

MINUTES OF MEETING

Held on: Tuesday 12th August 2014 at 7.30 p.m.
At: Marchington Woodlands Village Hall

Present: Chairman M. Robinson
Cllr. B. Darby, R. Parkes, C. Leedham and Mrs J. Crowe, G. Whitehead,
P. Nixon, A. Mann
Parish Clerk Mrs L. Hoptroff

Mr M. Guy – H.M. Prison Dovegate
P.C. Boulter
Mrs. M Brown
Resident of Marchington
Mr. D. Hayes – resident of Marchington Woodlands

		ACTION
1.	<u>APOLOGIES:</u> Cllr. R. Ford.	
2.	<u>MINUTES OF MEETING 8th July 2014:</u> Minutes accepted. Proposed: Cllr. Whitehead Seconded: Cllr. Leedham	
3.	<u>MATTERS ARISING FROM LAST MEETING:</u>	
3.1	<u>Playgrounds:</u>	
a)	<u>Silver Lane, Marchington:</u> The clerk reported that she had received the Annual Inspection report for the children's play area. She had discussed repairs/improvements with the Handyman, and these were being implemented. Cllr. Whitehead submitted his monthly report. The clerk reported that Mr Langston had requested the hedge bordering the playing field and the road be cut down to fence height. Chairman showed pictures and it was agreed that the clerk would arrange for this to be cut back. The clerk reported the signs had been updated.	Clerk
b)	<u>David Share Memorial Playground, Forestside:</u> The clerk reported that she had received the Annual Inspection report for the children's play area. She had discussed repairs/improvements with the Handyman, and these were being implemented. New platforms and paint for repairs to the multi-play unit had been ordered. Signs had also been updated. Cllr. Darby had submitted his monthly inspection report.	
c)	<u>Forestside Football Pitch:</u> The Clerk reported new pegs had been given to the Chairman; signs had been replaced regarding Dog Fouling and Emergency Numbers etc. Cllr. Darby reported a hole in the Football Pitch, Chairman to locate and repair.	Chairman
d)	<u>Green Lane:</u> The clerk reported she had chased the repairs to the road and Cllr. Mann said that some potholes/repairs had been made to the start/slope of the road.	
3.2	<u>SCC, Highway Matters:</u>	
a)	<u>Highways:</u> The signpost at the bottom of Marchington Cliff has now been repaired. The clerk reported that Mrs Grimley requested the hedge in Silver Lane be cut back; the clerk had established that the first three metres of verge/hedge are owned by SCC, and had arranged for this to be cut back on an annual basis. Mrs Grimley had also requested that the Sumac Tree opposite her house be cleared of the Ivy and Hawthorn that was pushing it out into the road (Photos were shown to Cllrs). The clerk had arranged for the handyman and helper to clear the Ivy/Hawthorn and strim the area around the tree. Cllr. Mann reported Moisty Lane had received some resurfacing and some potholes have been infilled in Windmill Drive.	
b)	<u>Neighbourhood Highway Teams:</u> The Clerk reported that the team had been in Marchington week 7 th July and some jobs had been undertaken. Following a discussion with SCC it was hoped they could return later in the year.	
3.3	<u>P.C. Boulter/Police Surgery:</u> P.C. Boulter was present at the meeting and	

