# MARCHINGTON PARISH COUNCIL

### MINUTES OF MEETING

Held on: Tuesday 13<sup>th</sup> October at 7.30 p.m.

At: Marchington Village Hall

Present: Chairman Cllr. Paul Nixon

Cllrs. Brian Darby, Gordon Whitehead, Ian Morgan, Darron

Hayes, Andrew Mann, and Julia Hayhurst.

Parish Clerk Mrs L. Hoptroff

Ward Cllr. S. Smith. Sara Botham - ESBC

Liz Webb Mick Marrison Keith Blair Steve Langston

**ACTION** 

- 1. **APOLOGIES**: Councillor Ford and Husey
- **DISPENSATIONS:** Cllrs. Darby, Whitehead, Morgan, Mann and registered an interest in the request for a grant from the Village Shop.
- 3. **PUBLIC PARTICIPATION:**
- **Sara Botham**; Neighbourhood Co-ordinator from ESBC attended the meeting to outline the system of making representations to the Neighbourhood Forum for grants to cover Neighbourhood Projects from the Neighbourhood Development Fund. She stated that projects needed to be submitted by the end of October for the November 25<sup>th</sup> forum. Various projects and situations were discussed.
- **3.ii Liz Webb**; Liz outlined her bid for hedging from the woodlandstrust.org.uk and her hope that the hedging could be put by the fencing between Silver Lane and the Playing Field. Liz circulated her ideas on a fact sheet. This was discussed and it was agreed that the Parish Council would contact Bloomin' Gardens to arrange for ground preparation and Liz would put a team of volunteers together with a possible planting date of 7<sup>th</sup> November, provided that hedging had been delivered. Clerk to contact Bloomin' Gardens.

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4. MINUTES OF MEETING ON 8<sup>th</sup> September 2015:

Minutes accepted. Proposed: Cllr. Whitehead Seconded: Cllr. Morgan

MINUTES OF EXTRA-ORDINARY MEETING ON 23<sup>rd</sup> September 2015:

Minutes accepted. Proposed: Cllr. Hayhurst Seconded: Cllr. Hayes

5. MATTERS OF REPORT/DISCUSSION OF PUBLIC PARTICIPATION None

- 6. **PLANNING:**
- 6.1 Planning Applications Received:
- 6.1a P/2015/01310 Erection of a standby electricity generation plan & associated communications and welfare building, fuel tanks, control building, substation and acoustic fencing Land At, Green Lane, Marchington, Staffordshire. The Parish Council wish to make the following comments:

The Parish Council wishes to strongly object to this application and make the following comments:

- 1. This application does not appear to be a **standby** electricity generation plant as stated in the application documentation; it seems to be a **miniature power generating plant** which does not seem to produce Green energy, in contrast to the solar farm previously permitted under planning consent P/2015/00791.
- 2. The planning statement reads "Once fully constructed the likely/general hours of

operation will be between the start of November until the end of February, between 15:00 and 21:00. Additionally if extra supply is required by the National Grid i.e. due to major generators going offline or a sudden increase in demand, then the proposals would contribute to the electricity supply to the area". This is the peak highest grid tariff. This is not back-up/standby but seems to be a production of electricity from diesel generators when the tariff is at its highest level

- 3. Generators approx. 16ft long, 5ft. wide and 8 ft. high will be raised a further 3ft 3inches from the ground on a concrete platform, making a total of 11ft. from the ground this will make **huge** permanent structures **plus** above ground diesel storage tanks, that will be visible from the Marchington Conservation Area and Sudbury Hall. Not to mention the Village and the Woodlands. Also there will be a welfare building on the land with toilets and a canteen, this is a **yellow** portable building.
- 4. Noise (although we have not been given noise levels) and Industrial Pollution (fumes) from these generators will also be a concern for the residents of Marchington and the occupants of the Turkey Farm (food chain) and Dovegate Prison adjacent. Likewise should leakage from the diesel tanks occur either by accident or sabotage/theft, positioning a power generating plant so close to the railway lines and the River Dove in an area that floods is a concern to the Parish Council.
- 5. Green Lane is a small and narrow track, accessed through the village centre and no matter how many restrictions are put on HGV's these vehicles will have to enter the village centre going passed the school to access the lane. We are assuming that HGV's will use this route on a regular basis to fill the large diesel tanks. If not how are these tanks going to be filled?
- 6. Electricity generation plants on this scale should not be situated in Greenfields but adjacent to existing electricity plants or on suitable brownfield sites.

In conclusion the emerging Neighbourhood Plan Policy RE1 is intended to enable appropriate renewable energy projects; this proposal should not be regarded as renewable and therefore falls outside that policy. As such, in addition, it would be regarded as a freestanding, non – renewable small scale power station standing in open countryside which is contrary to the emerging/recently adopted ESBC Local Plan Policies.

STRATEGIC POLICY 8 - Development outside Settlement Boundaries

STRATEGIC POLICY 24 - High Quality Design

STRATEGIC POLICY 28 - Renewable and Low Carbon Energy Generation

Due to the uncommonness and controversial nature of this application the Parish Council feel that it would be advisable for this application to be taken to Planning Committee where it can be discussed by Planning Committee members.

