

**MINUTES OF MALPAS PARISH COUNCIL MEETING
HELD ON MONDAY 14TH JUNE 2021
IN THE JUBILEE HALL AT 7.00PM**

	PRESENT Cllrs Tina Barnett, Mike Boxall, Richard Charlton, Jackie Clegg, Morgan Granger, Charles Higgle, Gordon McGregor Reid, Karen Meredith, Sherrie Roberts Abdelaziz, John Webb, Chris Whitehurst, Michael Williams. The Clerk. PCSO Jon Hurst attended part of the meeting.
26	APOLOGIES Cllr Adrian Waddelove.
27	DECLARATION OF INTERESTS Cllr Whitehurst declared a non-pecuniary interest in item 33.2 of the minutes (wife is treasurer of the Community Minibus Management Committee). Cllr Williams declared a non-pecuniary interest in item 40.2 of the minutes (wife is a member of the Malpas clean up group). Cllr Higgle declared a non-pecuniary interest in item 33.2 of the minutes (member of Malpas and District Sports Club). Cllr Charlton declared a non-pecuniary interest in item 33.2 of the minutes (director of Malpas and District Sports Club). Cllr Webb declared a non-pecuniary interest in item 33.2 of the minutes (wife is Trustee and Chair of the committee / Board; trustee and he is Chair of the charity).
28	APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES <u>Minutes of the Parish Council Annual Meeting on 26th May 2021:-</u> Resolved:- The Chairman is to sign the minutes of the Parish Council Business Meeting held on 26th May 2021 as a true and proper record. Proposed by Cllr Higgle and seconded by Cllr Charlton.
29	OPEN FORUM In the absence of any members of the public there was no consideration of this item.
30	POLICE REPORT The police report had been circulated previously and was noted. PCSO Jon Hurst attended the meeting and updated the Council including the appointments of a new Chief Constable and PCC. Village issues included:- parking concerns; speed enforcement; catalytic convertor thefts; anti-social behaviour at the Church and the bowling club; criminal damage at Malpas and District Sports Club; visit to the Bishop Heber High School to talk about County Lines which is of concern locally. Virtual police surgeries continue with a pop up surgery in the car park due to start. The Council raised concerns regarding the speed of farm vehicles on the back lanes; the PCSO is to speak with the Rural Police Officers and ask them to contact the local main contractors to take appropriate action. Residents are urged to report all incidents of anti-social or criminal behaviour by calling 101.
31	PARISH COUNCIL PRIORITIES The Council currently has 26 outstanding issues. Resolved:- The Council agreed not to hold the usual business meeting in August. Instead, an informal meeting will take place in August to discuss the outstanding issues; to agree what tasks are within the Council's remit and to agree upon priorities.

