

**MINUTES OF MALPAS PARISH COUNCIL MEETING
HELD ON THURSDAY 31ST JULY 2025
IN VICTORIA JUBILEE HALL, MALPAS AT 7.00PM**

	PRESENT Cllrs Tina Barnett, Tony Dickenson, Charles Higgie, Julie James Collins, Alan Moore, Dave Parry, Kirsty Parry, Susie Powell, Martin Shackleton, Michael Williams (Chairman). Ward Cllr Rachel Williams. The Clerk. One member of the public attended part of the meeting.															
61.	APOLOGIES Cllr Karen Meredith (personal reason), Oryan Lightning (personal reason).															
62.	DECLARATION OF INTERESTS Cllr Williams declared a pecuniary interest in item 90 as he is a member of the Recreation Ground Committee. Cllr James Collins declared a pecuniary interest in items 90 as she is a member of the Recreation Ground Committee.															
63.	APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES <u>Minutes of the Parish Council Meeting on 26th June 2025:-</u> Resolved:- The Council approved the minutes of the Parish Council Business Meeting held on 26th June 2025 as a true and proper record. Proposed by Cllr Moore and seconded by Cllr Higgie.															
64.	OPEN FORUM Ward Cllr Williams spoke to the meeting regarding the following:- <ul style="list-style-type: none">- To thank Cllr Dave Parry and Cllr Kirsty Parry for their work on the Speedwatch project as is making a difference.- To advise that arrangements are in hand for Remembrance Sunday.- That work has started on preparations for the Christmas Event.- There is a meeting with Highways to discuss arrangements for the Go Kart Derby next year.- Update on the car park project and involving the MP to move the project forward.															
65.	CASUAL VACANCIES CWaC has sent the new Notice of Election for the two vacancies; it has been posted on the website, noticeboard and social media. Details of the election process have been sent to three residents who have expressed an interest in joining the parish council. CWaC have advised that one person sent a nomination form therefore will join the Council formally at the next meeting.															
66.	POLICE REPORT The next police cluster meeting is on Monday 11 th August 2025. <i>Residents are urged to call 101 to report all incidents of anti-social or criminal behaviour.</i>															
67.	ACCOUNTS 67.1 <u>To approve the following payments:-</u> The Council agreed to make the following online payments:- <table><tr><td>Payee</td><td>Stat Power</td><td>Amount</td></tr><tr><td>Parish Council Bank Account - Payments</td><td></td><td></td></tr><tr><td>Running Costs</td><td>s.111</td><td>£ 44.99</td></tr><tr><td>HMRC - PAYE mth 4</td><td>lga 112-119</td><td>£ 168.21</td></tr><tr><td>Then Media</td><td>s.111</td><td>£ 24.00</td></tr></table>	Payee	Stat Power	Amount	Parish Council Bank Account - Payments			Running Costs	s.111	£ 44.99	HMRC - PAYE mth 4	lga 112-119	£ 168.21	Then Media	s.111	£ 24.00
Payee	Stat Power	Amount														
Parish Council Bank Account - Payments																
Running Costs	s.111	£ 44.99														
HMRC - PAYE mth 4	lga 112-119	£ 168.21														
Then Media	s.111	£ 24.00														

