

**MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF MALPAS PARISH COUNCIL
HELD ON MONDAY 13TH FEBRUARY 2017 IN THE JUBILEE HALL AT 7 PM**

PRESENT Cllrs Charles Lowick Higgie (Chairman), John Webb, Adrian Waddelove, Martin Shackleton, Chris Whitehurst, Eric Bickley, Sarah Thomas, Tina Barnett, Ann Woollam, Karen Meredith, John Bickley, Roma Hancock, Katie Norris. The Clerk. PCSO Jon Hurst. 6 members of the public attended part of the meeting.	
252 APOLOGIES Cllr Sue Griffith.	
253 DECLARATION OF INTERESTS Cllr Whitehurst declared a non-pecuniary interest in items 268 and 269 of the minutes. Cllr Meredith declared a non-pecuniary interest in items 262.5 and 267 of the minutes. Cllr Norris declared a non-pecuniary interest in item 263.2 of the minutes. Cllr Webb declared a non-pecuniary interest in item 268 and 269 of the minutes. Cllr Lowick Higgie declared a non-pecuniary interest in items 262.1 of the minutes.	
254 APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES Resolved: - The Chairman signed the minutes of the Parish Council meeting that was held on 9th January 2017 as a true and proper record. Proposed by Cllr Webb and seconded by Cllr Shackleton.	
255 OPEN FORUM 255.1 Mark Groves, Service Manager at the Royal Voluntary Service Cheshire, informed the meeting about the Buddy Scheme that has been set up in conjunction with Brightlife in Malpas and to make a request for volunteers to support the scheme. 255.2 Ben Kavanagh and Trish Cheung, representing the Plus Dane Group, spoke to the meeting about the Affordable Home Ownership properties at the Bovis site, Chester Road, Malpas. Five properties are due to be available shortly (3 x three bedrooms and 2 x two bedrooms). The properties have been advertised; out of the 34 bids received there were 2 bids from the local area. Posters are to be put up in the village with all the relevant contact details for the rental properties and the affordable properties. 255.3 Stan Hopley raised various queries concerning the allotments. These included:- site security; public liability insurance; water supply; planting of trees at the site; responsibilities of the tenants; whether greenhouses and / or polytunnels are permitted at the site; request for dedicated point of contact with the Council. Cllr Shackleton has already agreed to act as liaison between the Council and allotment holders and is due to arrange a meeting with the allotment holders to set up an allotment society. 255.4 Patrick Lomax, LA Planning, spoke to the meeting about the ancient ditch at the Mount View Development, Church Street, Malpas.	
256 POLICE REPORT 256.1 <u>Report:-</u> PCSO Jon Hurst updated the meeting as follows:- • Incident in Londis involving threatening behaviour; • Burglary at shed in Sunnyside; • Parking issues on Hollowood Road; • Speeding concerns involving sixth formers at the Bishop Heber;	

- Vehicles removed on Springfield Road;
- The police have identified the burglars who carried out the burglary in Ash Close (they could be linked to other burglaries in the area);
- The police are holding a bike marking session in the village;
- There is to be a driver engagement day in the village with speed enforcement;
- Operation Shield is currently being rolled out in local villages including Edge, Bickley and No Mans Heath.

256.2 PCSO exclusive to Malpas:-

A letter has been sent to the Police Commissionaire to request for a PCSO exclusively for the Malpas ward.

257 ACCOUNTS

257.1 Payments Approved:-

Chq No	Payee	Statutory Power	Amount
117	Running Costs and Backdated Pay	s.111	£ 52.56
118	Smith of Derby (clock repairs)	s.111	£ 180.00
119	Malpas and District Sports Club (fencing of recycle bins)	s.137	£ 850.00

The Clerk is to clarify with CW&C that the Council can reallocate the funds given towards the fencing to rear of public toilets to pay for the fencing of the recycle bins at Malpas and District Sports Club.

The Clerk's salary was paid by standing order.

Receipts Received:-

Christmas Trees:- £ 267.75;

Mosslands Rent (Reeves):- £475.00

Allotments Rent:- £91.00;

Sanctuary Housing for Operation Shield (reallocate to NHB funds):- £1,000.00

Bank Account:-

The reconciled balance in the current bank account as at 1st February 2017 was £58,874.44. The funds are allocated as follows:-

- Parish Council - £10,193.53
- Christmas Lights Funding - £1,085.49
- Fencing to rear of public toilets funding - £850.00.
- New Homes Bonus - £44,351.00;
- Allotments (balance of £3,600 transferred from NHB allocation) - £1,367.00;
- Allotment Deposits (ring fence in accounts) - £300.00
- Neighbourhood Plan - £727.42;

Resolved: - The Council agreed to the above payments. Proposed by Cllr Lowick Higgie and seconded by Cllr Hancock.

257.2 Bank Signatory:-

Resolved: - The Council to nominate Cllr Katie Norris as bank signatory. Proposed by Cllr Lowick Higgie and seconded by Cllr Eric Bickley.

