

Marchington Parish Council

Minutes of the Annual Council Meeting 2023

held on 9th May 2023 at Marchington Village Hall

Present: Cllr Bullock, Cllr Glover, Cllr Hayes, Cllr Hayhurst, Cllr Mann, Cllr Morgan, Cllr Tomkins
Clare Nash (Parish Clerk)
5 Members of the Public

Meeting Opened at 7.31pm

1. It was resolved by unanimous decision to elect Cllr Hayhurst to the position of chairperson.
2. To receive and, if appropriate, accept apologies for absence – None
3. It was resolved unanimously to elect Cllr Bullock to the position of vice-chairperson.
4. It was resolved unanimously to elect Cllr Hayes to the position of Finance Officer
5. It was resolved unanimously to elect Cllr Mann to the position of Marchington Village Hall Representative
6. The following policies (previously circulated) were adopted: Standing orders; Financial Regulations); Code of Conduct for Councillors; Privacy Policy; Consent to Storage of Personal Data; General Privacy Policy; Publication Scheme; Media Policy; Disciplinary Procedure; Solar Grants Terms & Conditions; Document Retention Policy; Safeguarding Policy; Co-option Policy
7. The Council's Asset Register (previously circulated) was reviewed and approved.
8. Details of the Council's arrangement for Insurance Cover (previously circulated) were approved.
9. The Council is not eligible for General Power of Competence. – Parish Council will work towards this.
10. The Council's subscriptions to other bodies are to Staffordshire Parish Councils Association (SPCA) and National Association of Local Councils (NALC) were reviewed and approved.
11. Arrangements (time & venue) for ordinary meetings of the Full Council for the next year (previously circulated) were approved.
12. Declarations of Interest and Dispensations on items relating to the agenda: Cllr Mann – Item 20. a) MTBC
13. The minutes of the meeting held on 11th April 2023 were approved and signed as a true record:
Proposed – Cllr Tomkins
Seconded – Cllr Hayes
14. Public Forum – A resident asked the PC to remind the developers of Bagshaws of the importance of wildlife when planning this development ie. fencing that will allow wildlife to move around, bird boxes. Noted that knotweed has returned to the Orchard. Parish Council responded that Walton Homes have been invited to next meeting so will give opportunity to discuss wildlife provision. Also asked if PC would fund the planters in the village? **Action: Clerk to add to June agenda. Ask contractor about knotweed.**
15. Marchington Woodlands Permanent Agenda Item –Residents have expressed concern about safety due to the Change of use at Smallwood Manor. Cove Healthcare have previously reassured Parish Council that the residents will be well supervised, and they are the lowest risk. **Action: Clerk to contact Cove Healthcare to ask about opening date.**
16. Forestside Permanent Agenda Item - None
17. Other Organisations –To receive reports from outside organisations.
 - a) County Councillor report – previously circulated.
 - b) ESBC – It was noted that Cllr Philip Hudson was re-elected as Borough Councillor for Crown ward.
 - c) Staffordshire Police – previously circulated.

Signed:

Date:

18. To consider planning applications and receive planning decisions review planning appeals and enforcement issues.
- a) Planning Applications Received
 - i) **P/2020/00635 - Proposal:** Erection of 2 No. additional poultry sheds with associated control room, heat exchangers, feed bins & hardstanding, formation of a 1.5m high soil bund, landscaping and expansion to existing drainage attenuation pond on an established poultry farm (AMENDED SCHEME and ADDITIONAL INFORMATION)
Location: Coppice Farm, Hobb Lane, Marchington Woodlands, Staffordshire, ST14 8RG **Grid Ref:** 408401 329014
MPC Comments: Marchington Parish Council objects to this extension of the existing poultry farm. Councillor and residents are concerned for the safety of users of Hobb Lane. It is already in a poor state of repair, with no edges and poor drainage, and additional heavy vehicle traffic will exacerbate this. The proposed extension development will put at risk the safety of the many walkers, cyclists and runners who use the single-track lane. Smell and noise from the poultry units will be greatly increased by the development and reach a wider area. Added to this is the considerable noise from unloading lorries. It was noted that the smell from the units increases as the turkeys grow with warmer weather making this even worse. The development is not in keeping with the peaceful character and natural beauty of the area.
 - ii) **P/2023/00388 - Proposal:** Reduce the height of one Holly tree by 3 metres. **Location:** The Pump House, Jacks Lane, Marchington, Staffordshire, ST14 8LW **Grid Ref:** 413348 330744 **MPC Comments:** No comments
 - iii) **P/2023/00441 - Proposal:** Reduce large lower limb by 5m that extends towards the properties and contains a prominent large cavity at 4m from the main fork, reduce the remaining lateral branches/branches that also extend toward the properties by 2m to balance of one Beech tree **Location:** Land to the rear of 11 Woodland Views, Marchington, Staffordshire, ST14 8NF **Grid Ref:** 413176 330705 **MPC Comments:** No comments.
 - b) Decisions Received –
 - i) **P/2023/00175 -**Prior Approval for the conversion of agricultural building to form a dwelling. **Location:** Newlands Farm, Netherland Green, Staffordshire, ST14 8PP **Decision:** Permitted
 - ii) **P/2021/01039 -** Retention of a domestic timber outbuilding and garden room with an open fronted shelter. **Location:** The Old Store, High Street, Marchington, ST14 8LD **Decision:** Permitted
 - a) Enforcement Updates – None
19. Finance, Chair
- a) To authorise payments as listed in Appendix A
Proposed – Cllr Bullock
Seconded – Cllr Morgan
 - b) It was resolved to add Cllr bullock to the authorised signatories on the RBS bank accounts.
20. Solar Fund, Chair
- a) Marchington Tennis & Bowls Club –. Unanimous agreement (Cllr Mann no vote) that the additional expenditure requested will not be covered by the solar award. Procedure must be followed correctly, and it would set a precedent. An award of £362.08 to be paid to MTBC in line with original application and receipts received.
 - b) Map LECTERNS –It was decided that the cost of planning permissions required will be met from Solar Fund. All voted in favour.
21. Council owned property - To receive reports & action if required.
- a) Play areas and outdoor park areas safety checks -
 - i) Silver Lane playground monthly safety report, Cllr Tomkins noted that the gate on perimeter needs fixing and that the fence requires repairing. **Action: Cllr Mann will ask handyman to attend.** Grass inside playground looks as though not cut last week – **Action: Clerk to ask contractor.**
 - ii) Forestside playground and football pitch monthly safety report, Cllr Mann reported that the multi-play seat needs painting. **Action: Handyman to repaint**
 - b) Marchington Village Hall, Cllr Mann – Village Hall has been very busy with events.
 - c) Cricket Club – planning permission is required to cutback the hedges on the driveway because they are in the conservation area of the village, this will be submitted shortly. It was noted that the driveway is deteriorating and may need repairing/patching. **Action: Clerk to contact cricket club.** Parking is causing annoyance in the village **Action: Cllr Bullock to remind the CC to use Silver Lane car park & ensure that the bollard is replaced at the end of the evening.**
22. Elections - There are two vacancies after uncontested election. One for Marchington Woodlands ward and one for Marchington. Parish Council looking to co-opt to fill these vacancies. Notices will be put up at all the noticeboards, website and social media. **Action: Chair to include in Parish Magazine report.**
23. Highways & Footpath issues
- a) Highways issues
 - i) Flooding on B5017 at Birch Cross – recent clearing of the ditch and culvert appears to have resolved the flooding at last.
 - ii) Potholes – Please keep reporting on MyStaffs app. Hall Road is exceptionally bad. **Action: Clerk to chase up SCC Highways.**

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Date:

