

# Marchington Parish Council Minutes

## Tuesday 8<sup>th</sup> November 2022

### at Marchington Woodlands Village Hall

Present: Cllr Bullock, Cllr Hayes, Cllr Hayhurst, Cllr Morgan, Cllr Roberts, Cllr Tomkins  
Parish Clerk: Clare Nash

16 members of the public

#### Meeting opened at 7.30pm

1. To receive and accept apologies for absence from Cllr Mann, Cllr Nixon, Cllr Bicknell, Cllr Hudson
2. Declarations of Interest and Dispensations received: Cllr Mann – Items 4.b) iii. and 4.b) v.  
Cllr Hayhurst – Item 8.a) i.
3. Minutes of the meeting held on 11<sup>th</sup> October 2022 were approved & signed as a true record. Proposed – Cllr Bullock  
Seconded – Cllr Hayes
4. Public Forum
  - a) Dog Fouling issue in the village – Signs have been purchased by the Parish Council (PC) for entrances to play & recreation areas. Chair will include in report for the parish magazine.
  - b) Precept Presentations
    - i) **St Johns Church, Marchington Woodlands**  
Mike Cleaver presented the application for St Johns Church as previously circulated. Requested £2,000 towards maintenance of the churchyard. Fundamental to attracting people to the church which is an important focal point in the Woodlands.
    - ii) **St Peter's Church, Marchington**  
Tom Castle presented the application for St Peter's Church as previously circulated. Requested £2,000 for support to maintain the churchyard, positive asset to the community and important to keep safe & tidy. Much of the budget is spent maintaining trees.
    - iii) **Marchington Village Hall**  
Geraldine Flavell presented the application for MVH as previously circulated. Maintenance last year £8,880 - much spent on outside works as well as electrical works, fire and safety checks. Requesting £2,500 this year because of rising costs. Cllr Morgan asked how rising fuel costs will impact VH? VH has a fixed contract but expects it to be renegotiated. They are increasing hire charges.
    - iv) **Marchington Woodlands Village Hall**  
Karen Perrins was unable to present the application previously circulated due to illness & sent apologies. Requesting £2,000 to help with maintenance costs.
    - v) **Marchington Tennis & Bowls Club**  
Mark Flavell presented the application for a grant of £3000 towards resurfacing the access track which has deteriorated over time, is now very uneven and a potential hazard for people with compromised mobility. Estimate 300 people use the path during the season. Last Small Grant award in 2015. Quote is £7,600 applying for £3000. Allowing sufficient for existing commitments & a contingency fund to cover unplanned expenditure, the club has a funding gap of £4,400. Club intends to apply for other grants to make up difference. After discussion Chair said the PC will consider whether this project should be funded by Small Grants or from the Solar Fund.

Presenters left the meeting at 7.50pm

5. Marchington Woodlands Permanent Agenda Item – Christmas Tree (see item 10)
6. Forestside Permanent Agenda Item – Christmas Tree (see Item 10)
7. Other Organisations –reports from outside organisations were received as follows:
  - a) ESBC – Police have removed most of the vehicles from the Chapel triangle. A resident present at the meeting, thought to be the owner of the vehicles, addressed the parish council and complained that the police had threatened his family. Cllrs advised that he could make an official complaint to the police. The resident considered he had won a court case to prove ownership of the triangle, Cllrs unable to comment. The resident took issue with the PC for pursuing the clearance of the triangle. It was explained that other residents frequently report to the PC that the vehicles posed a hazard to drivers, and it is incumbent upon the PC to follow it up with the relevant authorities. The resident informed Cllrs that any further action by the PC would result in trouble.

The resident and one other left the meeting at 8pm

- b) Staffordshire Police – Report previously circulated
8. To consider planning applications and receive planning decisions review planning appeals and enforcement issues.
- a) Planning Applications Received –
    - i) P/2022/01145 - Proposal: Demolition of outbuildings to facilitate the erection of 9 dwellings with associated garaging, detached garage, parking and workshop to serve the farmhouse and construction of vehicular access  
Location: (Bagshaws), High Street, Marchington, Staffordshire, ST14 8LD  
Cllr Hayhurst declared an interest and was permitted to chair but not take part in the discussion.  
**Parish Council Comments** It was resolved to make comments on the application with regard to the following: insufficient parking on the development leading to parking issues on High Street; parking and deliveries (site management plan) causing hazard to traffic & pedestrians during the construction especially during school start & finish times; access onto High Street; flooding issues resulting from increased hardstanding; sewage system capacity & condition; non-inclusion of existing Bagshaws house & subsequent access arrangements; brick colour for new development; historical interest documentation. **Action: Clerk.**

3 residents left the meeting.

