

**MINUTES OF MALPAS PARISH COUNCIL MEETING
HELD ON THURSDAY 29TH AUGUST 2024
IN MALPAS COMMUNITY CHURCH, MALPAS AT 7.00PM**

	PRESENT Cllrs Tony Dickenson, Charles Higgle, Julie James Collins, Oryan Lightning, Alan Moore, Dave Parry, Kirsty Parry, Susie Powell, Martin Shackleton, Michael Williams (Chairman). The Clerk. Ward Cllr Rachel Williams. Eleven members of the public attended part of the meeting.										
89.	APOLOGIES Cllrs Tina Barnett, Sean Davies, Karen Meredith.										
90.	DECLARATION OF INTERESTS There were no interests declared.										
91.	APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES Minutes of the Parish Council Meeting on 25 th July 2024:- Resolved:- The Council approved the minutes of the Parish Council Business Meeting held on 25th July 2024 as a true and proper record. Proposed by Cllr Higgle and seconded by Cllr Moore.										
92.	OPEN FORUM The following issues were raised:- - Planning Process:- A member of the public raised concerns regarding the length of time the planning process takes; he informed the meeting he has been waiting for over two years for his planning application to be decided. The Council agreed to write to Planning and to ask for the Ward Cllr to follow up the matter.										
93.	CASUAL VACANCIES / ELECTIONS There are currently four vacancies. The Council has received three expressions of interest from Mr Tony Dickenson, Mrs Kirsty Parry and Mr Dave Parry. All attended the meeting. Resolved:- Five Councillors requested that the Council overturn the decision made at the March meeting regarding the co-option of Mr Tony Dickenson. Proposed by Cllr Higgle and seconded by Cllr Williams. Resolved:- The Council agreed to co-opt Mr Tony Dickenson, Mrs Kirsty Parry and Mr Dave Parry. They all duly signed the Acceptance of Office. Proposed by Cllr Higgle and seconded by Cllr Shackleton.										
94.	POLICE REPORT Cllr Moore updated the meeting regarding the request for a face to face meeting with the new Police Crime Commissioner (PCC) and the beat inspector. Neighbouring Councils, No Mans Heath and District, Threapwood and Agden, also wish to attend the meeting to discuss various policing concerns. A further letter is to be sent to the PCC on behalf of the above neighbouring Councils and the Ward Cllr. The Council is to contact the local MP regarding the request. <i>Residents are urged to report all incidents of anti-social or criminal behaviour by calling 101.</i>										
95.	ACCOUNTS 95.1 <u>Remembrance Parade:-</u> Resolved:- The Council agreed to pay £756.00 to Core Highways in respect of the road closure for Remembrance Sunday Proposed by Cllr Shackleton and seconded by Cllr Lightning. 95.2 <u>To approve the following payments:-</u> <table border="1" data-bbox="188 1993 1519 2074"> <thead> <tr> <th>Chq No</th><th>Payee</th><th>Statutory Power</th><th>Amount</th></tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td>655</td><td>Running Costs</td><td>s.111</td><td>£ 68.08</td></tr> </tbody> </table>			Chq No	Payee	Statutory Power	Amount	655	Running Costs	s.111	£ 68.08
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656	HMRC - PAYE June 2024	lga 112-119	£ 141.99
657	Then Media Ltd - website	s.111	£ 24.00
658	NEIGHBOURHOOD PLAN:- Jubilee Hall	s.111	£ 11.50
659	Cheshire Community Action (subs)	s.111	£ 50.00
660	Core Highways (Remembrance Sunday road closure)	s.111	£ 756.00

The Clerk's salary was paid by standing order.

Resolved:- The Council agreed to the above payments.

Proposed by Cllr Moore and seconded by Cllr James Collins.

95.3 Receipts Received as at 1st August 2024:-

None received.

95.4 Accounts and Bank Reconciliation:-

The summary of Receipts and Payments was previously circulated.

The reconciled balance in the current bank account as at 1st August 2024 was £278,775.24. The funds are allocated as follows:-

Parish Council - £46,710.87

New Homes Bonus - £23,265.78

Community Infrastructure Levy (CIL):- £208,953.17

Allotment Maintenance funds (ring fenced in accounts):- £87.83

Neighbourhood Plan:- £8.72

Christmas Tree (to be reimbursed) – (£51.08)

CCTV donations (to be reimbursed) – (£200.05)

95.5 Budget to Date:-

The Council received and noted the budget to date as at 30th June 2024.

95.6 The Cross:-

Resolved:- The Council agreed to allocate the cost of the works carried out to The Cross against CIL funds; the budget to date figures are to be amended accordingly.