	Proposed by Cllr Higgle and seconded by Cllr Granger.																																										
32	WORKING TOGETHER The Council considered Cllr Webb's report about finding ways to work co-operatively and constructively together; to work more collaboratively with CW&C; to use Cllrs time more productively and to focus on delivering outcomes. Cllrs were reminded of their duty to attend as many meetings as possible and to treat each other with respect. CW&C have assigned a Localities Officer to Malpas; it is hoped this will improve ways of working with CW&C.																																										
33	ACCOUNTS 33.1 <u>To approve payment of Insurance:-</u> Resolved:- The Council agreed in principle (subject to COVID guidelines at the time) to the payment of the Public Liability insurance for the Integration Day, with subsequent repayment from Raffle funds on the day. Proposed by Cllr Clegg and seconded by Cllr Meredith. 33.2 <u>To approve payments:-</u> <table border="1"> <thead> <tr> <th>Chq No</th><th>Payee</th><th>Statutory Power</th><th>Amount</th></tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td>382</td><td>Running Costs</td><td>s.111</td><td>£ 57.88</td></tr> <tr> <td>383</td><td>Clerks Salary - May (payment for additional hours)</td><td>lga 112-119</td><td>£ 46.12</td></tr> <tr> <td>384</td><td>CHALC (to replace Chq 375 as damaged)</td><td>s.111</td><td>£ 25.00</td></tr> <tr> <td>385</td><td>CHALC (training)</td><td>s.111</td><td>£ 50.00</td></tr> <tr> <td>386</td><td>Victoria Jubilee Hall (room hire)</td><td>s.111</td><td>£ 42.00</td></tr> <tr> <td>387</td><td>Haycocks Chimney Sweep (cherry picker hire for clock)</td><td>s.137</td><td>£ 180.00</td></tr> <tr> <td>388</td><td>GRANT:- Malpas Community Minibus Association</td><td>s.137</td><td>£ 900.00</td></tr> <tr> <td>389</td><td>GRANT:- Malpas Young Persons Project</td><td>s.137</td><td>£1,500.00</td></tr> <tr> <td>390</td><td>GRANT:- Malpas Cricket Club</td><td>s.137</td><td>£2,000.00</td></tr> </tbody> </table> The Clerk's salary was paid by standing order. Resolved:- The Council agreed to the above payments. Proposed by Cllr Roberts Abdelaziz and seconded by Cllr McGregor Reid. 33.3 <u>Receipts Received as at 30th April 2021:-</u> None received. 33.4 <u>Bank Account:-</u> The reconciled balance in the current bank account as at 30 th April 2021 was £171,263.89. (This was based on April's information.) The funds are allocated as follows:- Parish Council - £56,046.42 Christmas Lights Funding - £146.40 New Homes Bonus - £28,949.83 Community Infrastructure Levy (CIL):- £80,510.85 Allotments (balance of £3,600 transferred from NHB allocation) – (£116.40) Allotment Deposits (ring fence in accounts) - £750.00 Neighbourhood Plan - £678.22 Insurance claim - £1,798.57 Will Legacy:- £2,500.00			Chq No	Payee	Statutory Power	Amount	382	Running Costs	s.111	£ 57.88	383	Clerks Salary - May (payment for additional hours)	lga 112-119	£ 46.12	384	CHALC (to replace Chq 375 as damaged)	s.111	£ 25.00	385	CHALC (training)	s.111	£ 50.00	386	Victoria Jubilee Hall (room hire)	s.111	£ 42.00	387	Haycocks Chimney Sweep (cherry picker hire for clock)	s.137	£ 180.00	388	GRANT:- Malpas Community Minibus Association	s.137	£ 900.00	389	GRANT:- Malpas Young Persons Project	s.137	£1,500.00	390	GRANT:- Malpas Cricket Club	s.137	£2,000.00
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34	BANK ACCOUNT The Council are to open a second bank account with another bank in order to protect funds as the FSCS protection is only up to £85k. The Clerk reported to the meeting about opening two bank accounts with NatWest and Starling. Cllr Boxall requested that the Council open a bank account with an ethical / non-profit making organisation. The Council unanimously agreed. The Clerk is to make further enquires.
35	AUGUST MEETING See Item 31.
36	COMMITTEES The Council considered whether to continue with the following Committees:- 36.1 <u>Planning Committee:-</u> The Council received the following proposal to close down the formal Malpas Parish Council Planning Committee based on the following reasons:- 1/ the complexity and almost unworkable terms of reference. (Injects delay into the consideration, by the “toing and froing” of the bigger or complex applications.) 2/ the extra work being generated for councillors and the clerk in trying to adhere to the Terms of Reference. 3/ the additional expense incurred in carrying out the terms of reference. (e.g. room hire, clerks time.) Suggested new way for dealing with future Planning Applications is to include an informal data gathering followed by a formal Parish Council business meeting that is open to the general public. Attendees at the informal gathering would not be expected to declare any interest in an application or voice any support or objections to the applications under this data gathering exercise. To do so would potentially exclude the individual from taking part in any discussion or voting at the formal Parish Council meeting where the application would be discussed in an open public session. The proposed output from the informal gathering would not result in any pre-determination of the application, and would not result in any loss of councillor transparency. The informal gathering to be open to all councillors who are interested in planning matters. The output from this informal gathering would be an information document. This output will be shared with all councillors and the public at the next formal Parish Council meeting. Any additional material observations raised by the public or councillors at the formal meeting will be added to the report document. In addition the council after its debate will agree the content of the report and the executive summary statements. The updated document will then be forwarded by the Clerk to CW&C. Resolved:- The Council agreed to close down the Planning Committee and to accept the above proposed method to deal with planning applications with Cllr Meredith acting as lead Councillor. Proposed by Cllr Whitehurst and seconded by Cllr Clegg. 36.2 <u>Personnel Committee:-</u> Resolved:- The Council agreed to continue with the Personnel Committee in its current format. The Personnel Committee is made up of Cllrs Charlton, Clegg, Higgie and Webb. It is hoped that Cllr Waddelove will continue to sit on the committee.

