

**MALBOROUGH VILLAGE HALL & PLAYING FIELDS ASSOCIATION**  
**Minutes of the Management Committee Meeting**  
**Held at Malborough Village Hall at 7.30pm**  
**on Wednesday 8<sup>th</sup> June 2022**

**Present:** Andy Morgan (AM) Chairman; John Mahood (JM) Treasurer; Jonathan Towne (JT); Janice Ginn (JG) temp secretary; Sally Harvey (SH); John Jevans (JJ) Sports Officer; Val Jevans (VJ) Bookings Officer;  
Malborough Parish Council represented by Ann Kendall (AK);  
Jill Clark (JC) representing MAD;  
Kevin Broom (KB) representing KM

**1. Apologies:**

Bob Smale (BS); Tony Lyle (TL); Tim Chandler (TC); John Yeoman (JY).

**2. The Minutes of the last Meeting.**

The Minutes of the meeting of 11<sup>th</sup> May 2022 were approved by the Committee, and signed by the Chairman.

Note that item 4d should read "(JJ) reported that a new padlock..."

**ACTION**

**3. Matters Arising:**

SH reported that letters have been delivered to the residents of nos. 94-113 Cumber Close regarding fly tipping onto the woodland path from some of those rear gardens. The letter to 106 could not be delivered because the door is boarded up, TC to reissue the letter.

Bob Smale to check the path after deadline of 11<sup>th</sup> June.

**TC**  
**BS**

**4. Grass cutting and mowing machines:**

TC had sent an email to all committee members prior to this meeting, outlining three options and implications:

1. To keep the old gang mower and towing vehicle, with all the consequent expense of maintaining the former and with the limitations which the gangs placed upon us. This would give continuing problems of unreliability, shortage of spares, and general maintenance costs.

It was agreed that this is not an option. This equipment will be disposed of or, if possible, sold.

2. To purchase a new or renovated "zero turn" machine, self-propelled, either from capital (possibly with grant assistance), or from income. There would be depreciation and MVH would still have responsibility for the maintenance and insurance of this machine and to build a shelter for it.

After discussion it was agreed that this was also not an option.

3. To dispose of all our equipment and rely on Dave Bawden, the contractor, and his machines to do all the grass cutting. He is about to purchase a fast and powerful "zero turn mower" for about £12,000. He will be able to use his machinery to undertake all of the grass cutting that is covered by our contract, at no extra cost to MVH. This would be in part because a 'zero turn' mower would be able to cut not only the main fields but also around the edges, so although it might be somewhat slower than the gang mower is when cutting the main field, a second cut around the edges with zero turn would no longer be necessary. This would have the advantage that we would know year on year what the costs for mowing our fields would be. In addition, we would have no extra costs or worries with regard to maintenance or repair and would need to make no

allowance for depreciation for replacement in the future. In addition, by selecting this option, we would make no inroads into our capital. TC 's choice would be to vote for option three.

There was concern that this could be a problem when the contract with Dave Bawden is up in 2 years time, however if all future tenders were from contractors with their own equipment, this is negated. Mr Bawden pays MVH for storage of his equipment and JJ suggested this money be ring-fenced.

After a vote, it was unanimously decided to go for option 3. AK stated that this decision was supported by the Parish Council. JJ to inform Mr Bawden. JJ

## 5. Reports:

- a. Chairman : AM thanked everyone who had arranged and helped at the very successful Platinum Jubilee event last Sunday. He has looked into the cost of dimmers for the new lighting for the annexe. It will be approximately £600 for the lights and £50 for dimmer switches. He is going to investigate the position of the ceiling timbers and wiring and then he can plan the layout of the new lights and hopes to install them during the summer. AM
- b. Treasurer : the accounts for the year to 31 May 2022 had been provided and distributed to all committee members, a copy is attached to these minutes. JM reported that an organisation contacted him because they want to fit a smart gas meter. It was agreed that smart meters are not reliable in some parts of Malborough and the present system of the treasurer sending meter reading to the gas company will continue. JM will decline the smart meter. KB asked for an annual total of maintenance costs of the gang mowers; JM said approximately £700. VJ asked if hirers invoice numbers could be included so that she can identify outstanding invoices more easily. JM said he would do this. The financial accounts annual return has been sent to the Charity Commission JM
- c. Secretary : from JC by written report: Contractors have been asked for a quotation for the replacement fence at the north-west corner of the car park, no response yet. As agreed at the committee meeting on 11 May, the energy brokers Utility Aid have been asked to investigate our energy usage situation with the view to finding a better tariff. Recent invoices will be needed for this. The existing gas contract ends in November. TC
- d. Sports Officer :  
Salcombe Town FC has unfortunately been forced to close because of lack of players through retirement and other factors and they haven't been able to recruit new players. JJ told Roger Lidstone (club secretary) that if in the future they managed to re-form that they would always be welcome at Malborough.

