

Marlon Parish Council
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Minutes of the meeting of the Parish Council held
6.30pm-9.15pm, Monday 27th July 2020 in the Village Church
(amendments made as requested, 3/8/20, SW)

Apologies: Lesley Smetham, Andrew Simpson

- 1. Parishioners attendance:** None. Declarations of interest : Hall is a resident of Oak View, (Regenda housing)

20/27

2. Minutes of meetings held 3rd February 2020:

- a. As circulated.
- b. Amendments: DS-planning applications – 5a – cost appeal, School Lane dvpt – awaiting response by HSL (15/5637M); 6 – NP dvpt – should be update of NP; b) Lucy Hughes is consultant engaged from Cheshire Community Action working on the updates for us; Barlows (needs capital B); 8. School Liaison = school parking; Finance a) – the grant should be ‘government grant for NP update has arrived- £5801.

20/28

3. Footpaths Report:

- a. Updates – Ramblers Association suggest we give up reclaiming old footpaths (email received from them) 3b should say FP3 ‘sign damage’ -LN to check whether signs fixed on Bunce Lane.

20/29

4. PCSO Report:

- a. There have been no meetings recently – LN suggested members of PC take turns attending her meetings when they restart and circulate info to village email group **AS**
- b. Julia Short is discussing with a neighbour the issue of speeding.
- c. Recent incident on Oak Lane, request from Phil Hilton re Housing Association. Regenda not notifying PC when houses are vacant, despite local people having priority over the housing. PC to help local residents by addressing the issue with Regenda. **JR** and **AH** to consult residents before approaching Regenda to understand policy re new tenants; is tenant of no. 9 still there? (Crystal). **SW** to reply to Phil's email.
- d. PCSO Meetings to resume shortly,
- e. Contact Robin Johnson at CE for update, see minutes 9/12/19 – **AS** to follow up please (4d in 9/1219 minutes).

20/30

5. Planning Applications:

- a. Report on progress of Costs appeal – completed.
Application for costs re School Lane Dvpt 15/5637M, following the withdrawal of the appeal October 2019. Payment received from HSL (the development company) of £3582.
- b. There has been one planning application notified to us, Bridge Farm, Hodge Hill Lane, but DM confirms this is not in our parish.
- c. Note that Rigby's have now broken ground.
- d. Marton Meadows Application - change of use comments have been submitted to CE. (20/2459M). If the change of use is approved (which is highly likely) a full detailed planning application of the proposed development must be submitted. The PC will then make a thorough detailed response.
- e. Barlows caravan storage; confirm council have been notified. Clerk sent letter to CE (**AS** please circulate the email sent to CE)
- f. Marton Meadows golf club – removal of hedgerow – CE Environmental Planning have been contacted and have agreed if the hedgerow is adjacent to agricultural land the removal could have contravened the Hedgerow Regulation 1997. If they establish the hedgerow is covered by the legislation they will consider, in conjunction with Legal Services, what action if any should be taken. **DS** to email again to chase a response. **JR** thanked DS for his work on this.
- g. PC have not received planning updates for a while – **AS** to look into this – should be once a fortnight.
- h. Thanks from Worth family for PC support re their application to build a bungalow beside duck pond.

20/31

6. Marton Neighbourhood Development Plan (NDP):

- a. Update completed. Next stage is to go to 6 week's consultation. The coronavirus social distancing rules have presented some difficulties as face to face contact is not allowed. The Government, however, has relaxed these rules and it is no longer necessary for residents to see the Plan in person. The Plan will be posted on the village website and CE Planning website. For those residents without internet access it is proposed to have a digital version of the Plan available at the Town Hall which can be viewed by appointment. Tom Evans (CE N Plan Manager) is to be contacted to see if this facility can be provided.