258 ANNUAL PARISH MEETING

Resolved: - The Council agreed to hold the Annual Parish Meeting, Annual Meeting and monthly business meeting on Monday 8th May. The meeting will start at 6.30 pm. Local organisations are welcome to attend and speak to the meeting. Proposed by Cllr Shackleton and seconded by Cllr Webb.

259 INTERNAL PROCEEDURES

259.1 To receive report regarding update of Council Procedures:-

Cllrs Whitehurst and Waddelove informed the meeting of the progress with the updating of the Standing Orders and Grant Application form. Further clarification is required before the draft Standing Orders are circulated to Cllrs.

The Grant Application form has been circulated to Cllrs. It is based on the CW&C form. It is hoped to shorten the grant application process whereby application forms are to be submitted to the Council by 1st April; the Council will then decide the amount to allocate at the May meeting and payment to the grant recipient will be made in June.

259.2 Councillor Code of Conduct Training:-

Cllrs Lowick Higgle and Norris are to attend a training session at the CHALC office on 22nd February.

259.3 Audit & Transparency training session:-

Resolved:- The Council agreed for the clerk to attend the training session and to split the cost with No Mans Heath and District Parish Council and Bulkeley and Ridley Parish Council. Proposed by Cllr Webb and seconded by Cllr Lowick Higgle.

260 CASUAL VACANCY

CW&C have informed the Council that only was one person was nominated for the election of a Parish Councillor on Thursday 9th March 2017 for the Malpas Parish. Therefore, as the election was uncontested Katie Norris was elected as Parish Councillor without contest and duly signed the Acceptance of Office.

261 SURGERY ROTA

261.1 To receive update from the February surgery:-

ISSUE	CONCERNS RAISED AND ACTION TAKEN
(i) State of Tilston Road, Chester Road and Wrexham Road	Clerk is to request a deep cleanse of the village.
(ii) Traffic Measures on Church Street / Wrexham Road	Cllr Whitehurst updated the resident about the initiatives that the Parish Council / Ward Councillor are taking to address the village wide traffic congestion, speeding and parking issues. A series of ongoing meetings is being conducted with CW&C to agree an overarching approach to the problems. CW&C have currently put on hold any proposed changes to highway measures or signage. It was suggested that a full local public consultation would be organised once all the options had been identified.
(iii) Youths smoking illegal substances in the village	Reported to the police.

261.2 To receive a verbal update on issues arising and agree any actions:-

See above

261.3 To establish rota for future surgeries:-

March:- Cllrs Eric Bickley and John Bickley

April:- Cllrs Hancock and Woollam

May:- Cllrs Whitehurst and Norris

262 PLANNING

262.1 Applications:-

16/05662/FUL - In-filling of carport to form garage at The Drayton, Cross O Th Hill Road, Malpas

16/05704/S73 - Variation of conditions 2 and 6 of planning permission

15/02824/REM at Mount View Farm, Wrexham Road, Malpas

17/00261/FUL - Rear two storey and single storey extension at 48 Springfield Avenue, Malpas Resolved: - The Council agreed to accept the attached February Planning Report. Proposed by Cllr Meredith and seconded by Cllr Eric Bickley. Cllr Whitehurst abstained from the vote. 262.2 <u>To consider any applications received after the agenda has been distributed:-</u> None have been received. 262.3 <u>Recent decisions by CW&C:-</u> <u>Approved:-</u> 16/01766/FUL – Land Rear of Old Police House, Chester Road, Malpas 16/04679/FUL – Inglebrae, 15 Hollowood Road, Malpas 16/05363/FUL – 11 Oathills, Malpas 262.4 <u>To receive planning updates:-</u> - Concerns were raised about recent planning decisions made by CW&C which do not take into consideration the recommendations made in the Neighbourhood Plan. - The Cedars:- Cllrs Whitehurst and Webb have met with McCarthy Stone to look at the redesign of The Cedars. They may yet appeal against the decision. - The Beeches:- Complaints have been received from residents regarding lack of pavements at the site, knotweed at the site and the state of the roads. The developers have agreed to a temporary footpath until the new one is laid through the site and to clean the roads as and when required. 262.5 <u>Bovis:-</u> The Council are due to meet with Bovis Homes. Matters to be raised include:- drainage concerns; noise from generator and mud on roads throughout the village. 262.6 <u>Planning Meeting:-</u> See report.	
263 HIGHWAYS 263.1 <u>Chester Road:-</u> CW&C are progressing the road signage for 30mph flashing sign 263.2 <u>Church Street / Wrexham Road:-</u> See item 261.1 for update regarding introduction of parking restrictions. 263.3 <u>Whitchurch Road:-</u> CW&C are due to carry out a survey in relation to extending the 30 mph speed limit. 263.4 <u>Old Hall Street:-</u> The Council considered whether to support the introduction of prohibition of waiting restrictions to improve conditions for turning manoeuvres at the access to the Doctor's surgery with Old Hall Street and agreed to defer a decision at this present moment in time. 263.5 <u>Bridleways and Footpaths:-</u> The Public Rights of Way Officer is due to visit the village to see the state of the bridleways and footpaths caused by damage and / or neglect and to prepare a plan of improvements. 263.6 <u>General State of Pavements and Roads:-</u> The Clerk is to submit a request a deep cleanse of the village to CW&C. 263.7 <u>Mastiff Lane:-</u> A letter has been sent to the land owners to request permission to install mirror opposite junction with Mastiff Lane.	