- 61.b P/2015/01162 Erection of a replacement canopy porch at Marchington Village Hall, The Square, Marchington ST14 8LF. The Parish Council wish to make no comment.
- 6.2 <u>Decision Notices Received</u>:
- **6.2.a** P/2015/01026 Erection of a general purpose agricultural building at Cliff Grange, Marchington Cliff, Marchington Woodlands, Staffs. ST14 8ND. **Permitted.**
- **6.2.b** P/2015/00791 Construction of a Solar Farm with ancillary development including solar panels and frames, substation, comms building, inverter cabins, switchgear housing, security fencing and security cameras Land at, Green Lane, Marchington.
- **P/2015/00266** Erection of 16 dwellings, formation of new access to Jacks Lane and associated open space (Amended drawing and information relating to the site layout, archaeology, ecology and flood risk received 16<sup>th</sup> July 2015) Land At, Jacks Lane, Marchington, Staffs. **Refused at planning committee.**

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- 6.3 Planning Committee Meeting Notices: None
- 6.4 Neighbourhood Planning: Cllr Mann informed the meeting that the six week consultation period of the Draft Neighbourhood Plan had commenced on 28<sup>th</sup> September and would close on the 10<sup>th</sup> November, Newsletters and Questionnaires had been distributed to all houses in the parish and two Exhibitions had taken place with one to be

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undertaken on Wednesday 14<sup>th</sup> Oct. at The Barn. Copies of the draft plan are available for residents to view in the Community Shop, Village Hall and on the web site.

6.5 <u>Local Plan:</u> The Inspectors Report on the Local Plan and its consequences on Marchington were discussed along with an explanatory email from the planning consultant Clive Keble. Cllr. Smith was involved in this discussion.

## 7. FINANCE AND ADMINISTRATON:

7.i

PAYMENT OF ACCOUNTS:	October2015
Monies Received:	
Interest	£11.62
Compensation from Royal Bank of Scotland	£250.00
Sun and Soil Payment	£10,000.00
VAT Refund	£1419.17
Second Half Precept Payment	£14,649.13
TOTAL RECEIPT	£26,329.92
Invoices/Money Paid Out:	
Clive Keble Consulting Ltd (Neighbourhood Plan)	£1,259.40
Community Council of Staffordshire – Statistical Report for N.P.	£150.00
Bloomin' Gardens & Landscapes Ltd – Grass Mowing – September	£228.88
P.B. Enterprises – Grass Mowing – Forestside	£180.00
W.N. Davies – Village Hall Carpet	£350.00
Staffordshire Bespoke Joinery Ltd - Noticeboards	£1,380.00
East Staffordshire Borough Council – Trade Refuse upto 31/12/2015	£68.90
East Staffordshire Borough Council – Roadsweeping etc. to 31/13/15	£335.40
Mr H. Hall – Grounds Maintenance	£220.15
Clerk Salary, Overtime, N.P. Work and Expenses	£1,307.36
H.M. Revenue and Customs – Clerk Tax	£163.80
The following five payments are the second part payment (50%) from the November 2014 Precept for the year	
2015/16	1
Marchington Village Hall (Section 133)	£1,000.00
Marchington Woodlands Village Hall (Section 137)	£1,000.00
St. Peter's Church PCC – Parish Magazine (Section 137)	£325.00
St. Peter's Church PCC – Churchyard Maintenance (Section 214/(6))	£1,000.00
St. John's Church PCC – Churchyard Maintenance (Section 214/(6))	£1,000.00
TOTAL EXPENDITURE	£9,968.89

Proposed: Cllr. Whitehead Seconded: Cllr. Darby

### 8. PROPERTIES/GROUNDS:

- 8.a <u>Silver Lane, Marchington:</u> Cllr. Hayes submitted his report on the play area this was discussed. Cllr. Morgan requested Environment Agency remove trees and debris from the brook bordering the playing field/cricket ground. Clerk to make request.
- **8.b** <u>David Share Memorial Playground, Forestside and Football Pitch</u>: Cllr. Nixon gave his report on the play area and football field. This was discussed. Clerk to ask Handyman to cut back bushes on footpath to play area.
- 8.c <u>Green Lane:</u> Nothing to report.
- 8.d <u>Village Hall:</u> Cllr. Mann updated the Cllrs. on renovations to the Village Hall. He stated that Cllr. Atkins would be opening the new village hall doors on Friday. It was agreed that the cheque for £10,000.00 received from Sun and Soil could be released to the Village Hall Committee.

#### 9. HIGHWAYS AND GENERAL PURPOSES:

- **9.i** <u>Highways/ Neighbourhood Highways Team</u>: Reports made by the clerk to SCC Highways/Neighbourhood Highways Team during the previous month are below:
  - 1. "No through road sign" at the top of Woodroofes Cliff, overgrown with Ivy.
  - 2. Gully lid at Birch Cross.
  - 3. Finger post at Seven Stars, Marchington Woodlands.

