



Minutes of the Meeting of a meeting held on

Tuesday 11th July 2023 7.30pm at Mawdesley Village Hall

Participants: Cllr M Worthington (Chair), Cllr G Worthington, Cllr G Green, Cllr S Boardman, Cllr M Henty, Cllr J Hogg, Trish Grimshaw (Clerk/RFO), Peter Boardman (Lengthsman) and 2 members of the public.

- 1. Apologies** – Apologies were received from Cllr L Causer.
- 2. Declarations of Interest and Dispensations** - none
- 3. To receive declarations of interest from Councillor’s on items on the agenda** - none
- 4. To receive written requests for dispensations for disclosable pecuniary interests (if any)**
- none
- 5. To grant any requests for dispensation as appropriate** - none
- 6. Minutes of the Previous Meeting.** It was resolved to approve as a correct record the Minutes of the Council Meetings held on 09.05.23 and 13.06.23 and these were duly signed by the Chairman.
- 7. Public Participation.** The meeting was adjourned for a period of public participation. Cllr Henty highlighted that the Village Hall had been able to undertake the theatre lighting project which the Parish Council has approved funding for in 2021. The Clerk confirmed she had contacted MVH on several occasions advising a spend was required by the end of the financial year (22/23). It was ratified that if MVH are unable to complete the project by the end of the year the grant application will need to be resubmitted for consideration, proposed by the Chairman, seconded by Cllr Henty with all Parish Councillors in agreement.
- 8. Parish Clerk’s Report.** The Clerk provided a summary of her report which had been previously circulated. The Clerk referred to the information which had been circulated to Parish Councillors from Lancashire Wildlife Trust (LWT) regarding costings and content of a site management biodiversity plan for Moss Fields. It was agreed in principle to go ahead and secure LWT to undertake the work which will commence in late autumn. This to be ratified at the next meeting. The Clerk reported receiving a quotation (today) from Laurence Davis for tree work on Moss fields which included chipping on site. The Chairman proposed to go ahead with the quotation of £1,200, seconded by Cllr Henty with all Parish Councillors in agreement.
- 9. Lengthsman’s Report.** The Lengthsman advised that it is now time for the field to have an annual cut; it was ratified for John Wade to undertake this work. Cllr Henty agreed to revise and update the risk assessments for the Lengthsman’s role, tasks with additions following the purchase of new equipment. A risk assessment to move the SpID will be finalised before moving the devise.
- 10. To discuss the annual inspection report and resolve any actions.** The Clerk was thanked for the summary and images contained in the report.

Hurst Green Play Area - Following quotations received for new cradle seats and chains and repairs to the wet pour it was ratified to go ahead with the Playsound quotation of £400.00 and £1675.00, proposed by the Chairman with all Parish Councillors unanimously in agreement. The Clerk to contact Playsound to query the length of the suggested cut back to ensure a full repair. Advice will be sought in respect of the potential ‘pinch points’ on the slide.

It was agreed to leave additional hedging in the play area until the winter.

A quotation will be obtained in respect of the repairing the tarmac on the entrance to the play area.

Moss Fields – tree work ratified in minute 8. The quotation (previously circulated) of £500 from Steve Ashton to rotavate, level and sow grass seed inside the blossom circle was ratified, proposed by the Chairman, seconded by Cllr Green with all Parish Councillors in agreement.

The proposal to seed the banking with wildflowers and honeysuckle, winter flowering clematis for the trellis was ratified proposed by the Chairman with all Parish Councillors in agreement. The Clerk to obtain a quotation from Gareth for this work.

The improvements to the trailer storage area incorporating a secure bollard (web link previously circulated) and suitable surface were ratified, proposed by the Chairman with all Parish Councillors in agreement. The Clerk to order the bollard.

Pedestrian Gate near the old water trough parallel to Sandy Lane – it was reported the temporary fix is working.

The well, Sandy Lane - It was recognised that the well forms a significant part of the history of the village, Cllr Craig Southern offered to lead on this project.