<p>3.4</p> <p>3.5</p> <p>3.6</p> <p>3.7</p> <p>3.8</p>	<p>discussed with the Councillors the following: The annual retreat by the Jewish boys to Smallwood Manor School, following problems with local young people in previous years, the School had now put lockable gates on their premises. He requested that if the Cllrs saw or heard anything about them being abused/or abusing could they report it to the Police. The boys had been advised to stick to the footpaths rather than walk along the main roads as they did not have a great deal of road sense. Mr Hayes reported that in previous years they had been a nuisance in the Woodlands. P.C. Boulter also asked that if anyone sees groups of people gathering near the barrack blocks, then please will they inform the police straight away as there is concern that persons may be attempting to gain access to the site, which is not only private property, but also contains hazards of which they may be unaware.</p> <p>P.C. Boulter reported they were currently organising a Police Surgery and he would let the clerk have the Posters as soon as possible. The routine traffic checks outside the Prison on Morton Lane recently were also discussed.</p> <p><u>Prison Liaison Meeting:</u> Mr M. Guy the Prison Governor attended the meeting and introduced himself to the Parish Council. He said he would try and attend Parish Council meetings on a regular basis (every other month) and a meeting at the Prison was arranged for Wednesday 1st October, P.C. Boulter would also attend. The subjects discussed with Mr Guy were the Geo Amy vans through the village, the staff traffic in the early mornings and the release of prisoners, especially as some were walking into the village to catch a bus. Mr Guy explained that Geo Amy were contracted separate from Serco but they were working with ESBC to ensure they did not go through the village. Staff had been reminded they need a disc/permit to travel through the village to work. With regard to prisoners walking into the village on release he stated that there is a bus stop outside the prison with a timetable and did not understand why they walked into Marchington. He stated that once they were freed the prison could not stop them going where they wanted. Chairman asked him to check the bus timetable as some buses had been reduced. He told Cllrs. that the prison remained full and they were recruiting new staff, graduates etc. The Chairman asked if the paths surrounding the Prison could be cleared as he had received complaints from walkers that they were overgrown.</p> <p><u>Land at Marchington Woodlands:</u> P.C. Boulter brought the Cllrs up-to-date on the measures taken by the Police, SCC, and ESBC to ensure that the land around Mr Beech's house is cleared of cars, trailers, scrap and general rubbish along with other locations in the Woodlands. He said that after several meeting with Mr Beech there had been some progress. The authorities would continue to work with Mr. Beech to make sure the area is made safe and free from hazards by monitoring the area/sites. The Parish Council thanked P.C. Boulter for the help given by the police in this matter.</p> <p><u>BMX/Skateboard Track Committee:</u> Cllrs. expressed concerns about the soil put in the park for the young people to build a skate/bike track. The soil contains stones, bricks, glass, tiles etc. Chairman Robinson had inspected the soil as a qualified Health and Safety Officer and the clerk had checked with the Insurance Company and because of the poor quality of the soil if an accident happened the Insurance could be invalidated. It was agreed that the soil would have to be removed and replaced with good quality top soil. Cllr. Nixon said he could probably obtain some top soil, he would enquire. Chairman Robinson would arrange for Cllr. Ford to remove the existing soil/stones.</p> <p><u>Best Kept Village:</u> Chairman Robinson reported that Marchington came Second Place in the East Staffordshire District, small village section. He had attended the presentation evening and had been told that very often the judges visited that villages on the first day of the judging period which meant that villages needed to be in good condition from the beginning. The judge's report would be sent out in September and this would highlight where we lost points. He made suggestions for next year.</p> <p><u>Marchington Village Hall Committee:</u> Cllr. Crowe updated the Cllrs. on the</p>	<p>Chairman/ Cllr.Ford</p>
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	<p>recent events that had taken place to raise funds, it was suggested that the Village Hall Committee advertise for/appoint a dedicated fund raiser. Following discussions with SCC it may be that the problems with the Car Park could be more serious than first thought. A report was being completed. The condition of the wall was discussed and the possible measures to make it safe.</p>	
3.9	<p><u>Neighbourhood Plan/ESBC Local Plan:</u> Cllr Leedham and the clerk updated the Cllrs on the Neighbourhood Plan Steering Group. The meeting on 6th August 2014 highlighted that further discussions with ESBC were imperative before any further preparations/plans/meetings were made. The clerk reported that Robert Keith had been assigned to assist Marchington under the Planning Aid Scheme.</p>	
3.10	<p><u>Emergency Plan 2012:</u> This item is on hold until after the Neighbourhood Plan has been completed.</p>	
3.11	<p><u>Flooding Issues:</u> Mr T. Heapey attended the meeting to update the Cllrs. on the progress being made by the Environment Agency and Staffordshire County Council to alleviate the flooding in Marchington. The acceptance of a feasibility study and funding proposals. This was discussed in detail with the Councillors.</p>	Clerk
3.12	<p><u>Footpaths Dept. SCC:</u> The clerk report that she had received a complaint from a resident that the stiles in No.1. Footpath i.e. The Dingle up to Moisty Lane was overgrown and this had been reported to the Footpaths Department, SCC. Mr Hayes gave the clerk a map with two footpaths marked that needed attention, clerk to pass on the request to SCC, Footpaths Dept.</p>	
3.13	<p><u>Sheep in Church Close/Church Lane:</u> The problem of the sheep continues and despite contacting the owners of the sheep and the field they were still encroaching into people's gardens, the cricket pitch and the road. The clerk and nearly all the councillors have received complaints about the sheep (the Chairman had even put sheep back in the field on two occasions) and it was felt something must be done about them soon. Cllr. Whitehead suggested the Parish Council seek legal advice from Solicitors or have a letter sent to the owners. The matter was discussed with P. C. Boulter who said they could only take action if the sheep were on the road and could cause an accident. The clerk reported the owner was on holiday until 12/08/2014. Clerk to contact the owner about having the sheep permanently removed from the fields and if this was not done then a solicitor would be contacted.</p>	
3.14	<p><u>Defibrillator in Village:</u> As Cllr. Ford was not at the meeting this item was not discussed.</p>	
4.	<p><u>PLANNING:</u></p>	
4.1	<p><u>Planning Applications Received:</u></p>	
a)	<p><u>P/2014/0080</u> Erection of a detached carport and store with office above (revised Information) Non-Material Amendment – alterations to the external appearance by way of installation of 3 additional windows, garage doors & formation of a store room & the omission of the external staircase at Brick Hill Farm, Birch Cross, Marchington. ST14 8NX – Comment already submitted to ESBC due to time constraints. Permitted</p>	
b)	<p><u>P/2014/00825</u> Construction of a 5.1MW Solar Farm with ancillary development including solar panels and frames, inverter cabins, switchgear enclosure and metering point and security fencing at Land South of Moisty Lane, Marchington, Staffordshire.</p>	
	<p>(Uttoxeter Rural Parish has requested a copy of the Parish Council comments).</p>	
	<p>The parish council wishes to make the following comments:</p>	
	<p>The Parish Council would like to make sure a Construction Management Plan is in place specifically including time limits placed on the Lorries that will pass through the village to the site. This would need to take into account the times of the Milk Lorries and School Buses. The clerk was asked to ascertain the exact number and size of lorries that will come to the site and the roads they will take before submitting the Parish Council comments. Clerk to enquire further of a Section 106 agreements.</p>	Clerk
4.2	<p><u>Decision Notices Received:</u></p>	