After the 6 week consultation period all the comments must be reviewed and published in a Consultation Statement document. It then remains to appoint an Examiner to pass judgement on the Plan. If it is approved it will replace the existing Plan and become part of Cheshire East's Planning Policy. Note it will not be necessary to hold a referendum.

20/32

7. Marton Environmental Plan:

- a. Not seeking to incorporate in NP now. John Percival and JR have worked on it several times this year. See item 9.

20/33

8. Marton School Liaison

- a. Update on attendance re Covid. Nothing to report.
- b. School parking – what next? July 2019 CE were asked about risk assessment; head of highways never replied; meeting on site with another highway engineer without response (no report was sent). Laura Crane (councillor, highways) never replied; LS has not received replies from Highways, and was asked for help with response from Laura Crane. PC being ignored by everyone. **DM** will send one final email to councillor Laura Crane asking for response (cc leader of the council); saying we will go directly to HSE if nothing is done.
(Or – PC could try official complaints with CE. Or – Congleton Chronicle could be approached for help with publicity).
- c. Thanks to **BN** for planters – school very grateful.
- d. Nursery to open at school 'Footprints'. Village green sign requested for this. Parking not an issue as parents will be coming at different times to main school (says Sue Furness). **DM** objects to extra cars coming – not happy with parking situation. Majority decision in favour of sign, but concern by PC re parking

20/34

9. Village maintenance

- a. Village Green update – initiated by BN – to move benches further out; John Percival suggested re-wilding project. Cheshire Wildlife Trust provided a quote; CE support needed. (JP seeking outline planning permission because land owned by them, and issues re lines of sight for traffic). Andy Simpson met DM quite a while back re the scheme. Plan now suggested is different to that discussed by DM with Andy Simpson. Maintenance plan requested by DS. Detail requested by members regarding the actual scheme planned.
Village green refurb – Tarmac happy to help. Manchester Airport probably unlikely due to current crisis.
- b. Planters have been re-planted, thank you to BN and all those who assisted in the planting. Bill for plants already paid, £177.05
- c. Report on footpaths, potholes, signs etc.
AH has submitted 4 highways complaints re footpath opposite Barlows, Marton sign knocked over, and Messuage Lane and Bunce Lane signs need sorting. Cocks Moss Lane potholes also reported. **JR** to forward on to Andy Simpson the info submitted by AH.
- d. Litterpicking. Loan of litterpickers this week to LN. Sunday 2nd August at 2pm proposed time for litterpicking.

20/35

10. Highway and road safety matters

- a. Congleton Bypass update – nothing official to report.
- b. JR wrote to highways re speeding, asking for extra funding (for speed cameras), but this was refused.

20/36

11. Parish Council Website

- a. Note that LN confirms it is now fully compliant with recent legislation regarding accessibility. (WCAG2.1)

20/37

12. Finance

- a. Accounts already circulated Vat not reclaimed on Escape invoice.
AS to do (£367.50)
- b. Balance as circulated. (£8601.24 at start of July) Should we consult the village? What is the surplus we are carrying as a PC? What is actually available to spend? **AS** to clarify please.
- c. Village Clerk remuneration – pay approved. Would be useful for regular monthly invoice/pay? We also need to sort out a contract! Please advise **AS!**
- d. Insurance, due 9th September, renewal discussion in progress.
- e. CPRE subscription paid.
- f. Other Cheques for signature with Chair.

20/38

13. Chairs remarks & reports from members attending external meetings.

None

20/39

14. Correspondence

- a. CHALC Questionnaire – we wish you luck filling this out Andrew!

20/40

15. Any other business

- a. The Davenport Arms is believed to be for sale, hopefully to reopen as proper pub.
- b. Call blocker update (LN)
- c. Donation of £20 to the church approved for use of the building for this evening.

20/41

16. Confirm dates 2019/20 Meetings:

- a. 7th September – AGM and PC meeting
- b. 7th December
- c. Is an AGM necessary? **AS** to check the legality/necessity of AGM meetings being held during Covid season.