consultation
West Mercia	Newsletter
Malvern Joggers	Parking on School Field (ii)
Resident	Planning Appeal Lockeridge Lane
MHDC	Local Government Reorganisation
Bridge School	Use of Spitalfields (iii)
CALC	Environment Groups Cooperation
West Mercia	Smart Water
Cllr Victory	Report
Resident	In Bloom Club
Resident	Blandford Close
Resident	Pheasant Inn
M Davies	Management of Speed Indicating Devices (iv)

(i) – A request from the parish hall committee that the parish council take responsibility for insurance and maintenance of exterior lighting bollards was approved.

(ii) – A request to allow car parking on the playing fields was refused.

(iii) – A request for use of Spitalfields was approved.

(iv) – The information and apps to manage the SIDs was passed to Cllr Davis.

25/26 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
Leach Jeweller	26/01	£50.00	Engraving
Habitat Aid	26/01	£116.45	Cemetery Trees
Trees Direct	26/01	£139.80	Cemetery Trees
Acorn Workshop	02/02	£948.00	Display Board
Platinum Supplies	10/02	£108.00	Danish Oil
Discount Garden Statues	10/02	£119.99	Bird Bath
Zite Trading	10/02	£8.99	Bird Bath Disc
Amazon	10/02	£37.13	Wildlife Books
Garden and Home	10/02	£139.60	Bird Feeders
Nest Box Company	10/02	£141.00	Bird Boxes
Hedges Direct	10/02	£37.94	Dog Roses
Harrowden Turf	10/02	£1,521.60	Wildflower Turf
Barbara Stephens	10/02	£890.40	Community Development Co-Ordinator
TOTAL		£4,258.90	

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

From/Due To	Date	Amount	Details
Just Pressed Cider	26/01	£60.00	Wassail Expenses
Amazon	26/01	£29.34	Wands and Batteries (Wassail Expenses)
Old Meg	26/01	£50.00	Morris Dancing (Wassail Expenses)
AJ Playford	26/01	£285.00	Lighting (Wassail Expenses)
Various	26/01	£201.24	BBQ (Wassail Expenses)
Welland PCC	26/01	£50.00	Electricity (Wassail Expenses)
Tesco	26/01	£24.00	Wassail Expenses
Waitrose	26/01	£25.55	Wassail Expenses
TOTAL		£725.13	

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

From/Due To	Date	Amount	Details
J Moore	27/01	£160.00	Lengthman Duties (January)
Welland Parish Hall	11/02	£250.00	Lunch Club Hall Hire
The Woodsman	01/02	£966.00	Playground Hedge Laying
Broadleaf Tree Care	01/02	£250.00	Hedge Brush Removal
Furniture At Work	11/02	£439.20	Library Chairs (Warm Space Grant)
Waterirrigation	13/02	£341.00	Watering Hoses
Kompan	03/02	£188.40	Playground Swing Seat
South Worcestershire CAB	-	£300.00	Grant
Malvern Hills NL	-	£300.00	Grant
E Hardman	16/02	£200.00	Handyman
D Sharp	16/02	£649.40	Clerk's Fee (40 hrs @ SCP 28. £811.60 Gross)
TOTAL		£4,044.00	

Accounts Summary

Reserves Lloyds B/F	£3,066.06		Main Account B/F	£25,906.42
Interest	£1.39	£3,067.45	Wassail Float	£1,400.00
			MHDC Ward Budget (Lunch Club)	£250.00
Saver Account	£42,552.07			
Interest	£48.17	£42,600.24	Service Charge (DD)	-£4.25
			Airband (DD)	-£15.00
Event Account	£3,087.22			
Wassail Income	£2,474.38			
PrePayments	-£725.13		PrePayments	-£4,258.90
Charges	-£4.25	£4,832.22	February Payments	-£4,044.00
Total C/F		£50,499.91	Main Account C/F	£19,234.27

26/26 Any other matters for report or for future consideration

To confirm consideration of climate change actions on agenda items: This was affirmed.

27/26 Date of the next meeting

The next Parish Council Meeting will be held on Monday 16th March 2026 in Welland Parish Hall at 7.30pm.

There being no further business the meeting closed at 9:45 pm.