Unfortunately it looks as if the netball girls will not be continuing this year unless somebody else volunteers to run it.

The goalposts urgently need replacing and Kevin Broom from KM reported that they had received funding from The Football Foundation for this purpose, and this would be done in time for next season..

KM will also be receiving a grant again from The Football Foundation for maintenance. KB gave more details:

KB, the rep for KM, reported that the season has ended and that there will be no change in the number of teams playing next year. He stated that the club's communications with teams and parents will be improved by their new online tool eg. Fee collection and any problems can be dealt with more efficiently. New funding will pay for 85% of the cost of replacing all the goal posts. This will help to alleviate the wear in front of the goals, when

not in use they will be locked together face to face. Hopefully they will be too heavy to be moved about by youngsters. He confirmed that they would be available for use by outside teams. A second funding source will pay approx. £3000 towards pitch improvement; verti draining etc. KM will need to find a contactor for this. KB will liaise with BS and consult Kevin Yeoman for this.

KB left the meeting at this point.

**KB**

- e. Bookings Officer: VJ was pleased to report that all regular bookings are continuing. A group who usually go to Salcombe for a Children's Holiday Class during half term, booked 3 days at MVH and thought that the facilities were amazing, they hope to come back. There will be singing and tea on Sunday afternoon 19th June and a fundraising Bingo evening July 9th. There have been 2 weddings recently and there is a wedding booked for May 2023 and another in 2024. The gas heaters will be booked in for servicing by Buswells. There has been an area of burn damage to the worktop next to the cooker. The caterer responsible has offered to pay for a replacement. It was decided not to have this done because the damage is very small and it could cause more problems taking out the old worktop. **VJ**
- f. Grounds Report: BS not present so no report.
- g. Wood report: JJ read email from TL – The signs "Pardon the weeds we are feeding the Bees" have been laminated and they will be planted in the 2 wild flower beds. The children have made a new den in the wood and it seems OK so far. TL will mark the new trees. TL asked for confirmation that the grass cutting costs would be the same if the contractor used his own equipment. He has been reassured by JJ and AM. **TL**

## **6. Ongoing Matters:**

- 1. Jubilee Event Review: SH reported that the raffle and refreshment donations raised enough to give the four charities nominated by the public: Food Bank, Pre School, KM Football Club and the Youth Club, the sum of £55 each. It was decided to add the £40 bar profits to this and give each £60 with the balance going to MVH. Thanks to members of the Baptist Church, the Parish Council and Gail and Geoff for their help. **SH**
- 2. Bonfire Night: JJ has asked John Butler and his daughter Hannah if they would be willing to run the event and to let us know by the July meeting, so that a decision can be made whether to hold the event this year. The fireworks have already been purchased.

## **Any Other Business:**

JC reported that Hayley Peperell has put forward a suggestion to put up a plaque for Nick Tee in recognition of his work for MAD and MVH. JC said MAD has discussed this and rejected it because it would not be appreciated by his family nor, did they think, would Nick have wanted it.

AM sent out a note to all committee members prior to this meeting stating that only matters requiring urgent and immediate attention should be raised under "Any Other Business". Committee were asked to notify such matters to the secretary before meetings. This would help meeting times to be reduced. SH said this was not always possible and this heading should remain on the agenda.

## **7. Date of next meeting: 13<sup>th</sup> July 2022.**

There being no further business, the chairman closed the meeting at 20:50