- ii) P/2022/01179 - Proposal: Felling of one Ash tree Location: Church Farm, Church Lane, Marchington, Staffordshire, ST14 8LJ **Parish Council Comments:** Request that base of the tree is checked for hibernating mammals and replacement tree to be planted. **Action: Clerk**
- b) Decisions Received – None
  - c) Enforcement Updates –
    - i) P/2022/00581 Charnwood – Situation is as previously, planning application submitted but not validated, when information has been received it will be put on the portal for comments. **Action: Clerk to complain again.**
    - ii) The Orchard, Allens Lane – Retrospective planning application has been submitted but is showing as invalid.  
**Action: Clerk to complain**
    - iii) Nether View, Netherlands Green – steel container and static caravan have been removed & the matter resolved,
    - iv) Brookside Cottages – UPVC windows – issue has been referred to the Conservation Area Officer
    - v) New gateway query– ESBC commented that planning permission is required if gateway is onto a classified road.

Cllr Morgan reported that following a resident complaint about rubbish being left outside property on Woodland Views. EHO gave owners 3 weeks to clear, and this has been done.

9. Council owned property updates -
- a) Play areas and outdoor park areas safety checks -
    - i) Silver Lane playground monthly safety report – no issues
    - ii) Silver Lane fence – quotations received and considered. Decision was that to replace the fence is too expensive and it was resolved to continue to repair the fence. A proper inspection should be carried out and problems identified and fixed.
    - iii) Forestside playground and football pitch monthly safety report. **Action: Cllr Bullock to send report to clerk.**
    - iv) Repeat order for Play Inspection Company – It was resolved to continue this for another year.
  - b) Marchington Village Hall – The hall has engaged a handyman to carry out maintenance and repairs. This month the hall is expecting a full house both for a tribute band and a major MADS production.

10. Marchington Woodlands Village Hall (& Forestside)

- i. Christmas Tree – It was confirmed that the PC is willing to provide 3 trees for the three village areas. This is last of three years that were previously agreed. **Action: Clerk to contact representative at Forestside**

11. Flooding

- a) Embankment update – Following PC letter of complaint to Environment Agency (EA) Cllrs met with their staff on site to push for the works to be carried out ASAP. Explained that the letter of complaint was a sign of desperation from the PC after the EA wasted the perfect conditions of summer 2022. EA were meeting subsequently with the landowner’s agent to discuss access arrangements for the bund work, are now in negotiation regarding compensation and will be serving notice in the new year for works to take place in the Spring. EA introduced the idea of a new access from Church Close onto the bund so that they do not have to cross the field for maintenance. They are currently waiting for designs and costs on this & investigating what permissions are required. Closing the gap by the bridge will happen in January. PFR is ongoing currently.
- b) Culvert and ditch – EA advised that PC could ask landowner to clear ditch **Action: Clerk to write to landowner**
- c) Flood Wardens update – Refresher session has been held, however more flood wardens are required especially from the Silver Lane end of the village. Another course will be needed for new volunteers.

Resident reported that they had a useful meeting with MP recently & updated her on the situation with the flood prevention measures in the village and now waiting for answers to the questions put to her. Chair thanked resident for this.