a)	P/2014/00682 – Change of use from agricultural to equestrian use and creation of a menage Field 9332, Moisty Lane, Marchington. Permitted
4.3	Planning Committee Meeting Notices:
4.4	Other Correspondence/Matters: None
4.5	Appeal Applications Received: None
4.6	Appeal Decision Notices Received:
5.	CORRESPONDENCE:
a)	Reg Wynniatt-Husey, Marchington Village Shop – Request for £2,000.00 Grant. Grant Thornton – Audit – Completed – see New Business
b)	SPCA – Gazette – Distributed to Cllrs. Email from ESBC – Members allowances for Parish/Town Councils – It was agreed that Marchington councillors will not be taking/given allowances.
c)	Insurance renewal – 2 quotes from Came and Company – It was agreed to take the cheaper quote as the cover is the same.
d)	Alan White, Staffordshire County Council – Supporting people review - Acknowledged
e)	Email from Janette and Chris Prince – re Broadband – copy of letter sent to Andrew Griffiths – agreed to email Andrew Griffiths and BT. Clerk to Action
f)	Email from Karen Tanguy – re Broadband – copy of email sent to BT and Andrew Griffiths - agreed to email Andrew Griffiths and BT. Clerk to Action
6.	PAYMENT OF ACCOUNTS: <i><u>August 2014</u></i>
6.1	Monies received:
	Interest 10.67
	TOTAL RECEIPTS <u>£10.67</u>
6.2	Invoices/Money Paid Out:
	P. B. Enterprises – Mowing of Forestside £156.00
	Clive Keble Consulting Ltd (Neighbourhood Plan) £716.20
	Bloomin’ Gardens July Mowing £272.17
	Grant Thornton – Audit of Accounts £240.00
	The Play Inspection Company £143.88
	Came and Company Insurance £959.49
	Mr H. Hall £188.45
	Clerk Salary and Expenses £952.59
	H.M. Revenue and Customs £113.80
	TOTAL EXPENDITURE <u>£4,007.06</u>
	Proposed: Cllr. Parkes Seconded: Cllr. Darby Cllr. Nixon reported that he had completed the quarterly finance check and all was in order.
7.	NEW BUSINESS:
7.1	Grant to Village Shop: Mr T. Heapey attended the meeting to request the Parish Council grant £2,000.00 to the Village Shop to cover current cash flow problems. Mr Heapey outlined the financial situation of the shop and answered questions from the Councillors. This was discussed in detail. A vote was taken on the request and it was passed 5 votes for and 3 against. Cllr. Nixon expressed the opinion that the minutes should state “that this is a one off payment and would be the last time that the Parish Council gave money to the Village Shop”.

There being no further business the meeting was closed at 10p.m.
 Marchington Parish Council’s next meeting is planned for Tuesday 9th September 2014 at Marchington Village Hall at 7.30 p.m. (Please check the agenda in case there are any alterations to these details.)

SIGNED.....

DATED.....