

Marchington Parish Council

Minutes of Meeting

Tuesday 13th September at Marchington Village Hall – 7.30pm

Present: Chairman – Cllr Andrew Mann
Cllrs. Paul Nixon, Darron Hayes, Brian Darby, Julia Hayhurst, Reg Husey, John Chubb, Ian Morgan
Parish Clerk - Mrs C Thompson
Ward Cllr Stephen Smith (part)
PCSO Lucinda Hadfield (part)
Mr M Marrison – MDAG
Mr T Heappey – Marchington Flood Group
3 members of the public

1. **Apologies for Absence** – Cllr Ford
2. **Declarations of Interests and Dispensations** - None received
3. **Public Participation**
Mr M Marrison – MDAG
Mr T Heappey – Marchington Flood Group
Mr M Robinson
4. **Minutes of Previous Meeting**
Approval of minutes for Parish Council meeting held on 12th July 2016 - Previously Circulated
Proposed –Cllr Hayhurst, Seconded –Cllr Nixon
5. **Matters of Report/Discussion of Public Participation.**
6. **Planning**
- 6.a **Planning Applications Received**
P/2016/00978 - Jacks Lane, Marchington -Outline application for the erection of up to 5 dwellings including details of access.
Mr M Marrison addressed the meeting speaking on behalf of MDAG, he raised concerns on behalf of other villagers in regards to siting and size of the proposed development as well as the size of the proposed access road and the impact on the current sewer system. The proposal in the application to remove the established hedgerow goes against the Marchington Neighbourhood Plan.
Although the council cannot object to the outline application in principle, all councillors are concerned about ensuring the finished development is as sympathetic to the local area as possible.
Action – Cllr Morgan and Mann to meet with ESBC planning to discuss conditions that can be put in place, for when the detailed application is received. Clerk to arrange meeting with Alan Harvey – ESBC Planner.
P/2016/01131 –Gardeners Cottage, Houndhill, Marchington, Staffordshire, ST14 8LN
Listed Building application for the alterations to include removal of existing garage doors and insertion of glazed screen, infilling of existing garage floor void to reinstate floor levels, replacement kitchen window and removal of internal block walling.
Action – Clerk - The Parish Council wish to make no comment
6. b **Planning Applications Decisions**
P/2016/01108 – Marchington Industrial Estate – Prior Notification for the demolition of units 4, 7 & 14
APPROVED
P/2016/00770 – River Hayes, Moisty Lane - Erection of a two storey side and single storey rear extension and front porch.
APPROVED
6. c **Planning Appeals Received**
None
6. d **Neighbourhood Plan** - Referendum 15th September
Action - Clerk-to contact monitoring officer to inform them Cllr Morgan and the Clerk will be present at the count.
6. e **Councillor Questions** – None

- 7. Finance and Administration**
- 7. a Precept** – Precept Information from Cllr Husey previously circulated.
Cllr Husey presented his findings to the council. These can be used for future reference when discussing the Parish rate of the council tax
- 7. b Report on Payments to be made** – Appendix A
Proposed –Cllr Morgan, Seconded –Cllr Nixon
- 7. c Councillor Questions** – Vote on request for quarterly accounts to be published on website – Cllrs voted in favour of this proposal
Action – Clerk – to forward to webmaster.
- 8. Properties and Grounds**
- 8. a Silver Lane Playground Report – Cllr Nixon**
Action – Cllr Nixon to email report to clerk.
- 8. b Forestside Playground & Football Pitch Report – Cllr Hayes**
- 8. c Green Lane Community Orchard** – Nothing to report
- 8. d Village Hall** - Cllr Mann reported that the loft storage space has been cleared . A structural engineer has looked at the problem and produced an independent report; from this re-enforcing works have been completed. Cavity wall insulation has been installed throughout all the building. Central heating has been installed in the John Ellwood Lounge. Planning application for the John Ellwood lounge has been re submitted.
- 8. e Marchington Cricket Club** – Cllr Morgan reported to the meeting.
Work is being completed on the toilets with a deadline of the 24th September when the pavilion is being used by St Peters Church. A discussion took place on hire charges for the future.
Action - Clerk to look at current village hall pricing so we can produce a tariff for one off lets.
- 8. f Councillor Questions**
- 9. Highways & General Purpose**
- 9. a Staffordshire County Council/ Neighbourhood Highway Team Matters** –
Signpost at bottom of Cliff - pointing the wrong way.
Name sign requested for Forestside.
Action – Clerk – Report to SCC
- 9. b Highways** -Patching and ditch Clearance has taken place on Moisty Lane. Cllr Darby reported a loose drain cover at bottom of Woodland Views. Cllr Ford reported an accident on Houndhill.
Action – Clerk to report drain cover and speak to Jeff Green re condition of Houndhill.
- 9. c Footpaths** – Signpost 40 has been repaired, dog poo bin still needs to be reinstated.
- 9. d ESBC** – Ward Cllr Stephen Smith reported that the Neighbourhood Development Fund will be changing over the next year. ESBC have decided to support Burton YMCA over the next year.
- 9. e Enforcement** - Church Lane Hedge - Ongoing
- 9. f Councillor Questions**
- 10. Other Organisations – Updates and Reports**
- 10. a Police** – PCSO Lucinda Hadfield updated the committee on the current situation with the travellers on the old Barracks Site at Forestside.
During August there was an incident involving two tractors meeting on the corner of Church Lane (nearly hitting Church House) opposite St Peters Church. Cllr Morgan, PCSO Hadfield and Mrs Brown met and discussed options PCSO Hadfield reported these to Tim Buxton at SCC.
PCSO Hadfield was unaware of complaints raised by residents in regards to the number of accidents on Marchington Cliff
Action – Clerk - to forward emails to police re Marchington Cliff and research setting up a community Speed Watch
- 10. b HM Prison Dovegate** – Complaint from Church Lane resident re number of staff cars travelling through village. Meeting with Director has been requested.
Action – Clerk – Update Cllrs when meeting date is known.
- 10. c Flooding Committee** - Mr Tony Heapey spoke to update the council
David Hughes SCC is working on costs for the forthcoming projected works.

