

# Marton Parish Council

Clerk: Catherine Clowes

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Meeting of the Parish Council held at 7.30pm on  
Monday 9<sup>th</sup> December 2013 at the Village School, Marton

## MINUTES

**Present:** Mr J Rylands (JR), Mr T Darbyshire (TD), Mrs L Nixon (LN), Mr D Schwendener (DS),  
Mrs W Basnett (WB), Mr D McGowan (DM), Mrs C Clowes (Clerk), Cllr Lesley Smetham (LS)

1. **Apologies for absence:** Mr B Nolan **13/78**
2. **Minutes of meeting on 9<sup>th</sup> September 2013 :** **13/79** alterations required to 5c, 8a and 11 – to be agreed and signed at next meeting.
3. **Cheshire East Council Pre-Submission Core Strategy – public consultation Nov/Dec 2013** **13/80**
  - a) Parish Council Response – JR advised that there had been no changes to the proposed local plan in the revised issue. The only difference for Marton was the awareness of the Capesthorn development proposals. A discussion followed as to whether it would be in the interest of Marton to make planning aware that there may be the option of alternative brown field sites for the development of new housing in the village before the plan goes to the 2<sup>nd</sup> phase of site allocation if Marton is allocated a proportion of affordable housing provision. It was agreed that it may benefit Marton to notify planning that the village is opposed to a large development of housing and if it is necessary would rather have small clusters of new housing on brown field sites. LS advised that she would enquire and endeavour to speak to a planning officer to convey Marton's views and concerns. **LS**  
JR advised that he would speak to LS following the meeting to ensure that the correct procedure was followed to forward Marton's response to the revised local plan to planning before the end of the consultation process. **JR**  
DM enquired whether the 5 year housing plan would be implemented by the end of 2013. LS advised that she was meeting regarding this the following week when she would find out more.
4. **Village maintenance** **13/81**
  - a) Road flooding:
    - Near Church – outstanding. TD advised that the kerb needs raising to bring in line with the road to rectify this. LS will pursue. **LS**
    - Bunce Lane – repairs complete
  - b) Village Boundary Sign – DM will take a look at the sign and report back via email. Clerk to check if covered by insurance. **DM, Clerk**
  - c) Potholes:
    - Marton Hall Lane – outstanding. LS will pursue. **LS**
    - Depression in road by water valve box junction A34/ School Lane – outstanding. Clerk to send incident number to LS for her to pursue. **Clerk, LS**
5. **Trees & Hedges** **13/82**
  - a) Village Orchard – the completed accounts were circulated to the council by DM who advised that John Percival has offered to get 7 more trees at £20 each. It was agreed that this should go ahead and be funded by the surplus funds and contribution from the parish council totalling £140.
  - b) Brambles on the village green – DS and DM have done some work at clearing these but advised that a working party was still needed to complete the work before the bulbs started to grow. Agreed to hold working party on Saturday 11<sup>th</sup> January at 1.30pm. Clerk to email Marton Village with the details and send a reminder the week before. **Clerk**
6. **Community Pride Competition** **13/83** DM advised that Marton came 3<sup>rd</sup> in the competition having been marked down for the condition of the noticeboards which is something to review in the new year. The café in the village has received a Little Gem award for it's surrounding land.
7. **Highway and road safety matters** **13/84**
  - a) Speeding & accidents on A34 – DS advised that he had been informed that the highways department hope to finalise their proposals by the end of December with a view to implementing them in the new year.
  - b) Community Speed Watch Scheme – it was noted that posts have been erected in the village for the speed gun which Marton will have use of at least 16 times in the year.

Encouraging information has been received from PCSO Cash regarding drivers caught speeding and driver awareness days.

**8. Marton School 13/85**

- a) School Transport and School Parking – DS advised that no funding was available from either the diocese or the council. Chris Williams from the transport department had visited the school to discuss the issues and possible ways of reducing the number of cars such as car share, walking buses etc. The school was made aware that they do have a responsibility for issues outside of the school gate if they are creating safety issues and it was suggested that it would be wise for the school to carry out a risk assessment. DM and DS will arrange to meet with the school asap to discuss the next steps. **DS, DM**  
LS advised that School Lane was not on the gritting route for bad weather and the council would be very unlikely to add to the route. DM will email David Topping at Cheshire East to express the Parish Council's safety concerns as this road becomes very icy and to request that if it cannot be gritted then at least a warning sign should be erected warning motorists turning off the A34 of the danger. **DM**  
LN will chase up the water board again regarding the leak on the road which will be a safety hazard if it freezes. **LN**

**9. Planning 13/86**

- a) Weekly planning lists – circulated by email

**10. Capesthorn Development Proposals 13/87** – there have been no further developments in this area and the topic was discussed under point 3.

**11. Parish Council Website 13/88** – this is now up and running and up to date. LS suggested that a notice asking motorists to take care when driving through Marton could be displayed on it and it was agreed that this was a good idea. **LN**

**12. Chairs remarks & reports from members attending external meetings 13/89** - None

**13. Correspondence 13/90**

- a) Countryside Voice Winter edition, Clerks and Councils Direct Magazine and a hard copy of the revised local plan were brought to the council's attention.  
b) All other correspondence has been circulated by email

**14. Finance 13/91**

- a) Cash Book and bank reconciliation – agreed and signed.  
b) Increase in clerks salary – it was agreed that the clerk's salary should be increased to include the national pay increase back dated to April 2013.  
c) Cheques totalling £428.78 - agreed and signed

**15. Budget 2014/15 and Precept 13/92** – the proposed draft budget was circulated to all councillors and it was agreed that the precept should remain at £3000 – proposed: DS, Seconded: DM and unanimously agreed.

**16. Any other business 13/93**

- a) Christmas Tree – WB advised that the 25ft Christmas Tree had now been delivered at a cost of £277. TD advised that he would dig a hole for the erection of the tree and help with his erection at no cost. The cost of the lights is £100. A discussion followed regarding the wiring of the lights to the power supply. It was noted that a transformer to lower the wattage of the supply would be required and appropriate cable would need to be used. This would need to be done by a qualified electrician. It was estimated that the total cost of the project will be £500 - £600 and in future years the parish council should seek to reduce this cost. The Clerk was tasked with contacting the insurance supplier of the Parish Council to check that all guidelines are followed to insure that the insurance remains valid. **Clerk**  
b) Declaration of Interests – DM reminded councillors that if the Parish Council is discussing any issue on which they have a pecuniary interest they must declare this interest. For example if a councillor is planning a housing development and the PC is debating their policy on planning then the member must inform the PC.  
c) Proposed 2014 dates – circulated to all councillors

**17. Dates of next meetings: 13/94**

Monday: 10<sup>th</sup> February 2014  
10<sup>th</sup> March 2014(Annual Village Meeting)  
12<sup>th</sup> May 2014 (AGM)  
7<sup>th</sup> July 2014  
8<sup>th</sup> September 2014  
8<sup>th</sup> December 2014