

MARCHINGTON PARISH COUNCIL

MINUTES OF MEETING

Held on: Tuesday 13th January 2015 at 7.30 p.m.
 At: Marchington Village Hall

Present: Acting Chairman B. Darby, R. Parkes, G. Whitehead, A. Mann,
 R. Ford and P. Nixon
 Cllr. Hardwick - ESBC
 Mr S. Langston
 Parishioner not wishing to be named
 Darron Hayes
 John Wood
 Malcolm Jeffery
 Keith Blair
 Julia Hayhurst
 Elizabeth Webb – for part
 Phil Speechley - for part
 Coral Brereton – for part
 Neil Andrew
 Parish Clerk Mrs L. Hoptroff

Note: Before the meeting started acting chairman Brian Darby informed the meeting that the presentation by William Davies Ltd representatives on their proposals for the land in Jacks Lane, Marchington had been cancelled by them, they had informed the Parish Clerk that William Davies Ltd employees or their agents are not permitted to be filmed on camera giving presentations. Mr Langston said that he had contacted them and offered to switch off the video camera during that part of the meeting but they had declined. The parish councillors stated that Mr Langston had not contacted William Davies with their knowledge or approval.

This statement and Mr Langston's videoing of the Parish Council meetings was questioned by members of the public at the meeting with several residents stating that they had come specifically to listen to the presentation and did not appreciate the interference by Mr. Langston and his video camera.

The Chairman also read out a letter of support for the Parish Council from Mr I. Morgan.

ACTION

1.	<u>APOLOGIES:</u> Cllr. J. Crowe.	
2.	<u>MINUTES OF MEETINGS 9th December 2014:</u> Minutes accepted. Proposed: Cllr.Whitehead Seconded: Cllr. Parkes	
3.	<u>MATTERS ARISING FROM LAST MEETING:</u>	
3.1	<u>Playgrounds:</u>	
a)	<i>Silver Lane, Marchington:</i> Cllr Mann reported on the condition of playground. It was agreed to fully take down the conifer tree that had suffered the loss of several branches in the recent high winds, because it was very close to a horse chestnut and another conifer. The clerk showed Cllrs. photos she had taken of the tree damage. Following a discussion it was agreed to replant another tree in a suitable spot a little further away and after several suggestions on the type of tree the resident that lived opposite the tree was asked what she would like and she requested another conifer or at least an evergreen. Clerk to contact ESBC to see if they have any trees available.	Clerk
	The Clerk reported that the new children's playground rota had been sent out to Cllrs. for the period up to June 2015. This will be updated again after the Election.]	