36.3	Proposed by Cllr Charlton and seconded by Cllr Higgle. <u>Finance Committee:-</u> There has been no formal meeting of the Finance Committee. Resolved:- The Council agreed to abolish the Finance Committee and set up a Working Party to meet in accordance with Budget Setting Process as detailed in the Financial Timetable. Cllr Boxall agreed to co-ordinate. Proposed by Cllr Higgle and seconded by Cllr Clegg.										
37	NEIGHBOURHOOD PLAN The Council discussed re-forming the Neighbourhood Plan Steering Group and to restart work on the Plan.										
38	ELECTION OF REPRESENTATIVES The Council considered membership of the following:- - Neighbourhood Plan Steering Group - Cllr Granger agreed to lead the Steering Group. Cllrs Higgle, Meredith, Williams and McGregor Reid agreed to join the Steering Group. - Climate Emergency Steering Group – Cllr Mc Gregor Reid agreed to lead the Steering Group. Cllrs Boxall, Roberts Abdelaziz, Granger and Higgle agreed to join the Steering Group.										
39	COMPLAINT The Council noted and accepted the report on the adjudication by the Monitoring Officer on the official complaint that related to the way item 4 of Part Two of the agenda on 8 th March 2021 was handled. The Complaints against Councillors Policy is to be updated and formally adopted at the July meeting.										
40	GRANTS To consider additional information requested in respect of the following grant requests:- <table><tr><td>40.1</td><td>Hope House</td><td>Purchase of a cuddle bed</td><td>£1,000.00</td></tr><tr><td>40.2</td><td>Malpas Community Clean up</td><td>Village Clean Up</td><td>£ 362.00</td></tr></table> 40.1 <u>Hope House Grant Application:-</u> Resolved:- The Council agreed to reject the grant application for Hope House due to the lack of additional information that was requested. Proposed by Cllr Whitehurst and seconded by Cllr Higgle. 40.2 <u>Malpas Community Clean up Grant Application:-</u> Cllr Williams spoke to the meeting about the application. It was agreed to invite Shelly Vickers to the July meeting to clarify a number of issues about the application.			40.1	Hope House	Purchase of a cuddle bed	£1,000.00	40.2	Malpas Community Clean up	Village Clean Up	£ 362.00
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41	INTERNAL PROCEDURES The Steering Group, consisting of Cllrs Whitehurst, Waddelove and Boxall, are to report regarding the review of Council policies and to confirm timescales for the work.										
42	PLANNING 42.1 <u>Planning Applications:-</u> 21/01938/TPO - 4 Sycamore, 1 Hawthorn and 4 Holly and 3 x Elderberry to be reduced / removed due to bad health of trees and bushes. For every tree removed we will plant two in its place as a lot of the trees are damaged and in bad repair at Land At 7 Love Lane Overton Malpas Observations:- the Council made the following observations:- If CW&C is minded to approve the application the Council would request that the following conditions be included:- Planting of 2 new trees as per the Malpas and Overton Neighbourhood Plan. Background Factors:- Within settlement boundary; Conservation area. Relevant Neighbourhood Plan Policies:- LC4. Potential benefits to the community:- The applicant needs to be commended for the intention to plant two more trees for every one being felled.										

Material considerations against development :- Potential impact on wider community (Loss of more trees on the former St Joseph's wooded site. It should be noted that this application represents the further loss of mature trees that has continued on this development site since 2009.

Reduction of the number of trees goes against the climate change agenda and CW&C's policy of wanting to plant more trees.)

Other Info:- This is a poor quality planning application; The site plan does not illustrate the land at 7 Love Lane; It actually illustrates the area of the Old Rectory grounds, Hughes Lane and Oak Tree Rise housing development; The sketch plan is also poorly drawn and has no reference points as to where the trees are actually located in relation to the surrounding area; No arboreal report about the health of the trees has been submitted.

21/01728/FUL - Conversion of existing garage into Office/Gym at The Old Dairy The Hough Higher Wych Road Wigland Malpas

Observations:- the Council made the following observations:-

If CW&C is minded to approve the application the Council would request that the following conditions be included:

Removal of permitted development rights to avoid the garage being turned into human accommodation.

Background Factors:- Open countryside.

Relevant Neighbourhood Plan Policies:- LE1, BE3

Potential benefits to the community (If the applicant is intending to work from home the conversion of this garage to an office has potential to reducing carbon emissions resulting from less car journeys, which in turn will support Malpas Parish Council and CW&C's Climate emergency initiatives.)

Material considerations against development :- Potential impact on neighbours (Loss of the garage may result in insufficient parking space for the property and therefore impact on access to neighbouring properties. There would need to be an assurance that two car spaces were maintained.)

21/01812/S73 - Demolition of existing farmhouse, erection 3 detached dwellings and conversion of agricultural barns to 3 dwellings with ancillary accommodation - Variation of Condition 2 of 19/03842/FUL at Dog Lane Farm Dog Lane Oldcastle Malpas

Observations:- the Council made the following observations:-

Background Factors:- Open countryside.

Relevant Neighbourhood Plan Policies:- H2, BE2, BE3 BE4 and LC3.

Potential benefits to the community:- Will provide additional housing in the Parish.

It is good to see the rejuvenation of a redundant Farm House and buildings.

Material considerations against development :- Potential impact on neighbours (Visibility from the public realm); Potential impact on wider community (Visibility from the public realm).