- iii) Missing chevrons at Birch Cross & on the cliff. Have been reported but no action from SCC. **Action: Clerk to make Cllr Atkins aware that more lorries are using the cliff road causing damage to the road & may have contributed to increased accidents.**
 - iv) Prison Traffic in the village – Clerk has sent all reports from CSW team to Prison Director. However, it was noted that the planning permission for the prison did not prohibit prison traffic travelling through the village but to turn right at the exit of the prison towards the village is a traffic offence.
- b) Footpath issues
- i) Smallwood Manor – FP 0.688 – SCC Footpath officer has confirmed that there is a proposal to move this footpath and planning permission is being sought from ESBC. **Action: Clerk to find out what is being proposed.** A resident has been told by the occupiers that the footpath is now closed – this is not the case.
 - ii) Permissive Paths – Clerk has written to landowner and Evans Property Group – awaiting their replies.
24. CPR Training update – it is fully booked & will go ahead on Thursday 11th May.
25. Bulls Head ACV, Cllr Morgan – There is much anger in the village about the closure of the pub. The Parish Council has applied to ESBC for the pub to be made an Asset of Community Value (ACV) and this has the support of the MP and ward councillor. A further strategy proposal was circulated and discussed. The Parish Council resolved unanimously to oppose any development of the pub.
26. Marchington Tennis & Bowls Club - Cllrs accepted an invitation to visit the club prior to the meeting on 11th July. **Action: Clerk to RSVP**
27. Silver Lane Footbridge, Cllr Morgan – postponed to June meeting.
28. Community Fund, Chair – funding is available. **Action: Cllrs to consider projects that may be suitable and report back at next meeting.**
29. Correspondence, Clerk
- i. Resident & MP – re flooding at Birch Cross
 - ii. EON – replacement lighting column
 - iii. Resident from Yoxall – re pond at Dovegate
 - iv. SPCA – Lisa Horritt leaving.
 - v. Resident regarding neighbouring property.
 - vi. Forestside resident – re grass cutting.
 - vii. South Staffordshire Water – re leak in Moisty Lane. There is a Priority Service Register for each utility. Action: Chair to include in report.
30. Urgent items for input onto 13th June agenda
- Forest road junction with Thorney Lanes – boulders have been placed too close to the roadside.
 - Cricket Club rent

Date of next meeting 13th June 2023

Meeting closed at 9.16pm

Signed:

Date:

Appendix A - May 2023

Date	Monies received:	£
03/04/23	RBS Gold Account Interest	£50.47
05/04/23	HMRC VAT Return	£1,971.93
06/04/23	Parish garden rent	£40.00
21/04/23	ESBC 1st half of Precept	£15,297.07
	TOTAL OF RECEIPTS	£17,359.47

Invoice Date	Invoices/Money to be paid out:	Net	Vat	Total	Chq No	
12/04/23	Safe Haven Training Ltd - Inv. ORD-5923	£250.00	£50.00	£300.00	2600	
30/04/23	Perennial Landscapes Ltd - Inv. 6315	£530.12	£106.02	£636.14	2601	
30/04/23	Handyman wages & expenses	£176.53	£1.51	£178.04	2602	
30/04/23	Clerk Salary (Inc overtime)	£738.92	£0.00	£831.28	2603	
30/04/23	Clerk travel & expenses	£84.40	£7.96			
30/04/23	Marchington Parish Council Deed of benefit transfer to Leek Account*	£5,000.00	£0.00	£5,000.00	2609	* Payment listed since cheque to be signed
30/04/23	Marchington Village Hall - 1st half of Small Grant Payment	£1,000.00	£0.00	£1,000.00	2604	
30/04/23	Marchington Woodlands Village Hall - 1st half of Small Grant Payment	£1,000.00	£0.00	£1,000.00	2606	
30/04/23	St John's Church, Marchington Woodlands - 1st half of Small Grant Payment	£1,000.00	£0.00	£1,000.00	2606	
30/04/23	St Peter's Church, Marchington - 1st half of Small Grant Payment	£1,000.00	£0.00	£1,000.00	2607	
30/04/23	Marchington Tennis & Bowls Club Solar Fund Award**	£362.08	£0.00	£362.08	2608	** Amount decided at the meeting
	TOTAL OF PAYMENTS	£11,142.05	£165.49	£11,307.54		

As of 30th April 2023

Current Account	£1,008.63
Gold Account	£51,078.74
Solar Account	£56,089.57
	£108,176.94

Solar Account Transfers

Transfer from Solar account to Gold account for cost of Woodlands Noticeboard	£1,663.97	
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Signed:

Date: