

Marchington Parish Council Minutes

Meeting held on 14th March 2023 at Marchington Village Hall

Present: Cllr Bullock, Cllr Hayes, Cllr Hayhurst, Cllr Mann, Cllr Morgan, Cllr Nixon, Cllr Tomkins.
 Ward Councillor – Cllr Hudson (20.34 – 20.55pm)
 Parish Clerk – Clare Nash
 7 Members of the public

Meeting opened at 7.30pm

1. Apologies for absence received & accepted: Cllr Roberts, Cllr Bicknell
2. Declarations of Interest received: Cllr Hayhurst – Item 8 a) iii)
 Cllr Mann – No vote on item 10.
3. The minutes of the meeting held on 14th February 2023 were signed as a true record. Proposed – Cllr Hayhurst
 Seconded – Cllr Nixon
4. Public Forum – Chair brought forward Item 10. Solar Fund Application – Marchington Tennis and Bowls Club (MTBC) Treasurer explained the club's need for a solar grant of £700 which would allow two urgent safety measures to be installed to the benefit of club members, volunteers and visitors. The estimates for the work total £696.95 and MTBC agreed to contribute £50 towards the works. Cllrs voted unanimously to provide a Solar Fund Grant of £646.95 to MTBC

MTBC Treasurer left the meeting at 7.50pm

5. Marchington Woodlands Permanent Agenda Item – MWVH will draw up a plan for a small fence in front of the hedge/ditch which the Clerk will forward to SCC for advice/permission. **Action: MWVH & Clerk**
6. Forestside Permanent Agenda Item - None
7. Other Organisations –To receive reports from outside organisations.
 - a) ESBC Report – (at 20.35pm). Cllr Hudson suggested that the PC invite new Chief Inspector to a PC meeting. Next year Cllr Community Fund increasing to £1500 per Councillor. He also reported that a New Village Enhancement Fund is available for projects with no match funding required. Two funding periods (Feb-April & June-Sept). East Staffs Sports funding increasing to £15K & he encouraged sports clubs to apply.
 - b) Staffordshire Police – previously circulated.
8. To consider planning applications and receive planning decisions review planning appeals and enforcement issues.
 - a) Planning Applications Received –
 - i) **P/2023/00077 - Proposal:** Change of use from Children's Care Home to Residential Care Home (Class C2) for for up to four young people between 16 years and 25 years of age (Class C2) **Location:** Hornbeam, Smallwood Manor, Uttoxeter Road, Netherland Green, Staffordshire, ST14 8NS **Comments: No comments**
 - ii) **P/2023/00175 - Proposal:** Prior Approval for the conversion of agricultural building to form a dwelling. **Location:** Newlands Farm, Lane From Netherland Green To Highwood Crossroads, Netherland Green, Staffordshire, ST14 8PP Grid Ref: 409683 33074 **Comments: No comment assuming all environmental issues are considered.**
 - iii) **P/2022/01145 - Proposal:** Demolition of outbuildings to facilitate the erection of 9 dwellings with associated garaging, detached garage, parking, alterations and demolition of rear wing to existing farmhouse and erection of a replacement two storey rear extension and provision of parking and workshop, together with construction of amended vehicular access (*Amended Plans and Description*) **Location:** (Bagshaws), High Street, Marchington, Staffordshire, ST14 8LD **Comments: Serious concerns were expressed over the proposed drainage plan. New documents have been submitted in the last week & clerk has asked for an extension for MPC comments until after the next meeting in April. It was suggested that the Parish Council could request a meeting with the developers to discuss these concerns. Action: Clerk to ask Walton Homes to attend the next PC meeting**
 - iv) **P/2022/01019 – Proposal:** Formation of vehicular access and installation of gates. **Location:** Land adjacent to Dovegate Prison Moreton Lane Marchington Staffordshire. Grid Ref: 414696 330528 **Comments: MPC is concerned about the long-term plan for this site on the floodplain and why such a large access for articulated vehicles is considered necessary? The area affected is on Marchington MOD Local Wildlife Site (LWS) & the ecological survey notes that these works (and any future development of the site) will result in a direct impact to wildlife. The Parish Council considers that this is an inappropriate development for this site.**

a) Decisions Received –

- i) **P/2023/00039 - Proposal:** Reduction in height of conifer hedge to 3m, crown reduction in height to 3m to 2 Yew trees on embankment of rear garden, felling of 3 Hawthorn trees on embankment in rear garden **Location:** 31 Woodland Views, Marchington, Staffordshire, ST14 8NF **Decision:** Permitted
- ii) **P/2022/00927 – Proposal:** Change of use from children's nursery with dormitory accommodation into a 12 bedroom residential eating disorder care accommodation with ancillary educational classrooms and a self-contained independent living area (Class C2), replacement windows and doors along with various other external alterations. **Location:** The Quadrangle, Smallwood Manor, Uttoxeter Road, Netherland Green, Staffordshire, ST14 8NS **Decision:** Permitted
- iii) **P/2022/00928 – Proposal:** Listed Building Consent for the change of use from children's nursery with dormitory accommodation into a 12 bedroom residential eating disorder care accommodation with ancillary educational classrooms and a self-contained independent living area (Class C2), for replacement windows and doors along with various other external and internal alterations. **Location:** The Quadrangle, Smallwood Manor, Uttoxeter Road, Netherland Green, Staffordshire, ST14 8NS **Decision:** Granted
- iv) **P/2022/01434 – Proposal:** Installation of a flood door on the front elevation. **Location:** Church House, Church Lane, Marchington, Staffordshire, ST14 8LJ **Decision:** Permitted

b) Enforcement Updates – None

9. Finance, Chair

To authorise payments as listed in Appendix A

Proposed – Cllr Tomkins

Seconded – Cllr Nixon

Cllr Mann advised the Council that David Daniels has agreed to carry out the Internal Audit for the Parish Council.

10. Solar Fund Application (see Public Forum)

11. Council owned property - To receive reports & action if required.

a) Play areas and outdoor park areas safety checks -

- i) Silver Lane playground monthly safety report. **Action: Cllr Nixon to send to clerk**
- ii) Forestside playground and football pitch monthly safety report, Cllr Hayes reported no issues.

b) Marchington Village Hall, Cllr Mann reported that the recent Revolvers night was very successful and raised funds towards the replacement entrance canopy. Cllrs agreed unanimously that the MVH trustees have permission to carry out the work. Quotes currently being sought.

c) Tree survey quotes - Chair reviewed the quotes received. Cllrs require the trees to be tagged. It was resolved to appoint Tree Development to carry out the survey. **Action: Clerk to arrange tree survey.**

12. Noticeboards for Play Areas – Cllr Nixon reviewed the quotes received. Cllrs questioned if PC has permission to put a noticeboard at Forestside football pitch since the land is owned by Evans Group. After discussion it was decided not to proceed with the proposal at Forestside but to go ahead at Silver Lane and to position the noticeboard at the end of the play area facing the football pitch which is on PC owned land. It was proposed that the project should be funded from the Solar Account. It was resolved to purchase a recycled plastic A2 size noticeboard from Greenbarnes Ltd With header text 'Marchington Parish Council' in white at a cost of £1,071. Vote taken for Solar Funding: Approved unanimously.

13. Councillors granted permission for Marchington Village Festival to use Silver Lane Playing Field for the festival in June 2023.

14. CPR Training – Chair reviewed the quotes received. Staffordshire First Aid were chosen as the provider for the first session and it is hoped that this can be arranged for May. **Action: Clerk to find out when & what time training available?**

15. Full Fibre Broadband (FFB) – Cllr Morgan reported that he & Karen Perrins had a meeting with Kate Kniveton MP, Draycott PC, SCC & Openreach. MP realised how policy was not being carried through in rural areas. 70% staffs already covered by FFB. There is a possibility that Marchington exchange could be used bring FFB to the village (SHE Project), decision to be made by the end of March but if not, 2024 is earliest date. MP very helpful but there is no more that PC can do.

Cllr Hudson arrived 8.34pm and left after giving his report.

16. Map lecterns & noticeboard – Cllr Hayhurst reported that the design of the maps is proceeding but there may be a snag with Forestside – ESBC Open Spaces Team have given permission to install however we may require planning permission. For the Woodlands SCC Highways have given permission for the installation but the clerk is checking if we need planning permission also.

17. Highways and Footpath issues, Clerk

a. Highways issues

- i. Flooding on B5017 at Birch Cross – Flooding has returned following recent rain, but traffic lights quickly installed. Cllrs had a useful visit to Upper Brook House Farm where resident had a suggestion to alleviate the flood problem. Flooding appears to be due to a blocked culvert under the road. SCC Highways are scheduled to clear out the ditch in Stock Lane & jet the culvert on 15th March and it is hoped this will solve the issue.
- ii. Missing Chevrons on the cliff and Birch Cross – have been reported to SCC Highways
- iii. CSW signs – Clerk has had a site meeting with a contractor and awaiting quote for installation of the signs. Hope to have all costs by April meeting.
- iv. HGV's & Industrial Estate traffic – Concern about HGV's getting lost in the village & causing danger to pedestrians & motorists. Residents would like additional signs at village entrances to make it clear that there is no access to the Industrial Estate. Clerk has reported via ReportIt as suggested by SCC Highways. **Action: Residents to report future incidents to Clerk & Cllrs who will forward the information to Horton's.**

b. Footpaths,

- i. Hound Hill to Forestside Footpath - Cllr Hayhurst reported on recent meeting with SCC Public Rights of Way Officers (PRWO) and landowner/farmer. Footpath (FP) No.53 crosses field of Elephant Grass ending at a fence & a ditch. Farmer would like to move the footpath to the Trigpoint field, but PRWO explained this would have to be a Permissive Path (PP). Moving a FP is expensive and longwinded. Farmer not keen to spend the money to get PP however if PC offered to pay then he would consider this. Also discussed FP No. 51 which has no exit onto Moreton Lane, farmer was willing to consider a PP here to the road. Cost of PP is not known. It was suggested that the PC could apply to the ESBC Village Enhancement Scheme for funding. **Action: Cllr Hayhurst to draw up a map to explain to Cllrs and provide costings.**
- ii. Woodlands Footpaths – some stiles have been repaired but others are not passable and will be reported.