Other Info:- The Council note that the principle of development on this scale on the site has been established. See previous comments dated November 2019.

21/02097/TPO - Western Red Cedar - Fell. The tree is in close proximity and leaning heavily towards the house. The tree's health is in decline and has been totally consumed by Ivy, it has very little amount of live growth/green needles at Inglewood 3 Love Lane Overton Malpas

Observations:- the Council objects to this application.

If CW&C is minded to approve the application the Parish Council would request that the following conditions be included:

Planting of 2 new trees as per the Malpas and Overton Neighbourhood Plan.

Background Factors:- Within settlement boundary.

Relevant NP Policy - LC4.

	Potential impact on wider community:- Loss of yet another less common tree on the former St Joseph's wooded site. It should be noted that this application represents the further loss of a mature tree that has continued on this development site since 2009. Reduction of the number of trees goes against the climate change agenda and CW&C's policy of wanting to plant more trees. Other Info:- Cutting off the ivy will help the tree to revitalise; No mention of two replacement trees being planted as mitigation for the loss; No arboreal report submitted to establish the true health of the tree. Resolved:- The Council agreed to accept the above planning observations. Proposed by Cllr Meredith and seconded by Cllr Charlton. 42.2 <u>To consider any applications received after the agenda has been Distributed:-</u> None have been received. 42.3 <u>Recent decisions by CW&C:-</u> <u>Approved:-</u> 20/04826/S73 - Land At The Sycamores Old Hall Street Malpas 21/00137/TPO - Parish Hall Church Street Malpas 21/00211/FUL - Wrexham Road Farm Wrexham Road Malpas 21/00214/FUL - Wrexham Road Farm Wrexham Road Malpas 21/00574/TPO - Land Off Hughes Lane Malpas 21/00457/FUL - Overton Manor Overton Heath Lane Overton Malpas 21/01218/TPO - Longcroft Beeches Close Malpas 20/04826/S73 - Land At The Sycamores Old Hall Street Malpas <u>Refused:-</u> 21/00104/FUL - The Crown Hotel Old Hall Street Malpas 42.4 <u>Delayed Meeting with Bovis:-</u> A meeting has been arranged with Bovis to discuss outstanding issues on Friday 9th July.
43	COMMUNICATIONS WITH THE COMMUNITY 43.1 Communications:- To receive report regarding the need for the Council to communicate with the community and to agree action 43.2 Parish News:- To consider whether to resume advertising in the Parish News The Council agreed to defer the above items until the meeting to discuss Council priorities has taken place in August.
44	HIGHWAYS 44.1 <u>Church Street Closure:-</u> CW&C have advised they intend to commence the temporary propping in early July. 44.2 <u>Bradley Bridge Damage:-</u> Work has commenced and remain on schedule for completion by the end of the week. 44.3 <u>Chester Road:-</u> Re-patching works are planned for Friday 18th and Saturday 19th June after the works on Bradley Bridge are complete. Surface dressing of the road to follow provisionally starting Monday 28th June.
45	VILLAGE EVENT Cllr Charlton updated the meeting regarding the arrangements for the Village Integration Day on Saturday 24th July. This included leaflet distribution, local organisations attending the event.
46	APPEARANCE OF MALPAS 46.1 <u>Planters / Dog Bag Dispensers:-</u> CW&C advised licences are due to be issued. 46.2 <u>Bench:-</u> The Clerk is to apply for a licence for a bench to be sited on Chester Road. 46.3 <u>Hanging Baskets in the Village:-</u> These are due to be delivered
47	COVID REMEMBRANCE The Council agreed to defer this item until the meeting to discuss Council priorities has taken place in August.

48	THE QUEEN'S PLATINUM JUBILEE The Council agreed to defer this item until the meeting to discuss Council priorities has taken place in August.	
49	PUBLIC SPACES PROTECTION REVIEW – DOG CONTROL REVIEW There was no consideration of this item. However, Councillors are encouraged to submit their own observations and respond to the consultation.	
50	CLERK'S REPORT	
	No.	Item
	50.1	St Oswald's Close
	50.2	Love Lane
	50.3	Church Street
	50.4	Cemetery
	50.5	New Councillors
	50.6	Clerk's Training
	50.7	Grant Application
51	EXTERNAL CORRESPONDENCE INCLUDING SUGGESTION BOX List previously circulated to Cllrs.	
52	UPDATES FROM OUTSIDE ORGANISATION REPRESENTATIVES There was no consideration of this item.	
	PART TWO	
53	PRESS AND PUBLIC Resolved:- To resolve to exclude the press and members of the public as the items to be discussed relate to employment and contractual matters and are of a sensitive nature. Proposed by Cllr Higgie and seconded by Cllr Meredith.	

The meeting closed at 9.20 pm.

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

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