	<p>The chairman read the notes prepared following the meeting on the 9th Jan. 2015. between Paul Rochfort, SCC, Footpaths Dept., Mr Langston, the Clerk and Cllr. Whitehead on site regarding the footpath across the playing field to the kissing gate. The result of the meeting was that the current kissing gate would remain and a small gate would be put closer to the main gate, Paul Rochfort to measure the exact position for the SCC, Footpaths Dept. workmen. The existing Public Footpath sign positioned at the kissing gate will be moved to the new gate and a permissive footpath sign will be erected by the kissing gate. Cllr. Hardwick requested the Parish Council consult with East Staffs Borough Council regarding the change of the footpath to a permissive path because he said a permissive path would have to be closed one day a year and as the path would cross ESBC land leased by the Parish Council they needed to be informed. Clerk to action.</p>	Clerk
	<p>The Clerk reported that she has a meeting with Sutcliffe Play consultant on Monday 19th January at the playground regarding the surface of the playground and would report back next month.</p>	Clerk
b)	<p><u>David Share Memorial Playground, Forestside:</u> Cllr. Nixon reported all in order except for the fencing dividing the playground and a house/flat on the estate. The clerk showed the Cllrs. photo's she had taken of the fence and reported that she had tried to contact the house owners but found it was up for sale and no-one was available. Clerk to write to the house ready for the new/old owner's attention.</p>	Clerk
c)	<p><u>Forestside Football Pitch:</u> Cllr. Nixon reported on the condition of the football field. He asked if a waste bin could be obtained from ESBC for use at the Football Field. The Clerk reported that a branch from a tree outside the football field had fallen inside the field; it was agreed that the clerk would arrange removal of the branch, but tree to remain.</p>	Clerk
d)	<p><u>Green Lane:</u> The clerk reported that the stile on Footpath No.41 had been reported to SCC.</p>	
3.2	<p><u>SCC, Highway Matters:</u></p>	
a)	<p><u>Highways:</u> The Clerk reported that recent reports to SCC, Highways were regarding flooding at Birch Cross and Long Hill and a fallen tree branch in Bag Lane. The Chairman read an email from SCC, Footpaths Dept. stating that on Footpath 46 and 47 two new stiles and two new stile steps have been replaced.</p>	
b)	<p><u>Neighbourhood Highway Teams:</u> Cllr. Nixon informed the meeting that as promised he had cleaned the signs following the hedge cut back by the Neighbourhood Highways Team. Cllr. Nixon asked if the ditch between his house and the crossroads (where the spring is/entrance to the field) could be reported to the team as in need of being cleared out because water is running down the road and is dangerous when it freezes. Clerk to report.</p>	Clerk
3.3	<p><u>P.C. Boulter/Police Surgery:</u> The clerk reported there had no contact with either PC Boulter or PC Shepherd since the last meeting but they had been sent the meeting dates.</p>	
3.4	<p><u>Prison Liaison Meeting:</u> The chairman stated that the date of the next meeting has been confirmed with Dovegate Prison for 21st January, 2015 at 6p.m. Cllrs. Darby, Mann and Nixon to attend.</p>	
3.5	<p><u>Land at Marchington Woodlands:</u> Cllr. Nixon confirmed he had taken some photographs but would take more over the coming months to forward to SCC.</p>	Cllr. Nixon
3.6	<p><u>BMX/Skateboard Track Committee:</u> Chairman asked Cllr. Ford if there was still interest in creating a skate-park and Cllr. Ford replied that some of the young people who had requested the skate park had now moved on or left the village. Chairman to ask in his report if anybody still wanted the Parish Council to pursue the skate-park/track.</p>	Cllr. Darby
3.7	<p><u>Best Kept Village:</u> The clerk reported she had received a letter from Community Council of Staffordshire and asked the Parish Council if they wished to enter this year. It was unanimously agreed that the Parish would enter. Clerk to progress.</p>	Clerk

