

**MINUTES OF MALPAS PARISH COUNCIL MEETING
HELD ON THURSDAY 25TH JUNE 2026
IN VICTORIA JUBILEE HALL, MALPAS AT 7.00PM**

	PRESENT Cllrs Tina Barnett, Charles Higgle, Julie James Collins, Alan Moore (Chairman), Dave Parry, Kirsty Parry. The Clerk. One member of the public attended part of the meeting.
31.	APOLOGIES Cllr Tony Dickenson, Susie Powell. Ward Cllr Rachel Williams.
32.	DECLARATION OF INTERESTS Cllr Moore declared a pecuniary interest in item 47 of the minutes as he is Chairman of the Jubilee Hall Committee.
33.	APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES Resolved:- The Council approved the minutes of the Parish Council Business Meeting held on 28th May 2026 as a true and proper record. Proposed by Cllr Higgle and seconded by Cllr D Parry.
34.	CASUAL VACANCIES 34.1 <u>Current Vacancies:-</u> The Clerk advised that CWaC had confirmed that no election had been requested to fill the vacancies arising from the resignations of Karen Meredith and Martin Shackleton. The Council may therefore proceed with the co-option process. A formal Notice of Co-option will be displayed, together with an informal notice on the Council's social media. 34.2 <u>New Vacancies:-</u> The resignation of Suzanne Adam was noted. CWaC has been notified, and the statutory notice has been published on the Council's website, Facebook page and noticeboard. The resignation of Michael Williams was also noted. The Clerk is to notify CWaC so that the statutory notice of vacancy can be published. It was noted that there are currently four vacancies on the Council. 34.3 <u>Attendance at Meetings:-</u> The Clerk advised that, according to the Council's attendance records, Cllr Lightning had not attended a meeting of the Parish Council for a period of six consecutive months. Before any formal action is taken, the Clerk is to contact Cllr Lightning to confirm that the Council's records are correct and to establish whether there is any relevant information that has not been taken into account. Subject to that confirmation, the Clerk will proceed in accordance with Section 85 of the Local Government Act 1972 and notify CWaC of any resulting vacancy. 34.4 <u>Apology:-</u> Cllr Higgle made a personal statement regarding the resignation of Suzanne Adam from the Council. As part of his statement, he offered a personal apology to both Oliver and Suzanne Adam and stated that, in future, he would take more time before responding to emails.
35.	OPEN FORUM Planning Application:- a resident attended regarding their planning application which the Council has yet to receive.
36.	INTERNAL PROCEDURES 36.1 <u>Communications Register and Strategy:-</u> The Council formally thanked Suzanne Adam for her work in preparing the Communications Register and Strategy.