- 11. To resolve to establish the most suitable locations for the WW1 bench and soldier; agree the type of flooring the bench should be placed on and whether a plaque or flagpole should be included in the project to commemorate the fallen.** Following a site visit it was ratified to place the bench near the bowling green; all Parish Councillors were in favour of Cllr Green's stone design with raised sandstone planters and at a future date box hedging. Following investigation on ownership of the land opposite the bench it was agreed in principle to clear the area and incorporate poppy seeds. It was ratified to locate the 2D soldier in the vicinity of the war memorial subject to a site visit and highways approval.
- 12. To receive a response regarding the e mail to LCC regarding the potholes and general disrepair of the road to Blackmoor to Smithy Lane. LCC replied** 'We last inspected both Black Moor Road and Smithy Lane on 31 May 2023 and identified a few pothole defects that met the above criteria. These will be repaired shortly, and we will continue to monitor these roads every three months. In relation to the additional concern regarding Meadow Lane LCC replied 'We inspect all the roads in our care at least once a year, and busier roads more often as part of our routine Highway Safety Inspections. This helps us to identify any defects which meet our minimum investigatory level for repair. For carriageways, this means we repair any defect of 40mm deep or greater and at least 150mm wide. We inspect Meadow Lane quarterly, with our most recent inspection taking place on 25 May 2023, when we identified two areas of deterioration at the edge of the carriageway, which we have since repaired. We will continue to monitor the road as part of the afore mentioned inspection programme to ensure it remains safe and serviceable.'
- 13. To discuss the estimate (previously circulated) received from United Utilities to provide an external standpipe at Hurst Green play area to facilitate cleaning of the play surface and resolve a way forward.** The estimate of £4,311 from United Utilities was considerably more than expected. The Chairman to investigate further.
- 14. To receive an update on the Best Kept Village & Mawdesley in Bloom competitions.** The best kept village judging is ongoing. Cllr Boardman circulated the poppy seeds to the primary schools and nursery; we look forward to receiving entries to the competition.
- 15. To receive an update on the site visit to Moss Fields by Ian Wright (Treescapes Lancashire County Council).** The Clerk and Cllr Green provided an update on the visit by LCC to Moss Fields. Ian provided positive feedback on the work undertaken and offered to assist in a community tree planning day later in the year suggesting an extension of the fruit

trees would be paid for by the treescapes team. In addition, he suggested consideration of adding additional trees on the fields. Parish Councillors were keen to go ahead with a planting day, the Clerk to investigate further.

- 16. To receive an update on the draft contract in respect of the rental of the small container belonging to Mawdesley Parish Council to Mawdesley Millennium Green Trust.** Cllr J Hogg was thanked for her work on the contract, a final update will be circulated asap.
- 17. To receive an update on the signage project at Hurst Green.** Gill provided an update on the quotation from <https://makemesomethingspecial.com/> and spoke of the variety of options available. It was ratified to agree a budget of up to £2,500 proposed by Cllr Green, seconded by the Chairman with all Parish Councillors in agreement. A site visit will take place to confirm the location at which time the highways authority will be contacted to confirm any relevant permissions are sought.
- 18. To discuss the cost of supplying dog bags throughout the village and resolve as to whether the current budget allocation needs to be amended.** The Clerk provided a summary of the annual cost of providing dog bags throughout the village. It was suggested a post on Facebook may be helpful to encourage everyone to take only what is needed. Following discussion, Cllr Green proposed to stay with the current arrangement seconded by the Chairman will all Parish Councillors in agreement.
- 19. To discuss the Scarecrow Festival and resolve if this should be held in 2024.** All Parish Councillors were in favour of the festival subject to the appointment of a volunteer committee which should include residents; this item to be placed on the next agenda when Cllr Causer is present.
- 20. To discuss the 150 years of Mawdesley walking day in 2024 and resolve how the Parish Council could assist or contribute to the event.** Parish Councillors agreed to support in some way, it was suggested the committee submit a grant application to the Parish Council in December.
- 21. To discuss and review the quarterly magazine and provide feedback.** It was agreed the Clerk should contact the printer to see if they had any ideas on how the newsletter could be improved in terms of design. In addition, the Clerk to contact Runshaw College to see if any students would like to undertake a project on the design of the newsletter.
- 22. To discuss ways to encourage more content to be submitted for the quarterly newsletter and to set a target for advertisements in each.** It was recognised that external adverts have reduced with 2 adverts in the summer edition. The Clerk confirmed all advertisers are aware of the deadlines 2/3 months before and are also e mailed 2 weeks prior to the deadline as a reminder.
- 23. To discuss hosting an open day for Mawdesley organisations to promote themselves to residents of the village.** It was ratified to establish availability of the village hall for a morning in November. A list of organisations can be sought for the September meeting.
- 24. To discuss creating a local directory of clubs, organisations, and tradesmen on the Mawdesley Parish Council website.** It was ratified this was a good idea with the planned open day providing a good opportunity to start collating this data.
- 25. Planning Matters - to discuss and decide a response (if applicable) to planning applications including those received after the agenda is published.** None
- 26. To consider and approve the schedule of accounts for payment.** Approved
- 27. Financial reports – to ratify accounts and authorise payments.** Approved

There being no further business the meeting closed at 21.10

SignedM Worthington..... Cllr M Worthington, Chair. Dated..... 11.09.23.....

Clerk/RFO: Trish Grimshaw, E mail: clerk@mawdesleyparishcouncil.org.uk