3.8	<u>Marchington Village Hall Committee:</u> Cllr. Mann outlined the current programme to install oak front doors and windows to the toilets, repaint the stage area. He stated that a new kitchen floor in the John Ellwood Lounge would be installed this week.	
3.9	<u>Neighbourhood Plan/ESBC Local Plan:</u> The Chairman and clerk updated the Cllrs. and residents in attendance on the recent Steering Group meeting and Workshop by Planning Aid for England on the site allocation process. A discussion arose with the residents and Cllr. Robert Hardwick, ESBC on the time scale and work being undertaken with the Neighbourhood Plan and the ESBC Local Plan. Mr Andrew asked to be informed when the next Steering Group meeting was.	Clerk
3.10	<u>Emergency Plan 2012:</u> The chairman read a letter received from Mr William Reid, ESBC regarding Emergency Plans, it was discussed and agreed that the clerk would contact Mr Reid and tell him that the Parish Councillors were currently concentrating on the Neighbourhood Plan and would return to the Emergency Plan when it was completed and more time was available.	Clerk
3.11	<u>Flooding Issues:</u> The clerk reported that the invoice for the aqua bags had been paid. Cllr. Hardwick reported that he had also provided bags from his WASP fund which will be distributed to venerable residents. Cllr Mann said Woolley and Wainwright have hessian bags but would need some more sand. Clerk to obtain from ESBC. Mr Andrew stated that the drainage channel from the brook needs re profiling as had happened in previous years, follow a discussion it was agreed the clerk would contact the Flood Committee to ask if this was being considered by the Environment Agency.	Clerk
3.12	<u>Defibrillator in Village:</u> Cllr. Ford informed the meeting that he would liaise with the village hall committee about where the defibrillator could be situated to enable it to be connected to an electricity supply. A discussion arose regarding the best place in the village and the logistic of installing a heated cabinet. Cllr. Ford informed the meeting that it would be part funded by the British Heart Foundation and they would like to see volunteers to do CPR training.	Acting Chairman
3.13	<u>Silver Lane "Bollard":</u> Cllr Nixon reported on his meeting with Mr Langston, Iain Atherton, Entrust-ed.co.uk and the clerk on Monday 12 th Jan at 3.p.m. on site. Cllr. Nixon summarised the report from Mr Atherton, this sparked a somewhat heated debate with Mr Langston and the Cllrs. and the other residents at the meeting for some three quarters of an hour. Mr Langston suggested Cllr. Hardwick could fund the costs of the extra security to the height barrier from his WASP fund or other grant aid providers could be asked. Cllr. Hardwick said he had used this year's fund so it would have to be something that was put forward for the next financial year. The Cllrs said it was not so much the situation of spending tax payer's money on the height barrier more a situation of were the measures really necessary. The bollard was put in place at the advice of a Crime Prevention Officer and there were enough people with keys (Henry Hall, Stan Maxwell, John Gibb, Gordon Whitehead and the clerk) on hand to drop the bollard to allow any disabled persons wanting to use the park that could not walk or be wheeled to the areas they wanted to use, especially if notice was given prior to their visit. Mr Langston sited his farther in law, as an example of someone who could not walk to the picnic/play area. Cllr. Nixon offered to move the picnic tables closer to the kissing gate for use by people unable to walk across the grass. Cllr. Hardwick stated that if a car was needed to access the playground/picnic areas then perhaps the Parish Council should look at making a proper path from the gate to those areas. The Cllrs. unanimously voted to retain the bollard up at the moment but requested that the acting Chairman ask local residents if they knew of anyone/groups in the village that felt they could not use the playarea/picnic area because the bollard was up all day. Not forgetting the reason the bollard was put there in first place to deter travellers and car racers from using the playing field. Mr Langston told the meeting that he and four other residents in Silver Lane were prepared to put the bollard down in the morning and up in the evenings, but when questioned as to whom these people were he stated he could	

not give their names without their permission.
The Chairman to read out a letter he had received from Mr J. Gibb, resident of Silver Lane on the subject stating he would like the extra security but would go along with what the Cllrs. decided. He also stated that Mr. Langston did not speak on his behalf and had never stated he did.

3.14 Forestside Footpaths and Garage Area: The clerk reported she had received a response from Andrew Griffiths regarding the Forestside Footpaths he asked for the previous documentation between the Parish Council and the Crown/Treasury Solicitors so he could look into the situation. This had been sent to him and we were awaiting his response.

4. PLANNING:

4.1 Planning Applications Received:

P/2014/01662 – Erection of a single storey rear extension at 62 Jacks Lane, Marchington. **The Parish Council wish to make no comment.**

4.2 Decision Notices Received:

P/2014/01452 – Prior approval for the conversion of an agricultural building to form a dwelling on land at, Station Road, Marchington, Staffs. **Permitted.**

P/2014/01370 – Erection of a single storey rear extension, an open front porch and an enclosed side porch at Lower Brook Farm, Birch Cross, Marchington ST14 8NU. **Permitted**

4.3 Planning Committee Meeting Notices:

P/2010/01396 – Conversion and alteration to existing public house to form 2 dwellings including the partial demolition, installation and rear dormer windows, raising of the roof height and the erection of a first floor extension, erection of three link detached dwellings and a terrace of three dwellings, erection of two detached garages and construction of a vehicular access at Birch Cross, Marchington, ST14 8NX. **To be held on Monday 19th January, 2015.**