Mott McDonald are working on new modelling. The last flood came into the village a different way so they are working on this.

Flood wardens – Research is ongoing to set up flood wardens in the village, a number of agencies would be involved in training - Police, Health and Safety etc. There would also be costs for equipment needed to set system up. Current plans involve road closures on Moreton Lane and The Square.

Cllr Smith and Mr Heappey have been looking at the problem in regards to planning and sewer problems in particular that the pumping station has not been altered since 1980. A meeting has taken place with Andy Jones at which a statement concerning the current situation in regards to sewerage was requested .A future meeting is being arranged with Severn Trent and SCC.

10. d Councillor Questions

11. General

11.a Chairman’s – Councillors’ Reports

- Land at Marchington Woodlands – Ongoing
- Marchington Woodlands Village Hall – Appendix B – Statement from Finance Officer Cllr Hayes was read out
- **Action – Clerk – to forward statement to Village Hall Committee Chairman**
- Marchington Solar Farm – Deed Of Benefit

A discussion took place on how and where the Deed of Benefit should be spent.

Councillors decided to defer any decision until later in the financial year when the Parish Council is certain what income will be received next year from ESBC.

Action – Clerk – Cost two projects and report back to Cllrs

- Silver Lane Play Area – Grants. Tesco & Neighbourhood Development Fund.
- Project has made it into the final three for the Tesco funding from the Government Levy on plastic bags. We will benefit from a grant of £12,000, £10,000 or £8,000 depending on how votes are cast by shoppers in store from 26th September – 9th October.

Sara Botham (SCC) has contacted Cllr Hayhurst – Neighbourhood Development Fund is available for up to £7,500

Clerk to produce press release for Cllr Hayhurst for review. Clerk to contact school and Uttoxeter Branch of Tesco to ask for support in our campaign.

11.b Clerk’s Report

Article in Clerk Magazine re Neighbourhood Plan

External Audit report received – Matters Arising from Audit were discussed.

Action – Clerk – Audit to be put onto website and made available for public scrutiny.

Clerk Contact details – If urgent please contact Clerk by phone as emails will only be checked once a day.

Hedges around Village overgrown Allens Lane & Bag Lane

Action - Clerk - contact homeowners and request hedges are cut back

11. c New items for discussion

Travellers – Marchington Barracks

Mr Mark Robinson addressed the meeting to update on the situation. More travellers have arrived on site recently. Fire on the site and Fire Service were called. Police have been videoing the area. Clerk reported that the eviction is due to take the place in the morning and a clean-up has been set up and will take place as soon as the site is safe.

11. d Correspondence

Playground inspections – Annual Inspections received for both play areas . Forestside Play Area has no issues, Silver Lane remedial work on swings is advised.

Community Council of Staffordshire AGM 6th October all councillors welcome to attend.

11. e Councillor Questions

12. Any Other Business

Cllr Husey reported a dead tree on Hall Lane.

Action – Clerk – Contact Trent and Dove Housing.

There being no further business the meeting was closed at 10.50pm

Appendix A

Agenda Item 7b - Payment of Accounts

13th September

Date	Monies received:	
01-Aug	Interest	£14.89
TOTAL OF RECEIPTS		£14.89

Date	Invoices/Money to be paid out:	
30-Aug	PB Enterprises - Forestside Areas	£180.00
30- Aug	Bloomin Gardens	£457.77
11-Aug	Lawn mower Spares - Hire of mower for cricket club	£48.00
12-Sep	Catherine Thompson Clerk Salary	£423.80
12-Sep	Catherine Thompson Expenses & Mileage	£38.52
12-Sep	Henry Hall Grounds Maintenance	£311.70
17-Aug	Lavins - Neighbourhood Plan leaflets	£165.00
28-Aug	Grant Thornton - Audit Invoice	£360.00
12-Sep	Clerk Tax	£1.40
03-Sep	EON - Cricket Club Electricity	£30.21
24-Aug	The Play Inspection Company	£150.00
31-Jul	Clive Keble - Neighbourhood Plan Consultant	£873.60
		£3,040.00

Amount available in bank before deducting the above expenditures

£1,000.58

As at 31st Aug 2016

£35,353.64

Appendix B

Statement on VAT

The existing arrangement with Marchington Village Hall Trustees Committee whereby goods/services purchased at the request of the Village Hall owned by the Parish Council, has been reviewed with regard to the VAT situation.

The current system whereby the Parish Council purchase and reclaim the VAT and then the Village Hall reimburse the Parish Council the pre VAT amount is, after seeking advice, not considered to be lawful. Having taken advice from the Society of Local Council Clerks the response is that the system amounts to tax evasion and there are quite severe penalties.

Therefore, such an arrangement with the Village Hall or any other organisation must cease forthwith

Councillors can be liable for any unlawful acts whilst in office.