18. Flooding,

- a) The Chair reported that the work on the bund behind Church Close is due to be started on 26th June and will take 8 weeks
- b) Flood risk survey – Chair reminded everyone that the deadline for the SCC survey on flooding is 20th March.

19. Election Procedures - Previously circulated information. Clerk is available to answer questions and give assistance if required.

20. HMP Dovegate Meeting - Cllr Morgan reported on recent meeting with new prison director. Traffic through the village was highlighted, they are aware of the problem but cannot police it, however they will reiterate rules to staff. Residents have conducted a survey and saw 33 cars in an hour turn towards the village. **Action: 1) Clerk to send info to Cllr Morgan. 2) Clerk to Invite Director to come to PC meeting later this year.** Flooding issue discussed and site visit to be arranged to follow up on this **Action: Clerk** Access to the Eastern Lakes for walkers was discussed, some checks to be made before access can be permitted but essentially no problem.21. Chapel Triangle – The possibility of fencing the Triangle was discussed. **Action: Clerk to check with SCC Highways if fence allowed to be installed around the triangle. Could SCC put up some bollards/reflective sticks to mark the edge of the triangle?**22. South Staffordshire Water - Recently properties in Windmill Drive and Moisty Lane were without water for 10 hours due to burst pipes in the area. SSW did not communicate effectively with residents or the Parish Council, no emergency supplies were provided despite phone calls from residents. **Action: Clerk to issue formal complaint to SSW that they did not communicate with village.** It was also reported that for vulnerable residents the Priority Services Register (PSR) was of no help at all. **Action: Clerk to make complaint to PSR** It was noted that the streetlight near to the burst pipe has been removed however further work is required to water pipe in this area. **Action: Clerk to ask EON to reinstate the lamppost.**

23. The provision of an additional dog poo bin at Station Road was discussed however Cllrs considered that sufficient bins are already provided in the village.

24. A request to replace some of the fence at The Square triangle was discussed however it was noted that the land belongs to the owners of the Hall therefore not a Parish Council matter.

25. Correspondence, Clerk

- i) Residents – re B5017 flooding and pothole.
- ii) Cllr Atkins & Darryl Evers – re B5017 flooding and potholes.
- iii) Abbots Bromley Neighbourhood Plan – forwarded to Cllrs.
- iv) Kings Coronation Fund – notified previous grant recipients & on website
- v) Smart Alerts (various) – forwarded to Cllrs and posted on social media

26. Urgent items for input onto the 11th April 2023 meeting - None

Meeting closed at 21.41pm

Date of Next Meeting –11th April 2023

Parish Clerk: Mrs Clare Nash – 20 Windmill Drive, Marchington, Uttoxeter, Staffs, ST14 8JP - Tel: 07549 164641
Email – marchingtonpc@gmail.com Web: www.marchingtonparishcouncil.org

Signed.....

Appendix A - March 2023					
Date	Monies received:	£			
01/02/23	Interest	£36.25			
	TOTAL OF RECEIPTS	£36.25			
Invoice Date	Invoices/Money to be paid out:	Net	Vat	Total	Chq No
31/10/22	Shires Weedfree Inv SI-707 (replacement chq - original chq lost in post & cancelled)	£150.00	£30.00	£180.00	2582
17/02/23	SPCA Inv SI-954 - Clerk Election Training Course	£30.00	£6.00	£36.00	2583
28/02/23	Cllr Morgan reimbursement for key cutting (Silver Lane height barrier)	£9.00	£0.00	£9.00	2584
28/02/23	Marchington Village Festival - sponsorship	£250.00	£0.00	£250.00	2585
28/02/23	Handyman salary & expenses (£44.57 fuel & topsoil)	£170.14	£7.43	£177.57	2586
28/02/23	HMRC - Class NIC	£32.49	£0.00	£32.49	2587
28/02/23	Previous clerk (reimbursement for Employers NIC paid)	£112.65	£0.00	£112.65	2588
28/02/23	Clerk salary	£568.40	£0.00	£603.88	2589
28/02/23	Clerk travel and expenses	£33.82	£1.66		
	TOTAL OF PAYMENTS	£1,356.50	£45.09	£1,401.59	
	As of 28th February 2023				
	Current Account	£1,007.97			
	Gold Account	£34,019.04			
	Solar Account	£55,763.16			
		£90,790.17			