- **9.ii** Footpaths: Report made during the previous month to SCC. Footpaths Department Footpath No.3 four stiles that needed attention.
- **9.iii** <u>ESBC</u>: Reports made to ESBC during the previous month: Requests for street signs at Hall Road, Allens Lane (replacement) and Thorney Lanes, Marchington Woodlands.
- **9.iiii**Enforcement: Clerk reported an email had been sent to ESBC enforcement to request they contact the builder of the properties in Allens Lane/Hall Road to replace the hedging next to the wall. Enforcement response was that Condition 5 of Planning Permission P/2013/01021, the builder has to carry out the planting "in the first planting and seeding season following the first occupation of any of the dwellings or the completion of the development, whichever the sooner". Clerk was asked to calendar the situation for January.
- 10. OTHER ORGANISATIONS:
- **10.a** Police: Nothing to report at present. P.C.'s Boulter and Shepherd did not attend the meeting.
- **10.b HM Prison, Dovegate:** The next meeting at the Prison is scheduled for 28<sup>th</sup> October, 2015. Councillors Nixon and Hayes to attend. Cllr. Smith was invited to also attend.
- **Flooding Committee:** Councillor Smith informed the meeting that he had received information about the drainage in Marchington and possible errors that could have occurred when the Prison was built in 2000. He suggested when he had further facts it could be advantageous for the Parish Council to employ an engineer/legal representative to look into it. This was discussed.
- 11.a GENERAL:
  - Chairman's/Councillors' Reports:
- 11.1 <u>Land at Marchington Woodlands:</u> The clerk reported she had received an email from SCC. regarding a meeting with ESBC about this situation. Another meeting with SCC, ESBC, a P.C. representative and the police was being organised.
- 11.2 <u>Cricket Club:</u> Cllr Morgan informed the meeting that Uttoxeter Cricket Club had voted to use Marchington Cricket Ground in three years' time, the interim time would be used to upgrade the pitch and refurbish the Pavilion. In the meantime they had agreed that Tutbury could use the facilities for a youth development team. This was discussed in detail. Clerk to speak to solicitor to see when the Cricket Club would be legally owned by the Parish.
- 11.b Clerk's Report:
- 11.1 Forestside Footpaths and Garage Area: The clerk reported that SCC, Highways had agreed to take over responsibility for the pavements that touch the highway but would not adopt the internal footpaths and garage areas. This was discussed and it was agreed to contact Andrew Griffiths M.P. again.
- 11.2 <u>Heart Stop Course: 22<sup>nd</sup> September 2015</u>: Attendees of the course agreed that this was a very interesting and informative course, well presented.
- **11.3 Defibrillators**: Cllr. Hayes updated the council on the current position with the Marchington Woodlands defibrillator.
- **11.4** Best Kept Village Competition: The clerk distributed that Judges comments on this year's competition. These were discussed. Copies of the comments would be put on the noticeboards.
- 11.5 <u>Emergency Plan:</u> It was agreed to remove this items from the Agenda until a future date.
- **Solar Farm; Moisty Lane:** The clerk reported that we were still awaiting the further £10,000.00 from sun and soil. Emails from Sun and Soil had indicated this would be in several months' time.
- 11.7 <u>Solar Farm; Green Lane:</u> The clerk presented Section 106 documentation for signature by Councillor Darby who was the only cllr. not present at the meeting when the permitted application was discussed. Cllr. Darby signed the forms.
- 11.8 <u>Camping on Community Orchard:</u> The clerk reported that following discussions with the Insurance Company, there would be no way the Parish Council could be held responsible for anyone permitted to camp on the community orchard. A discussion arose and the councillors agreed that camping could be permitted on an individual basis

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provided Parish Council permission had been sort and campers agreed to leave the orchard in a good condition with no rubbish left etc. Clerk to contact resident who made the enquiry.

Village Shop: Councillors with a vested interest left the room at this point. The request

- 11.9 <u>Village Shop:</u> Councillors with a vested interest left the room at this point. The request for assistance in replacing fridges was discussed following inspection of the shop accounts that were presented just before the last meeting, by the remaining councillors and it was agreed after a long discussion, that a small donation of £200.00 would be given towards the fund for the new fridges. Cllrs. stressed this would be a final donation to the shop. Proposed Cllr. Hayes and Seconded Cllr. Hayhurst.
- 11.c <u>NEW ITEMS FOR DISCUSSION:</u> None

#### **CORRESPONDENCE:**

**Mr. Hilton:** Request for street sign in Hall Road. (This had already been dealt with before the meeting and noted in the ESBC section).

- 12. ANY OTHER BUSINESS:
- **12.1 Clir. Hayes** brought the Countryside Alliance for businesses to the attention of the meeting.
- **12.2 Councillor Morgan** informed the meeting that the Bulls Head Public House was likely to go up for sale and he was hoping to make it an asset for community value. He was collecting signatures and would present this to the Parish Council at a future meeting. This would hopefully slow down the process.
- 13. DATE, TIME AND PLACE OF NEXT MEETING:

There being no further business the meeting was closed at 9.45p.m.

Marchington Parish Council's next meeting is planned for Tuesday 10<sup>th</sup> November 2015 at Marchington Village Hall.

(Please check the agenda in case there are any alterations to these details.)

SIGNED	DATED