	36.2 <u>Communications Lead:-</u> It was suggested that the Council ask Cllr O Adam to take the lead. In his absence, this is to be considered at the July meeting.																																																									
37.	POLICE REPORT The Police Cluster meeting took place at 6pm on 25 th June 2026; the minutes are due to be circulated. Concerns were raised as no action has been taken by the police regarding the recent incident at the Recreation Ground, Cllr James Collins is to follow this up with the local police. <i>Residents are urged to call 101 to report all incidents of anti-social or criminal behaviour.</i>																																																									
38.	ACCOUNTS 38.1 <u>To approve the following payments:-</u> The Council agreed to make the following online payments:- <table><tr><th>Payee</th><th>Stat Power</th><th>Amount</th></tr><tr><td colspan="3">Parish Council payments</td></tr><tr><td>Running Costs</td><td>s.111</td><td>£ 124.26</td></tr><tr><td>Then Media</td><td>s.111</td><td>£ 28.80</td></tr><tr><td>The Accounts Centre – payroll services</td><td>s.111</td><td>£ 12.00</td></tr><tr><td>HMRC - PAYE mth 3</td><td>lga 112-119</td><td>Tbc</td></tr><tr><td>Victoria Jubilee Hall - room hire</td><td>s.111</td><td>Tbc</td></tr><tr><td>CHALC – training</td><td>S.111</td><td>£ 30.00</td></tr><tr><td>Walkers Nurseries -refill planters</td><td></td><td>£ 627.31</td></tr><tr><td>GRANT:- Malpas Darts Group</td><td>s.137</td><td>£ 700.00</td></tr><tr><td>GRANT:- Malpas Young Persons Centre</td><td>s.137</td><td>£1,500.00</td></tr><tr><td>GRANT:- Malpas Community Links</td><td>s.137</td><td>£2,500.00</td></tr><tr><td>GRANT:- Garrison Explorer Scouts</td><td>s.137</td><td>£1,000.00</td></tr><tr><td>GRANT:- 617 (Heber) Squadron</td><td>s.137</td><td>£1,975.00</td></tr><tr><td>GRANT:- Malpas Community Minibus Assoc</td><td>s.137</td><td>£1,641.00</td></tr><tr><td colspan="3">Events Committee</td></tr><tr><td>Basix Wrestling Promotions</td><td></td><td>£ 400.00</td></tr><tr><td colspan="3">The Mossland payments</td></tr><tr><td>Forest Master (wood chipper using s.106 ringfenced funds)</td><td></td><td>£ 512.95</td></tr></table> The Clerk’s salary was paid by standing order. Resolved:- The Council agreed to the above payments. Proposed by Cllr Higgle and seconded by Cllr Moore. 38.2 <u>Receipts Received as at 1st June 2026:-</u> Parish Council account:-£7471.42 VAT Refund (Council - £3,768.88; Events Committee £220.49; The Mossland - £167.72; MJBC - £3,314.33) 38.3 <u>Accounts and Bank Reconciliation:-</u> The summary of Receipts and Payments was previously circulated. The reconciled balance deposit bank account as at 1 st June 2026 - £259,377.95. The reconciled balance current bank account as at 1 st June 2026 - £74,134.40 The funds are allocated as follows:- Parish Council - £74,134.40 S.106 allocated to allotments - £1,438.83 Neighbourhood Plan:- (£284.28) Christmas Tree (to be reimbursed) – (£313.28) CCTV donations (to be reimbursed) – (£200.05) 38.4 <u>S.106:-</u> CWaC has sent an up to date list of s.106 monies that are available to the Council;	Payee	Stat Power	Amount	Parish Council payments			Running Costs	s.111	£ 124.26	Then Media	s.111	£ 28.80	The Accounts Centre – payroll services	s.111	£ 12.00	HMRC - PAYE mth 3	lga 112-119	Tbc	Victoria Jubilee Hall - room hire	s.111	Tbc	CHALC – training	S.111	£ 30.00	Walkers Nurseries -refill planters		£ 627.31	GRANT:- Malpas Darts Group	s.137	£ 700.00	GRANT:- Malpas Young Persons Centre	s.137	£1,500.00	GRANT:- Malpas Community Links	s.137	£2,500.00	GRANT:- Garrison Explorer Scouts	s.137	£1,000.00	GRANT:- 617 (Heber) Squadron	s.137	£1,975.00	GRANT:- Malpas Community Minibus Assoc	s.137	£1,641.00	Events Committee			Basix Wrestling Promotions		£ 400.00	The Mossland payments			Forest Master (wood chipper using s.106 ringfenced funds)		£ 512.95
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	this has been circulated. The Clerk is to contact CWaC follow up the s.106 amounts that have been allocated and how they can be spent. 38.5 <u>Bank Signatory:-</u> Resolved:- The Council agreed to appoint Cllr Moore as a bank signatory. Proposed by Cllr D Parry and seconded by Cllr Higgle.
39.	ANNUAL AUDIT The annual audit paperwork has been submitted to the external auditor, KF Littlejohn. The notice of electors rights has been posted on the website and noticeboard.
40.	GRANT PROCESS The Council considered the additional information regarding the grant request received from Garrison Explorer Scouts and decided not to allocate any further funds.
41.	BUSINESS PRIORITIES AND PROJECTS - WORK PLAN 2026 / 2027 41.1 <u>Floral Displays:-</u> Floral Displays:- Walkers are due to deliver the hanging baskets at the end of the month. The new baskets are heavier than usual so new brackets will be required for the baskets, this means that the old ones will need swapping out. Arrangements have been made to instruct contractor Paul Smith to carry out the work required to replace the brackets. Watering:- Walkers have sent their insurance which covers them for £5 million and a risk assessment as they are due to carry out watering the hanging baskets. Planters:- These have now been replanted. 41.2 <u>Clayhole Croft:-</u> Driftwood Construction is yet to advise start date. Cllr D Parry is to follow this up. 41.3 <u>BT Phone Box, Church Street:-</u> The lock / padlock is due to be installed next week. 41.4 <u>Malpas QR History Tour:-</u> The permission letters are in the process of being distributed – property owners are to confirm in writing before the order is placed. 41.5 <u>CCTV Extension:-</u> A site meeting with Barlows has been arranged next month regarding alternative locations for CCTV in the village.
42.	PLANNING 42.1 <u>Planning Applications:-</u> No applications have been received 42.2 <u>To consider any applications received after the agenda has been distributed:-</u> 26/01834/TPO - Tree T470, Common Ash Fraxinus excelsior - Fell to ground level. Tree T492, Acer pseudoplatanus - Fell to ground level. Tree T481, Silver Birch Betula pendula - End weight reduction 20%, 2m. 2x trees proposed for removal. Replanting 2x standard Common Hornbeam Carpinus betulus at Inglewood 3 Love Lane Overton Malpas Resolved:- The Council agreed to respond to state that they understand the reason the loss of trees and to request that they are replaced. Proposed by Cllr Moore and seconded by Cllr Higgle. 42.3 <u>Recent decisions by CW&C:-</u> Approved:- 26/00864/TPO - High Tree House 1 Love Lane Overton Malpas 26/01049/FUL - Scar Farm Whitewood Lane Overton Malpas Withdrawn:- 26/00809/FUL - The Byre Love Lane Overton Malpas
43.	NEIGHBOURHOOD PLAN STEERING GROUP (NPSG) Cllr Moore is liaising with Karen Meredith as he is taking over as planning lead for the Council; she has advised that she is happy to support the Council.