Proposed by Cllr Lightning and seconded by Cllr Moore.

96. BUSINESS PRIORITIES AND PROJECTS - WORK PLAN 2024 / 2025

There was no further update.

97. PLANNING

97.1 Planning Applications:-

97.1.1 24/02300/TPO - : Sycamore (T1) - Prune back large overhanging limb by 3-4m in the interest of end branch weight reduction. Crown reduction top the height by up to a maximum of 3m in the interest of decreasing the wind sail. Sycamore (T2) - Remove or pollard to 8-10m from ground level in the interest of safeguarding surrounding structures. Tree root plate is showing evidence of lifting on side of tension. Tree is highly exposed to prevailing wind at Rear of 23 Hughes Lane Malpas

Observations:-

The Council would make the observations as documented below:

Background Factors: Within settlement boundary

Relevant Malpas and Overton Neighbourhood Plan Policies: LC4

Relevant Local Plan Part 2 Policies: DM44 and DM45

Potential impact on wider community:- Loss of carbon capture and wildlife habitat

The Council does not support the felling of trees unless they pose a threat to life.

97.1.2 24/02256/OUT - Four self-build dwellings (Access applied for) at Land Adjacent To Enfield Chester Road Malpas

Observations:-

The Council would make the observations as documented below:

	<p>If CWaC Planning Authority is minded to approve the application the Parish Council would request that the following conditions be included:</p> <p>1/ The Malpas Aecom housing needs survey dated March 2023 says Malpas needs 1,2,3, bedded dwellings and bungalows so should like to see that conditioned.</p> <p>2/ The Design Codes for Malpas January 2024 which updates the Malpas Character study states that houses along Chester Road are all set back with grass verges and picket fences. The Council would like to see this conditioned as Chester Road is a main gateway to village.</p> <p>Background Factors: Open countryside</p> <p>Relevant Malpas and Overton Neighbourhood Plan Policies: LC3 H2, BE1, BE2, LC1</p> <p>Relevant Local Plan Part 2 Policies: DM3, DM4, DM25, STRAT 9, SOC2, R1, DM19, DM24, DM46, DM48, DM47</p> <p>Potential impact on wider community: 4 more access points onto an already busy road.</p> <p>Other relevant information: This site is adjacent to the Malpas Conservation area.</p> <p>Resolved:- The Council agreed to submit the above planning observations.</p> <p>Proposed by Cllr Shackleton and seconded by Cllr Higgle.</p> <p>97.2 <u>To consider any applications received after the agenda has been Distributed:-</u></p> <p>There was no consideration of this item.</p> <p>97.3 <u>Recent decisions by CW&C:-</u></p> <p>Approved:-</p> <p>24/01510/TPO - The Rectory Church Street Malpas</p> <p>24/01847/FUL - Rockella Chester Road Malpas</p> <p>24/01998/FUL - Redwoods Chester Road Malpas</p> <p>24/01691/CAT - The Hollies Old Hall Street Malpas</p>
98.	<p>NEIGHBOURHOOD PLAN STEERING GROUP (NPSG)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Cllr Shackleton informed the meeting that the draft parish statement has been submitted to CWaC for consideration. The Council is required to carry out consultation with the community. - The next meeting of the NPSG will take place on Tuesday 10th September 2024.
99.	<p>MONTHLY SURGERY</p> <p>No residents attended the August surgery.</p>
100.	<p>THE MOSSLAND</p> <p><u>Charity Commission:-</u></p> <p>There have been an exchange of several emails with the new solicitors Stone King LLP (specialists in Charity Law) regarding the missing trust document for The Mossland. The Clerk has since made several enquires:-</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - The Charity Commission has responded to advise that unfortunately, they do not hold any governing document, or associated supporting documents, for this charity on their system. They have suggested that the Council contact the National Archives to check if they hold a copy. - The National Archives have been contacted and have replied to advise that they do not have the document either. They suggested that the Council contact Cheshire Archives. - Cheshire Archives too have replied to advise that they do not hold any governing document. <p>Adrian Waddelove has been removed as a named trustee with the Charity Commission as he is no longer a parish councillor.</p>
101.	<p>SLOW DOWN FOR MALPAS</p> <p>Cllr Moore updated the meeting regarding recent communication with the PCSO, Threapwood Parish Council and No Mans Heath and District Parish Council regarding Speedwatch and retrieving the speed gun.</p>

