

Mawsley Village Association (MVA) Meeting

Date: Tuesday 15th July 2025

Venue: TCAM

Attendees: Jenny Clucas
John Holton
Paul Howells
George King
Chris Waine
Nicola Wisdom

Apologies: Simon Wisdom

NOTES

1. Actions from April Meeting

Action	Update
Progress litter pick on 26 th April	Completed
Organise MVA AGM	Completed
Explore benches idea – initially with landowners	Ongoing – see Item 7 below.

2. MVA Finances update

John as MVA treasurer gave a brief summary of MVA finances. The MVA currently has £12,223 in its bank account, plus £3,997 of Skate Mawsley Funds. Under its Articles, the MVA must hold a minimum of £4,000 reserves. The main expenditure is the rates at £210/month and the Accountant's fee. Other costs are a small contribution to Newsletter printing costs if they do not break even with adverts revenue and cash flowing Fireworks Night. The MVA is solvent for a number of years at this current rate of expenditure, however, it was agreed that this should be kept under review.

John said if we deregistered from Companies House, we could probably compile our own accounts for the Charity Commission and save on Accountancy fees. However, deregistering may create liability implications for Directors and have other unknown issues. John also thought that Charity Commission may be introducing the need for specialist software to upload accounts. The members agreed it was worth exploring the implications of this suggestion further. John and Jenny agreed to follow this up.

3. Fireworks Night

Update from Chris. Plans are now progressing:

- The date will be 8th November so as not to clash with Halloween. Wickstead fireworks event is on 1st Nov.
- It has been decided to retain the bonfire, but to use wood only in its construction.
- Compliance with Martin's Law (which relates to terrorism threats) is being checked and the Group are aware of NNC's event management plan, which needs to be filled in (Nicola had forwarded a copy of the NNC event management plan to Chris). Nicola highlighted a number of points that NNC had raised regarding the FunDay event safety and security for the Fireworks Group to take account of.
- The entry price will increase. Suggested price was £7.50/person (£15/couple) with children under 16 free if with a paying adult.
- Electronic means of taking payment on the gate is being investigated.
- Will use St John's Ambulance for the first aid provision.
- Fireworks need to be purchased by end August at the latest to qualify for a discounted price.

- John and Paul emphasised that, as far as possible, to minimise the risk agreement from NNC should be place before the purchase of the fireworks.

John agreed to approach MPC for a grant towards the insurance and first aid costs, as was received in 2025. TCAM also agreed to look at providing sponsorship, given the event provides income for the Centre.

4. **Skate Mawsley Project**

MVA hold the funds raised by the Skate Mawsley project, via GoodHub on behalf of the Project. The total held currently is £3,997; this money is to be used as match funding for new skate ramp facilities in the village.

The Skate Mawsley Group are now looking at a new ramp for around £55-£60k with the option of adding onto this in the future if further funds become available. Skate Mawsley are looking to fund the new ramp from grant funding, their own fundraising and MPC input. The preferred grant source to apply for is now Mick George. The Group are currently clarifying who would be the primary applicant for any grant application. The MVA is not in a position to be the primary applicant for any grants but will continue to hold any money raised by Skate Mawsley on their behalf as part of their fund-raising activities.

5. **Village Newsletter**

John, as Editor, gave an update:

The next Newsletter will be issued mid-Sept with copy required by 3rd week in Aug. The following one will be issued first week of Dec (copy by mid-Nov) to allow for communication of Christmas events in the Village. John will contact all contributors, User Groups and advertisers with the dates, and John and Jenny will put something on the Village Facebook pages in advance about the forthcoming Newsletter, encouraging articles and adverts.

John added that he was pursuing the idea of a 'dog related' article/page given the number of dog owners in the Village – e.g. an article on dogs/dog ownership and a 'post a picture of your dog'.

6. **Regular village litter picks**

As previously agreed, going forward the plan is to organise two litter picks a year in April and September (after the Easter and Summer school holidays).

A successful litter pick was held on Sat 26th April with a good number of volunteers and 20 bags of litter collected.

The next litter pick will be on Sat 27th Sept, starting at 11.00am, with TCAM acting as the hub for the activity. As previously, Nicola agreed to provide the litter pickers and drinks for volunteers. Volunteers will be assigned to different parts of Mawsley to litter pick and made aware that they are litter picking under their own responsibility with no liability on the MVA.

Jenny will publicise the event on the two Mawsley Facebook pages and the MVA one.

7. **Extra Village benches**

The background to this is that Jenny has been approached by a village resident with the excellent suggestion of the provision of more benches in Mawsley for those with disability issues and recovering from ill health. The areas suggested were the eco meadow and something along the footpath by the wood and /or beside Old Gorse Way.

The first step is to contact NNC as the landowner of the eco meadow about providing permission. She is working with Jim Hakewill, NNC Councillor, to ascertain who to speak to in NNC for this information. Jim has had an initial response which was generally positive and

gave high level information that any benches would have to meet certain criteria. Jim is now seeking further detail and a contact name.

8. **Date of Next Meeting - Tues 21st October at 7.15pm, at TCAM (prior to TCAM Meeting).**

9. **Actions:**

Progress litter pick on 27 th September	Jenny
Research implications of deregistering from Companies House & uploading of accounts to Charity Commission	Jenny & John
Continue to pursue benches idea	Jenny