

Marton Parish Council

Clerk: Catherine Clowes

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Alderley Edge

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Meeting of the Parish Council to be held at 7.30pm on
Monday 7th December 2015 at the Village School, Marton

MINUTES

Present: Mr J Rylands (JR), Mr D McGowan (DM), Mr D Schwendener (DS), Mrs L Nixon (LN), Mrs S Webborn (SB), Mrs C Clowes (Clerk), Cllr Lesley Smetham (LS) PCSO Julia Shortt

1. **Apologies for absence:** Barry Nolan, Mike Hodgkinson **15/78**
2. **Parishioners attendance: Introduction and opportunity for attendees to share points of Parish interest:** None **15/79**
3. **Declarations of Interest: 15/80**
4 members of the Parish Council who live on School Lane and Oak Lane declared an interest in the School Parking and Transport issue and all members of the Parish Council who live in Marton declared a general residents interest in Planning Application Ref: 15/2274M.
4. **Minutes of meeting held on 14th September 2015:** Agreed and signed as a correct record **15/81**
5. **PCSO Report: 15/82**

PCSO Shortt introduced herself as the new PCSO for the Gawsorth Ward along with PCSO Emma Burns. She gave an update on their activity in the Marton area and distributed flyers and posters showing how to contact them. PCSO Shortt advised that if a vehicle is seen speeding or driving dangerously it is best to take down the vehicle details and report them by calling 101 or online. PCSO Shortt has been to look at the traffic problem on School Lane and has reported back to traffic management for them to contact Highways. PCSO Shortt advised that she could not comment on fears that the new housing development could cause increased traffic problems. Sue asked how often Marton are supposed to have the speed cameras? PCSO Shortt advised that she would find out and report back. Lucy asked about the recent spate of sheep deaths in the area but no further information is available. Clerk to email 2016 meeting dates once decided. **Clerk**

6. **Planning Application Ref: 15/2274M** - Application for up to 27 dwellings and car park Land Off School Lane, Marton - **15/83**

John expressed huge appreciation to all who contributed to the successful appeal against the application with the Northern Planning Board. David advised that an appeal against the decision has now been put in by the developers and comments need to be in by 4th January. It was felt it is important to reinforce the points made already and Lucy proposed that a planning expert is employed to help put together a case which was agreed unanimously. It was agreed to ask John Knight and David will do this. **DM** Mr Knight could also be asked if the upcoming hearing should be formal as opposed to informal.

Lesley advised that there is a free planning advisory service and she would pass the contact details on. **LS**

Lesley advised that she would produce a copy of her words from the planning meeting to send to the appeal inspector. **LS**

It was agreed that MPC should have a plan of what they would like residents to do and that it would be best for residents to resubmit their original letters. These have to be sent in by post in triplicate and it was agreed that MPC could offer to do the extra copies for residents. It was also suggested that a draft letter template could be made available for those who may find it difficult to write their own.

Lucy pointed out that the letter of support for the application from the school has been included in the developers application but they have not included the letter of retraction from the school.

7. **Tree Preservation Order 15/84**
Lesley advised that a decision had been reached which showed that the sycamore in the centre of the green will not be preserved. The meeting was very dissatisfied with this decision.
8. **Marton Neighbourhood Plan: 15/85**

Lucy advised that the plan is about to go into Stage 14 of the process and the committee are just awaiting an email from Tom Evans detailing the list of statutory consultees. Sue advised that the primary school is booked for the weekend of 19th and 20th of December 10am-4pm for residents to come and view the draft plan. MPC will need to arrange a rota to cover this.

9. Superfast Broadband: 15/86

Lucy has attended 2 meetings relating to this and advised that Dean Burrows of Connecting Cheshire was very surprised that Marton has not yet got superfast broadband. Lucy advised that the lines have now been switched over but this information now needs to be passed on to BT but not all residents will be able to get the broadband and it is expected that the ones that cannot may be the outlying farms. There is also a possibility of buying superfast broadband from wifi broadband provider Vispa which is 3 times faster than BT broadband. Planning permission would be needed and 25 people in the village would need to express an interest for Vista to come out and do a topological survey. It was agreed to promote this at the village meeting on 16th December.

10. Marton School Liaison: 15/87

John advised that having met with Deakin Nevin and Sue Furness they have said that they would like details of what's happening on the Parish Council therefore it was agreed that Clerk will forward minutes to them. **Clerk**

John suggested that it would be good to have a liaison person between MPC and the school as communication can easily fall down. It was agreed that Sue will ask her husband Pete who is a school governor if he will undertake this role. **SW**

11. Village maintenance 15/88

a) Road flooding:

- Oak Lane - Ref: 3226776 (16.02.2015) – After a number of visits by Andy Simpson and his team it has been established that there is a blockage either under the road or in a drain under Oak Farm. Andy Simpson has agreed to use his equipment to explore the blockage if Oak Farm will dig the hole. Oak Farm have agreed to dig the hole if the exact area required is marked out by highways.

b) Potholes:

- Depression in road by water valve box junction A34/ School Lane – David advised that this was not as bad as it was and it was agreed to remove from the agenda. **Clerk**

c) Other:

- Weeds along footpath – still not done after 12-18 months of chasing. John will chase up again with Andy Simpson. **JR**
- Paving on village green – David suggested that this job be combined with the sourcing of a new noticeboard and that MPC apply for a grant to do the work. Grants are currently available from Ruby and Tesco's for small community projects. It was agreed that David will action this. **DM**
- Village Signs - Signs have still not been repaired/replaced. Lesley will send email to Chris Shields (head of Highways) and advise that Andy Simpson was already emailed the required information in November 2014. **LS**
- Oak Lane bend – damage to road from tractors – after discussion it was agreed that this was an unpreventable hazard of living in a rural area and as there is not enough money in the CEC budget it should be removed from the agenda. **Clerk**
- Pump Cottage – structural problems – resident of Marton has raised concerns about the state of the property that appears to be deteriorating structurally. It was agreed that Clerk will email Capesthorne Estate as owners and draw this to their attention. **Clerk**
- Signs outside Marton Shops – Lesley advised that the issue has been forwarded to Tim Beckett, community warden for Marton but no action appears to have been taken yet however it was uncertain whether the signs are actually causing a problem anymore. David has information regarding guidance for A board positioning which he will forward to Barry for him to deal with. **DM**

12. Community Pride Competition 15/89

- Noticeboard on village green – see 11c) Paving on Village Green.

13. Highway and road safety matters 15/90

- a) Speeding & accidents on A34 – covered by PCSO Shortt.
- b) Community Speed Watch Scheme – covered by PCOS Shortt.
- c) A34 Congleton Link Road – David advised that the link road will only go all the way through to Eton if whole funding is provided. If it does not go all the way it will drop onto the A34 which could increase traffic dramatically. Lesley advised that the intention is to do

the complete route which was agreed on as the southern route. It was agreed that MPC would object to the reference in the latest document to the fact that the route will stop on the A34 if funding stops. David will send in comments via clerk after circulating to councillors. **DM**

14. Marton School 15/91

- a) School Transport – DS advised that as a result of the evidence provided to CEC by himself and DM the bus routes had now been successfully merged saving Cheshire East several thousand pounds. Thanks were expressed to DS and DM for all their hard work on this issue.
- b) School Parking on grass verge – issue shelved due to lack of funding.

15. Planning 15/92

- a) **15/0438M** - Oakcroft Farm, COCKSMOSS LANE, MARTON, SK11 9HX - Demolition of existing buildings on site and erection of activity centre building and camping site with associated development – **Approved with conditions**
- b) **15/2274M** - Land Off School Lane, Marton - Application for up to 27No. dwellings and car park – **Refused – Decision under appeal**
- c) **15/4018M** - 7, OAK LANE, MARTON, SK11 9HE - Single Storey Side Extension and Front Porch – **Approved with conditions**
- d) **15/4113M** - Land At, COCKSMOSS LANE, MARTON, CHESHIRE - Erection of agricultural dwelling – **Awaiting Decision**
- e) **15/5350M** - LA POPOTE BISTRO, CHURCH FARM, CONGLETON ROAD, MARTON, SK11 9HF - Extension to existing restaurant, kitchen and formation of toilets - **Awaiting Councillor's Comments**
- f) Weekly planning lists – circulated by email

16. Parish Council Website 15/93

- Transparency Code Funding – no further action required at present.

17. Finance 15/94

- a) Cash Book and bank reconciliation – agreed and signed.
- b) Cheques totalling £7803.65 - agreed and signed
- c) Internal Audit Recommendations – Risk Assessment Review – John will look into this for the next meeting. **JR**
- d) Audit Scheme – it was agreed that MPC will stay opted into the new scheme proposed by NALC and ChALC. Therefore no further action is needed at present.
- e) Pension – Clerk advised that there is a standard letter that the Chair needs to send to the Clerk. Clerk to forward letter to John for him to sign. **Clerk**

18. Precept 2016/17 15/95

- Removal of council tax support compensation grant – in light of this it was agreed that the requested precept for 2016/17 be £3200.

19. Chairs remarks & reports from members attending external meetings 15/96

- Thursday 10th December 2016, 6pm at Sandbach – Town and Parish Council Conference – John will attend. **JR**

20. Correspondence 15/97

- a) All correspondence has been circulated by email

21. Any other business 15/98

- a) Christmas Tree – thanks were expressed to Barry, David and Dick for decorating the tree particularly in light of the very strong winds.
- b) Local ChALC Meetings – David reminded the meeting that it had been agreed some time ago that someone from MPC should attend these meetings regularly. It was agreed that John would ask Mike Hodgkinson if this is something that he would like to do. **JR**
- c) Ramblers Path Watch Scheme – Lucy advised that this is a scheme where volunteers can adopt the monitoring of footpaths in the village and report back. It was agreed that this could easily be covered by MPC and residents of Marton. To be discussed at the village meeting on 16th December.
- d) Highways Satisfaction Survey – David will complete on behalf of MPC. **DM**

22. Dates of future meetings: 15/99

- 1st February 2016
- 21st March 2016(Annual Village Meeting)
- 9th May 2016(AGM)
- 4th July 2016
- 12th September 2016
- 5th December 2016

Meeting Closed at 9.55pm