	<p>The person who currently has possession of the speed gun is refusing to return it to the parish councils (the speed gun was purchased jointly by Malpas, Threapwood and No Mans Heath parish councils) therefore the Council agreed to look to get the police involved to retrieve the item.</p>
102.	<p>HIGHWAYS</p> <p>102.1 <u>Speed Limit:-</u> The Council considered the request to extend the 40MPH on Old Hall Street to past Chorlton Villas. Resolved:- The Council agreed to the request to extend the 40MPH on Old Hall Street to past Chorlton Villa at a cost of £1,500.00. The Clerk is to confirm this to CWaC. Proposed by Cllr Shackleton and seconded by Cllr Moore.</p> <p>102.2 <u>TRO:-</u> The Council considered their response to TRO to permit vehicles to only proceed on the following length of road in the direction specified: Oldcastle Lane (Sunnyside to Dog Lane) - north-west to south-east and agreed to write to CWaC to advise they support the TRO.</p> <p>102.3 <u>Road Signage:-</u> The Council consider request received from residents to support for a turning sign on Tilston road to highlight the turning to St Joseph's Place. Ward Cllr Williams advised that an assessment is due to be carried out by CWaC regarding the request.</p> <p>102.4 <u>Village Entrance Signage:-</u> The Council considered updating the signage entering Malpas and Cllrs are to come back with suggestions.</p> <p>105.5 <u>Bovis Estate:-</u> The Council has received concerns regarding the finishing off the estate and getting the road adopted by CWaC. Ward Cllr Williams advised that the drainage report needs to be signed off by Welsh Water before this can take place. Concerns were raised regarding the pond at the bottom of the site.</p>
103.	<p>MALPAS JOINT BURIAL COMMITTEE (MJBC)</p> <p>The Clerk has written to the parish meetings (Chorlton, Cuddington, Wigland, Bradley) to inform them of the situation and suggest that they attend a meeting to discuss sending the proposed letter to MJBC on behalf of all the Parish Council's and Parish meetings. To date the following responses have been received:- 1/ Chorlton - no response received to date. 2/ Cuddington – reply received to advise that the clerk is due to change and the letter has been passed onto the Chair. 3/ Wigland – An email has been received to advise that both the Clerk and the Chair have resigned with no replacements. 4/ Bradley - no response received to date. The Council agreed to send proposed letter to MJBC.</p>
104.	<p>APPEARANCE OF MALPAS</p> <p>104.1 <u>Street Furniture:-</u> The Clerk is in the process of obtaining quotes.</p> <p>104.2 <u>Bench outside the Jubilee Hall:-</u> Cllr Lightning informed the meeting of the details of the proposed replacement bench outside the Jubilee Hall. He is to obtain costings. The Clerk is to clarify that the cost would be paid s106 funding allocated towards the improvement of the bus stop.</p> <p>104.3 <u>Village Pump:-</u> The council agreed to retrieve the pump.</p>

105.	<p>MALPAS QR HISTORY TOUR</p> <p>Ward Cllr Rachel Williams has proposed a new project for the Council in the form of a QR history tour that could support various areas (e.g. tourism, education for school and residents, local business and essentially act as a time capsule of Malpas history for all to discover.)</p> <p>You Media can make the blue heritage aluminium signs and information boards all with engraved QR codes and can also set up a web site which they can manage.</p> <p>The idea would be to have a couple of information boards in the village that would inform people of the QR trail. Landmarks / properties would have a sign with some information and a QR code, both would link to a web page that would flag up the history of the location. The web page would also give an opportunity for local residents to input any history that they hold, David Haines has already been informed of the idea and is happy to support with his knowledge. You media would put the information together and manage the page .</p> <p>You Media has sent various costings for the artwork, signs and website.</p> <p>The license fee for the framework plus plugin purchase and time would come to £1,000.00</p> <p>The annual hosting for the website would be £120.00 including SSL certificate and automated daily backups.</p> <p>Resolved:- The Council agreed to go ahead with the QR Malpas History Tour as detailed above.</p> <p>Proposed by Cllr Shackleton and seconded by Cllr Lightning.</p>
106.	<p>CLAYHOLE CROFT</p> <p>Work has started to clear the site and should be completed by the end of September.</p> <p>The Council is to contact the neighbouring field to enquire about cutting the height of the hedges to provide better views.</p>
107.	<p>ST OSWALDS CHURCH</p> <p>Concerns were raised regarding the church and the Council considering inviting the Rector to a Council meeting to discuss the issues.</p> <p>Resolved:- The Council agreed to invite the Rector to a future meeting.</p> <p>Proposed by Cllr Shackleton and seconded by Cllr Mason.</p>
108.	<p>THE CROSS</p> <p>The works have now been completed.</p> <p>The contractor has prepared a report which has been circulated to Cllrs and forwarded to Historic England.</p> <p>Concerns were raised regarding the lightning conductor as it is non-compliant. A detailed report and quote has been circulated from Cloud to Ground Ltd.</p> <p>Resolved:- The Council agreed instruct Cloud to Ground Ltd to carry out the necessary works to the lightning conductor at a cost of £1,369.43 plus VAT.</p> <p>Proposed by Cllr Shackleton and seconded by Cllr Lightning.</p>
109.	<p>EVENTS COMMITTEE</p> <p>Cllr Lightning is yet to finalise and then circulate the finances for the village fair.</p>
110.	<p>REMEMBRANCE SUNDAY</p> <p>Ward Cllr Williams updated the meeting regarding the following arrangements with the local groups regarding the parade for Remembrance Sunday:-</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - The Traffic Management has been organised with Core Highways; - St Oswald's will be doing a service from 10.45 am; - The Air Cadets are to lead parade; - It is hoped that Threapwood shop will support again this year with poppy sales; - Additional street poppies are to be ordered; - Request for display for the cross with croquet poppies.
111.	<p>CHRISTMAS</p> <p>There was a meeting of the Events Committee on Tuesday 27th August to discuss and agree the arrangements for the Christmas Event which is taking place on Sunday 1st December 2024.</p>