4.4 Other Correspondence/Matters: None

4.5 Appeal Applications Received: None

4.6 Appeal Decision Notices Received: None

5. CORRESPONDENCE:

Marchington Village Hall Committee – re representative after the May elections.
ESBC, Ben Willisroft, Planning Policy Officer – Conservation Area Appraisal Consultation and followup email. Clerk to invite Mr Willisroft to a future meeting.
SCC, Footpaths Dept. – Public Path Diversion Order in respect of Public Footpath Nos. 11(part) and 12(part) Marchington Parish.
SCC, Katrina Manegold, Connectivity Officer – re Broadband – Clerk to invite Ms. Manegold to a future meeting.

6. PAYMENT OF ACCOUNTS:

January 2015

6.1 Monies received:

none

TOTAL RECEIPTS

£0

6.2 Invoices/Money Paid Out:

Clive Keble Consulting Ltd (Neighbourhood Plan)	£1026.80
East Staffordshire Borough Council – Trade Waste	£68.90
Mr H. Hall	£188.45
Jane Hilton – repayment for stakes, ties etc.	£29.13
Clerk Salary, Neighbourhood Plan work and travel costs	£707.65
H.M. Revenue and Customs	£93.20

TOTAL EXPENDITURE

£2,114.13

Proposed: Cllr. Parkes Seconded: Cllr. Ford

7. NEW BUSINESS:

7.1 Rules for video recording: The clerk presented a copy of the rules for video recording she had prepared which needed to be checked, adopted and added to the web-site and noticeboards. However, due to time restraints it was agreed that the

	Cllrs would review these at home and any comments changes would be added/removed ready for adoption at the next meeting.	
7.2	<u>Wicker gate next to Footpath 46/47:</u> The clerk requested confirmation that the offer to pay for this gate to be replaced in Spring still stood. This was confirmed. Clerk to contact Mr Butler.	Clerk
7.3	<u>Newspaper Articles:</u> The clerk outlined the two recent articles in the Uttoxeter Newspapers, one with an allegation against the Parish Council that secret meetings are held or that people are told to leave meetings. The clerk told the meeting that as the parish were able to disprove these allegations a retraction/statement should appear in this week's edition of the Uttoxeter Advertiser. The second was an article about the planting of 12 trees in the Community Orchard by Mrs Jane Hilton and her family and friends which she had obtained from ASDA just before Christmas. The Chairman requested Mrs. Hilton be written to and thanked for her kind gesture and work. Clerk to action.	Clerk
7.4	<u>Gritbins:</u> Several residents present at the meeting requested that the grit bins be replenished following the recent snow and icy conditions. Clerk to contact SCC, Highways. A discussion followed on where gritting did or did not take place.	Clerk
7.5	<u>Light in Hall Lane:</u> Cllr. Mann requested that the street light in Hall Lane be reported as the light was not working and it was especially dark now that the new houses had been built. Clerk to action.	
7.6	<u>Uttoxeter Leisure Centre:</u> Cllr. Hardwick told the meeting that the renovated leisure centre would re-open on Saturday 17 th January, 2015 and invited everyone to attend the opening.	
7.7	<u>New Signpost in Windmill Drive:</u> Cllr. Mann asked if the road sign at the end of Windmill Drive could be reported for repair/replacement as it was very wobbly.	
7.8	<u>Hedge in Silver Lane:</u> The resident of Silver Lane reminded the clerk that the hedge had not yet been cut back in Silver Lane and she was fed up of having her car scratched. The clerk said it was on the SCC, job list but she would contact them to see if they knew when it would be cut back.	Clerk

There being no further business the meeting was closed at 10.15p.m.

Marchington Parish Council's next meeting is planned for Tuesday 10th February 2015 at Marchington Village Hall at 7.30 p.m. (Please check the agenda in case there are any alterations to these details.)

SIGNED.....

DATED.....