264 BOVIS – BUS SHELTERS Cllr Whitehurst updated the meeting regarding locations and styles for a new bus shelter on Springfields. Cllrs Whitehurst and Waddelove are to circulate recommendations to the Council.	
265 ALLOTMENTS The works at the site are yet to be carried out. The Clerk is to obtain quotes to carry out the work. Once the works have been completed the Council agreed to re-advertise the plots to residents of the parish of Malpas before accepting offers to rent the plots from outside the parish. A meeting with the allotment holders to set up an Allotment Society is to be arranged which will address the concerns that were raised in the Open Forum.	
266 PARISH INFORMATION BOARDS A proof has been circulated to Cllrs for any additional amendments to be added to the ones already indicated. The Council previously agreed to order three black stainless steel framed A1 noticeboards. Two of the noticeboards containing the map are to be located at the following locations:- •High Street car park; •Chester Road; The third noticeboard is to be located at St Oswald’s Church. Work is due to start on the design.	
267 VILLAGE WELCOME SIGNS A picture of St Oswald’s Church has been circulated to Cllrs. Mr Patrick Lomax offered to carry out the work to ‘brighten’ up the picture.	
268 MALPAS COMMUNITY LAND TRUST Resolved:- The Council agreed to nominate Cllr Woolam to act as the parish council representative to represent the council’s view on the newly formed Malpas Community Land Trust Board. Proposed by Cllr Webb and seconded by Cllr Hancock.	
269 COMMUNITY MINIBUS 269.1 <u>To receive update:-</u> Cllr Webb updated the meeting regarding the grant application. 269.2 <u>Letter of Support:-</u> The Council approved the letter of support in respect of the Rural Grant bid.	
270 NEIGHBOURHOOD PLAN Resolved:- The Council agreed to establish a working group to upgrade the Neighbourhood Plan consisting of Cllrs Whitehurst, Webb, Meredith, Thomas, Norris and Barnett. Proposed by Cllr Shackleton and seconded by Cllr Thomas.	
271 BUNTING ON HIGH STREET There is still some bunting that is yet to be removed from the High Street. The Council expressed concern about the cost to repair the Jubilee clock which was damaged by the bunting. The Council discussed reducing the grant to the Village Fair Committee to compensate for the repair costs and hire of cherry picker.	
272 SYCAMORE TREE AT THE OX HEYES The Council are to look into the cost to replace the sycamore tree at Ox Hayes with an oak tree. The Clerk is in the process of contacting the Church of England who own the land.	

273 PROMOTING TOURISM IN MALPAS The Council agreed in principle to consider a possible bid for funding to promote tourism and to work with neighbouring villages / parish councils / tourist attractions.		
274 CLERK'S REPORT		
(i) Jubilee Clock	Damage to the clock was caused by the bunting. Smith of Derby have now repaired the clock and the bunting has been removed.	
(ii) Grants	The clerk has written to applicants to advise that the Council received grant requests totalling £14k and that the Council have allocated a maximum of £8k in respect of grant payments. They are to be considered at the May meeting.	
(iii) Tilston Road	Complaint received regarding the state of the road at Brockbank Cottages as very muddy and dangerous for pedestrians and vehicles. Reported to Highways	
(iv) Charities Commission	The Annual Return for the year ended 31/03/16 has been completed online.	
(v) Springfield Road	The Council has received a request to widen road round the green in Springfield Road. Highways have advised that technically it is possible to widen any road, but as the road widening here is to facilitate cars parking, it is unlikely that it would be funded from CW&C's maintenance budget. The issue is that if cars park on the road around the green, they obstruct other traffic, even when the cars park fully on the footway and block its use to pedestrians. While the erection of bollards would protect the green from being overrun by vehicles, an obstruction would still occur whenever vehicles were parked on the road, and it is unlikely to deter drivers who fully park on the green. This leads to two courses of action; widen the road by 1 – 2 m or prohibit parking. Depending upon the cost of moving the services it is likely to cost between £30,000 and £40,000 to widen the road. If parking were prohibited residents may be encouraged to install vehicular crossings so they could park in their own curtilage. The cost of installing the crossings to those properties who do not already have them would however need to be met by the applicant.	
275 EXTERNAL CORRESPONDANCE (Incl. the RED SUGGESTION BOX located in Londis near the Post Office counter). A list of correspondence received has been circulated to Cllrs.		
276 UPDATES FROM OUTSIDE ORGANISATION REPRESENTATIVES 276.1 Malpas Alport Primary School Planning Application:- There is a presentation of the options on 27 th February.		

Part 2	
277 PRESS AND PUBLIC Resolved:- To resolve to exclude the press and members of the public. Proposed by Cllr Lowick Higgle and seconded by Cllr Eric Bickley.	

The meeting closed at 9.40 p.m.

NB copies of the attachments can be obtained from the Parish Clerk

Website:- <http://www.malpascheshire.org/>