112.	CLERK'S REPORT		
	No.	Item	Update
	112.1	Bus Shelter Old Hall Street	Update from meeting with CWaC on Friday 2 August:- Works expected to be completed in 2025-25 financial year. Initial consultation with directly affected residents due in September 2024.
	112.2	Chester Road Footpath	Update from meeting with CWaC on Friday 2 August:- A s106 meeting has been held and confirmation received that the monies cannot be amended to introduce a pedestrian crossing following refusal by Vistry (Bovis) On Highways list for re-design/quotation for phase 1 only. Request that it is given priority.
	112.3	VAS Old Hall Street	Update from meeting with CWaC on Friday 2 August:- Awaiting confirmation from street lighting to proceed with connection of VAS to lighting column. Expected completion within 24-25 financial year.
	112.4	30 mph speed limit to be implemented up to Chorlton Villas, Whitchurch Road, Malpas	Update from meeting with CWaC on Friday 2 August:- Awaiting confirmation that Agden PC agree to complete the 50 mph section of the scheme prior to informal consultation with directly affected residents.
	112.5	The Mossland: Risk Assessment and Hedging at entrance	Work in progress.
	112.6	Bradley Bridge	Update from meeting with CWaC on Friday 2 August:- Site does not meet for Local Safety Scheme as per Dave Reeves email. Highways have no plans to introduce and advisory, or maximum, speed limit. Line markings a partially worn, but visible and will be renewed when lining renewals are completed in the area.
	112.7	Fisher German	Letter sent to Fisher German and CWAC to request withdrawal of inaccurate report.
	112.8	Defib	Instructions prepared and due to be posted outside the Jubilee Hall.
	112.9	PCC	Request sent to invite the new Police Crime Commissioner, Dan Price, to the village of Malpas to discuss the general decline in the amount of police coverage in and around the village; future arrangements for an additional PCSO in the village and to request carrying out regular speed checks in the village. The PCC has made an offer of a Teams meeting. Neighbouring Councils, No Mans Heath and District, Threapwood and Agden, have also expressed an interest in meeting with the PCC. The Clerk has replied to request a face to face meeting with Cllrs and representatives from neighbouring Parish Councils / meetings.
	112.10	Speed Gun	Ongoing attempts to retrieve the speed gun from Chris Whitehurst as it is jointly owned by Malpas, No Mans Heath and Threapwood Parish Councils.

	112.11	AGAR 2023 – 24	A request for further information has been received from PKF LLP (external auditor) in respect of the AGAR 2023 / 24 which the Clerk has responded to.
	112.12	Well Street	Sign has been reported to CWaC as it is not visible from both directions at the top of Well Street.
113.	EXTERNAL CORRESPONDENCE INCLUDING SUGGESTION BOX List previously circulated to Cllrs.		
114.	UPDATES FROM OUTSIDE ORGANISATION REPRESENTATIVES There were no updates.		
115.	Part 2 PRESS AND PUBLIC Resolved:- To resolve to exclude the press and members of the public as the items to be discussed relate to contractual matters which are of a sensitive nature. Proposed by Cllr Shackleton and seconded by Cllr Lightning.		

The meeting closed at 8.55 p.m.

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