

# Malvern Hills Trust

## Ordinary Meeting of the Board

The Council Chamber, Avenue Road, Malvern WR14 3AF

Thursday 11 July 2024 7pm

### Agenda – Revised 8 July 2024

#### Introduction

1. Apologies for absence (Robert Berry, John Michael, Mike Wilkinson)
2. Investment Report for July 2024 (Ed Caswell of RBC Brewin Dolphin in attendance)  
**Paper A Confidential pages 4-28**
3. Chair's Announcements
4. Declarations of Interest
5. Public Comments

#### Confirmation of Previous Board Meeting

6. To confirm the Minutes of the Board meeting held on 9 May 2024  
Pages 4-9  
Confidential pages 2-3
7. Matters arising from the previous Board meeting not otherwise on the agenda

#### Items for Decision

8. Bill/Public Consultation Update (verbal)
9. Delegated authority – budget sign off levels **Paper B Pages 10-12**
10. Annual review of temporary fencing on the Malvern Hills **Paper C Pages 13-15**
11. Property Management – reported land movement on approach road to St Ann's Well  
**Paper D Pages 16-20**
12. External Audit and Annual Meeting
13. Annual review of risk management strategy  
To note the recommendations from FAR:
  - that the Board approve the commissioning of a shorter risk management document with more succinct content, with relevant committees taking ownership of respective areas.
  - that a risk management workshop be arranged for all Trustees to consider any movement in final risk scoring and overall shifts to red/amber/green.
14. Urgent Business

14.1.

#### **Motion of support for MHT staff proposed by Charles Penn, Chair of Staffing Committee**

That the Board

- ◆ notes the recent campaign of disinformation against the Malvern Hills Trust, in which unfounded, inflammatory and grossly misleading statements have been made about the organisation and its work;
- ◆ acknowledges the negative effects this toxic activity may have had on members of staff at all levels of the organisation;
- ◆ conveys its heartfelt thanks to all staff for their forbearance and stoicism, and for the professional manner in which they have continued to discharge their duties during this difficult time.

14.2 Health & Safety

**Paper F (separate circulation)**

14.3 Governance Committee vacancy

14.4 Staff/Trustee social group

**Paper G (separate circulation)**

## **Other Committee Business for Decision**

### **15. Finance, Administration & Resources Committee – meeting of 20 June 2024**

- 15.1. Chair of Committee – verbal updates and questions
- 15.2. Resolutions recommended to Board (not otherwise on the agenda)
  - that the Board note the actions now being taken by MHT staff, further to the special Board meeting of 5 October 2023, to source an alternative Data Protection Officer and arrange GDPR training for staff and Trustees.

### **16. Land Management Committee – meeting of 27 June 2024**

- 16.1. Adoption of the Minutes
- 16.2. Chair of Committee – verbal updates and questions (led by Sheila Wren in the absence of the Chair and Vice-Chair)
- 16.3. Resolutions recommended to Board (not otherwise on the agenda)
  - that the Board approve the installation of Malvern Wells Parish Council's preferred design of signage, albeit with two posts per sign in all locations for visual attractiveness. The Peachfield Road sign is to be integrated in the space with other street signs.
  - that the approach of finding consensus and a placemaking ethos should become the Trust's regular approach to land and property matters.
  - that the Board approve the proposed timetable for the production of the Land Management Plan 2026-2031.

## **Items for Information**

### **17. Red flags on the Risk Register**

To note that the CEO considers the following red risks to be of current concern to the Board:

- 2.4 Changes to Local Government Ward Boundaries.
- 3.1 Loss of reputation.
- 3.2 Adverse publicity, loss of confidence, loss of influence, impact on staff morale.
- 3.5 Impact of local campaigns by groups or individuals diverting organisational focus.
- 5.4.1 Grant funding being reduced by unilateral changes to existing agreements made by Rural Payments Agency.

### **18. Management accounts for the 12 months ended 31 March 2024**

**Paper E Pages 21-29**

### **19. Dates of next meetings**

- 8 August 2024 – Special Meeting to discuss consultation results
- 12 September 2024

## **Confidential items**

Resolution to exclude the public for discussion of item 21 on the agenda on the grounds that publicity would be prejudicial to the public interest by reason of the exempt or confidential nature of the business to be transacted (matters relating to individuals/commercially sensitive business).

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## **CONFIDENTIAL**

20. Matters arising from the confidential section of the previous Board meeting not otherwise on the agenda