12. Silver Lane bridge project update - Waiting on drawings for the ground works. Cricket Club would like to prune some of the poplars. May need to conduct a tree survey- **Action: Clerk to check when this was last carried out?** EA have told resident that they will look into dredging the brook in the area from playing field to the bridge. **Action: Clerk to follow up with EA**
13. Broadband update – Cllr Morgan said that Karen Perrins has done a fantastic job pursuing this for the benefit of the parish. Latest news is that the Voucher scheme has been ‘unpaused’ but the terms, eligibility and values are being revised. There is no movement from Openreach on the Marchington Parish project. It was resolved to contact Lilaconnect & establish if they are interested? **Action: Cllr Morgan to contact.**
14. Marchington Woodlands Noticeboard - Information previously circulated. Following discussion, a proposal was moved to order a new noticeboard from Greenbarnes Ltd as follows: Landscape 2 Bay 12x A4 size with vinyl lettering. Wording to be “PARISH COUNCIL”. Cost of £1700.20 Ex VAT to be funded from Solar Account as previously agreed. Approved unanimously
15. Dovegate Prison – Prison director agreed to remind staff not to travel through the village. A meeting will be arranged in early 2023 with new director when the issue of access to land on the Draycott side of the prison will be raised.
16. Marchington Industrial Estate - Meeting has been arranged for 15<sup>th</sup> November with Hortons to discuss noise issues. Cllrs require information from residents to substantiate these complaints.
17. East Midlands Airspace Modernisation Programme Stage 2 – Cllr Mann attended meeting this week.
18. Finance
- a. To authorise payments as listed in Appendix A  
Proposed – Cllr Morgan  
Seconded – Cllr Bullock

Appendix A -November 2022					
Date	Monies received:	£			
03/10/22	Interest	£12.15			
21/10/22	Donation from Uttoxeter Cricket Club	£100.00			
	<b>TOTAL OF RECEIPTS</b>	<b>£112.15</b>			
Date	Invoices/Money to be paid out:	Net	Vat	Total	Chq No
08/10/22	DSK Engineering Services (Midlands) Ltd - Inv 5908 - Repairs to Forestside Playgrnd	£240.00	£48.00	£288.00	2562
30/10/22	Shires Weedfree Ltd - Inv SL-707 Japanese knotweed control	£150.00	£30.00	£180.00	2560
17/10/22	Marchington Village Hall - Inv 585 - Flood warden refresher session	£15.00	£0.00	£15.00	2561
31/10/22	Handy man (John Lloyd) wages	£175.00	£0.00	£175.00	2564
31/10/22	Handy man wages (Bob Geofferson) - Painting the telephone box	£315.00	£0.00	£315.00	2565
31/10/22	Clerk salary	£528.40	£0.00	£701.05	2566
31/10/22	Clerk travel and expenses	£152.76	£19.89		
31/10/22	Perennial Landscapes - Inv 5621	£502.49	£100.50	£602.99	2559
01/11/22	Sign Shed - Inv SL-63906 Dog fouling signs for play areas & poo bins	£62.78	£12.56	£75.34	2558
20/10/22	Reimbursement to Jane Hilton for bulbs (as agreed at September meeting)	£40.00	£0.00	£40.00	2563
		£2,181.43	£210.95	<b>£2,392.38</b>	
<b>As of 31st October 2022</b>					
	Current Account	£1,009.83			
	Gold Account	£42,611.45			
	Solar Account	£55,873.06			
		<b>£99,494.34</b>			

19. Highways and Footpath issues
- a. Highways issues
- Chevron at Birch Cross – has been reported to Trevor Mellor at SCC and escalated.
  - Quee Lane crossroads missing sign – reported.
  - Jacks lane sunken tarmac – reported but couldn’t be fixed by contractors currently in the village.
  - Leaves blocking drains – PC has arranged for the handyman to sweep leaves off the drains during the autumn. Drains blocked by the contractors with tarmac have been reported.
- b. Footpaths –
- Lower Stock Lane Farm, Stock Lane - Footpaths is blocked by hedge. **Action: Clerk to inform SCC footpath officer.**
  - Houndhill/Forestside footpath – site meeting postponed by SCC footpaths officer, waiting to be re-arranged.

20. Correspondence, Clerk

- i. Re: P/2020/00635 - Extension to Turkey Factory application status ESBC advise that this application is going to committee, but date has not been set. Previous objectors will be given the opportunity to speak at the committee and will be notified by the LPA.
- ii. Primary Care Supplies – defibrillator supplies in stock.
- iii. Notification from SPCA of the subscription calculation
- iv. Public Sector Executive - Electrifying EV: Solving the EV Infrastructure Challenge – webinar invite, previously circulated. **Action: Clerk to check if Cllr Nixon is interested**
- v. Public Sector Executive - Housing | You're Invited – virtual event invitation previously circulated
- vi. Public Sector Executive – Digital Connectivity – virtual event invitation previously circulated.

21. Urgent items for input onto the 13<sup>th</sup> December 2022 Meeting

**Meeting closed at 21.37pm**

**Date of Next Meeting –13<sup>th</sup> December 2022**