	Victoria Jubilee Hall - room hire	s.111	£ 28.00
	The Accounts Centre – payroll services	s.111	£ 12.00
	Cheshire Community Action (subs)	s.111	£ 50.00
	The Mossland Bank Account - Payments		
	Reimburse cost of padlock		£ 21.99
	<p>The Clerk's salary was paid by standing order.</p> <p>Resolved:- The Council agreed to the above payments.</p> <p>Proposed by Cllr Higgle and seconded by Cllr Moore.</p> <p>67.2 <u>Receipts Received as at 30th June 2025:-</u> VAT Refund:- £6,371.52 (Council:- £2,435.08 Events Committee:- £846.15 MJBC:- £3,090.29)</p> <p>67.3 <u>Accounts and Bank Reconciliation:-</u> The summary of Receipts and Payments was previously circulated. The reconciled balance in the current bank account as at 1st July 2025 was £303,398.34 The funds are allocated as follows:- Parish Council - £49,349.46 New Homes Bonus - £23,265.78 Community Infrastructure Levy (CIL):- £231,179.48 Allotment Maintenance funds (ring fenced in accounts):- £87.83 Neighbourhood Plan:- (£284.28) Christmas Tree (to be reimbursed) – (£124.28) CCTV donations (to be reimbursed) – (£200.05) Members Budget (balance after paid for road closure) - £125.00</p> <p>67.4 <u>Bank Account:-</u> Cllr James Collins has been added as a bank signatory to replace Alan Kirkbride. Arrangements are in place to transfer funds from the Lloyds bank account to the Nat West Bank Account. Resolved:- The Council agreed to transfer £200,000.00 to the new bank account. Proposed by Cllr D Parry and seconded by Cllr Williams.</p> <p>67.5 <u>Transfer of Funds:-</u> Resolved:- The Council agreed to transfer the VAT refund to the MJBC bank account and the Events Committee bank account Events Committee:- £846.15 MJBC:- £3,090.29). Proposed by Cllr Higgle and seconded by Cllr Moore.</p> <p>67.6 <u>Budget to Date:-</u> The Council received and noted the budget to date figures as at 30th June 2025.</p>		
68.	EXTERNAL AUDIT PKF Littlejohn LLP has received the audit paperwork; the report will be circulated to Councillors for consideration when it has been returned.		
69.	BUSINESS PRIORITIES AND PROJECTS - WORK PLAN 2025 / 2026 The Council discussed the works required to renovate the exterior paintwork of the Jubilee Hall.		
70.	PLANNING 70.1 <u>Planning Applications:-</u> 70.1.1 25/01410/FUL - Establish retrospective use of residential curtilage and retrospective removal of outbuildings. Refurbishment and extension to annex building and garage at Ebnal Bank Farm Ebnal Lane Malpas Observations:- The Council made no observations.		

	<p>The Council is to hold an extraordinary meeting to consider planning application 25/01940/FUL - Full planning application for residential development of 98 units (Use Class C3) with associated landscaping, access/ egress, car parking, drainage, and other necessary supporting infrastructure at Land At Old Hall Street Malpas. The Council agreed to invite Welsh Water and the developer, Shropshire Homes, to attend the meeting.</p> <p>70.2 <u>To consider any applications received after the agenda has been distributed:-</u> None have been received.</p> <p>70.3 <u>Recent decisions by CW&C:-</u> Approved:- 25/00211/FUL - Yew Tree Cottage Church Street Malpas 25/01620/TPO - Land At Beeches Close Malpas 25/01384/LBC - Lowick Cottage 14 Church Street Malpas</p>
71.	<p>NEIGHBOURHOOD PLAN STEERING GROUP (NPSG) The Council discussed the Local Plan including the proposal to build 29,000 new dwellings in the borough. There is to be a meeting of the NPSG to consider the Council's response.</p>
72.	<p>MONTHLY SURGERY There were no Council issues raised at the June surgery. Ward Cllr Williams requested that the time of the surgery be changed to 2.00pm so as she is able to attend.</p>
73.	<p>THE MOSSLAND CWA&C has received the request for the s106 funding for allotments (for equipment and shed) and is due to transfer the funds; once the funds have been paid into the PC's bank account then the funds can be spent as previously circulated. Cllr Shackleton and the Clerk attended a site meeting with CWA&C to discuss biodiversity at the Mossland; the addition of a fifth pond and topping the grass. CWA&C is to send a report regarding the pond. The Council is to obtain quotes to top the grass which CWA&C is due to pay up to £800.00.</p>
74.	<p>HIGHWAYS (INCL SLOW DOWN FOR MALPAS / SPEEDWATCH) Cllr D Parry updated the meeting about the recent Speedwatch sessions that have taken place on Chester Road, Tilston Road and Springfield Road. There is an issue with speeding on Chester Road. Cllr D Parry offered to clean the signs and cut back foliage to make them more visible. The Council discussed the reduction in the speed limit on Whitchurch Road which will take place in the 2026 / 2027 financial year. The Clerk is resend the request to paint the zebra crossing on Chester Road. The Council agreed to submit the following requests to Highways as part of their pilot scheme for works:- Clean signs (Chester Road; Wrexham Road; Old Hall Street) and Weeding / removal of debris (Church Street; Chester Road; Old Hall Street).</p>
75.	<p>MALPAS JOINT BURIAL COMMITTEE (MJBC) Cllr Parry updated the meeting about another volunteer clean-up day; tree surgery and that there has been an increase in burials.</p>
76.	<p>APPEARANCE OF MALPAS 76.1 <u>Hanging Baskets:-</u> The Clerk contacted CWA&C to request a site visit to discuss the suitability to install hanging baskets on lighting columns in Malpas. They have requested details of the lamppost column numbers so as they can check the viability. The Clerk has contacted Tattenhall PC as they have baskets; they advised that the baskets are designed to have a reservoir in them to fill them with water (like the big black plastic planters) but their experience is that they need watering at least twice week if not more in hot weather or they just dry out even when it rains. Tattenhall PC pay for their watering.</p>

	<p>76.2 <u>Floral Displays:-</u> The Clerk is to contact CWaC to discuss enhancing the current floral displays in the village.</p> <p>76.3 <u>Jubilee Hall:-</u> The Council discussed works required to the exterior of the Jubilee Hall; enquires are to be made with the Conservation Department regarding recommended suppliers.</p>							
77.	<p>BT RED PHONE BOX, CHURCH STREET The contract and payment of £1.00 has been returned to BT. BT has advised that they have arranged for an engineer to visit to remove all the of the telephony equipment. Once this has been confirmed and all of their systems have updated they will email the Council a completion notice. Cllr Williams advised of the feedback received on social media as to what to do with the phone box, this included a phone charger, phone to the police, display artwork, tourist information. Cllr Williams has received a quote to paint the phone box. Resolved:- The Council agreed place an order with Bennett Builders for the sum of £620.00 to paint the phone box. Proposed by Cllr Williams and seconded by Cllr Higgie.</p>							
78.	<p>CCTV EXTENSION The Council is due to meet with Barlows to discuss costs to extend the CCTV in the village to include extending the High Street, Chester Road and Church Street.</p>							
79.	<p>CLAYHOLE CROFT Cllr Williams is chasing up Pronin to confirm the quote is still valid to carry out the drainage works to the site.</p>							
80.	<p>EVENTS COMMITTEE 80.1 <u>Christmas Event:-</u> A meeting is to be arranged to discuss the event. Ward Cllr Williams informed the meeting of this year's theme. The Council discussed using a card machine for payment for entry to the grotto. 80.2 <u>Summer Fair 2026:-</u> See Open Forum for update.</p>							
81.	<p>BIODIVERSITY Resolved:- The Council agreed reimburse to David Thomas £300.00 for the cost to print the biodiversity surveys. Proposed by Cllr Williams and seconded by Cllr D Parry.</p>							
82.	<p>REMEMBRANCE SUNDAY Resolved:- The Council agreed place an order Core for the road closure for Remembrance Sunday. The cost is £750.00 plus VAT. Proposed by Cllr Williams and seconded by Cllr Higgie.</p>							
83.	<p>MALPAS QR HISTORY TOUR Cllr James Collins agreed to help with the project; so far 20 properties have agreed to have signs placed on their properties. Paul Williams is to put the signs up.</p>							
84.	<p>RECYCLING BLISTER PACKS The Clerk has contacted the company to place an order an is waiting for them to confirm.</p>							
85.	<p>CODE OF CONDUCT TRAINING The Council considered whether to arrange Code of Conduct training for Councillors. It was agreed for Councillors to attend the training should they wish to do so. The Clerk is to circulate details of training course offered by CHALC.</p>							
86.	<p>CLERK'S REPORT</p> <table border="1"> <thead> <tr> <th>No.</th><th>Item</th><th>Update</th></tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td>86.1</td><td>VAS Old Hall Street</td><td>Latest update from CWaC was that it was due to be installed early this financial year. No further update.</td></tr> </tbody> </table>		No.	Item	Update	86.1	VAS Old Hall Street	Latest update from CWaC was that it was due to be installed early this financial year. No further update.
No.	Item	Update						
86.1	VAS Old Hall Street	Latest update from CWaC was that it was due to be installed early this financial year. No further update.						

	86.2	Allotments Association (AA)	AA to advise regarding amendments to constitution
	86.3	Village Appearance	Contacted Shelly Vickers to invite her to a Council meeting to discuss the village appearance project and ways in which the Council can help – she is hoping to attend the meeting.
	86.4	Floral Displays	In process of trying to arrange a meeting with CWaC to discuss other suitable locations for floral displays in the village.
	86.5	Events Committee	Due to arrange meeting to discuss arrangements for Christmas event.
	86.6	Training	Booked to attend - Social media for councils and Boosting Your Council's Identity: How to Promote Your Council Effectively.
	86.7	Bridle path	Resident raised concerns regarding works carried out the bridle path @ Love Lane; CWaC are dealing with the matter.
87.	EXTERNAL CORRESPONDENCE INCLUDING SUGGESTION BOX List previously circulated to Cllrs.		
88.	UPDATES FROM OUTSIDE ORGANISATION REPRESENTATIVES There was no consideration of this item.		
89.	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 Higgle seconded by Cllr James Collins.		

The meeting closed at 8.30 p.m.

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