	The Council discussed the report received from CWaC regarding the allocation of housing numbers in the parish. The Council discussed whether to continue with developing the Neighbourhood Plan based on current political uncertainty and the professional costs involved. Cllr Moore is to speak with the CWaC Neighbourhood Plan lead regarding what is required to progress the Neighbourhood Plan and how much weight it will carry with large scale planning applications in the parish. Cllr Moore and the Clerk met with representatives of the Protect Malpas Group on Tuesday 23rd June to discuss working together with any future large scale planning applications.
44.	MONTHLY SURGERY Cllr Susie Powell attended the June surgery; all matters were dealt with at the surgery.
45.	THE MOSSLAND The Clerk met with the Chairman of the Allotments Association to visit the new car park and discuss the purchase of further equipment from the s106 funds that are ring-fenced in the Council's bank account.
46.	HIGHWAYS (INCL SLOW DOWN FOR MALPAS / SPEEDWATCH) 46.1 <u>Speedwatch:-</u> Cllr D Parry informed the meeting there have been two Speedwatch sessions; 25 vehicles were reported as speeding. There are currently six volunteers. 46.2 <u>VAS on Old Hall Street:-</u> The Clerk has again chased CWaC regarding the installation date for the VAS at Old Hall Street, reminding officers that the scheme is being funded through Section 106 monies and has been ongoing for some time. CWaC has advised they are in the process of obtaining new quotes as the previous supplier went into liquidation. 46.3 <u>Meeting with Highways:-</u> Summary of meeting held on 19th June 2026:- VAS at Old Hall Street:- New supplier provisionally identified. CWaC is to make contact with them to obtain quote for device. Installation Costs provided by Highways Street Lighting. Chester Road – zebra crossing:- Programmed for completion within w/c 22 June 2026 No Entry on the road in Well Street needs repainting at the bottom:- Programmed for completion within w/c 22 June 2026 Repainting @ the junctions with Leech Road and Well Avenue:- Not included in the above scheme. CWaC are liaising with Colas to check if this can be included as part of the package. New bus stop opposite the Co-op requires road markings:- Programmed for completion within w/c 22 June 2026.
47.	JUBILEE HALL The Council received a report regarding work required to the Jubilee Hall and considered the request for financial support (see attachment). Resolved:- The Council agreed contribute £3,000.00 towards works required at the Jubilee Hall, to be funded from the Council's CIL funds. Proposed by Cllr D Parry and seconded by Cllr K Parry.
48.	MALPAS JOINT BURIAL COMMITTEE (MJBC) 48.1 <u>Update:-</u> Nothing to report 48.2 <u>Terms of Reference:-</u> Resolved:- The Council considered and agreed to approve the Terms of Reference. Proposed by Cllr Higgle and seconded by Cllr Barnett.

49.	EVENTS COMMITTEE The minutes of the Events Committee meeting held on Wednesday 24 th June are to be circulated. Cllr James Collins circulated posters to promote the summer fair and the events that are taking place in the evening in the village.	
50.	CLERK'S REPORT	
	No.	Item
	50.1	The Mossland - Charity Commission
	50.2	MJBC email
	Update	
	No further update from CCA (Cheshire Community Action). To follow up next month.	
	Request sent to Then Media to set up new email address.	
51.	EXTERNAL CORRESPONDENCE List previously circulated to Cllrs.	
52.	UPDATES FROM OUTSIDE ORGANISATION REPRESENTATIVES There was no consideration of this item.	
53	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 Moore and seconded by Cllr Higgie.	

The meeting closed at

8.15 p.m.

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