Marchington Parish Council Minutes of a meeting held on Tuesday 13th June 2023 at Marchington Woodlands Village Hall

Meeting opened at 7.30pm

- 1. Apologies for absence were received and accepted Cllr Tomkins
- 2. Declarations of Interest and Dispensations on items relating to the agenda Cllr Hayhurst Item 11 b) iii
- 3. The minutes of the meeting held on 9th May 2023 were signed as a true record

Proposed – Cllr Mann Seconded – Cllr Glover

- 4. Marchington Parish Council's Complaints Procedure was reviewed and adopted.
- 5. Public Forum None
- 6. Marchington Woodlands Permanent Agenda Item Two items raised:
 - a. CPR Training held at coffee morning was very well attended and very valuable. However, it highlighted the lack of telephone reception in the Woodlands. MWVH are planning another session on online security & looking for funding for this. The Community Fund was suggested. Action: Clerk to send information to MWVH secretary.
 - b. Noticeboard Concern was expressed about the size, position, and material of the new noticeboard. Discussion followed during which it was noted that the size is smaller than originally proposed & will be positioned further down the verge.

The Chair reminded everyone that communication with the Parish Council is via email, the Parish Councillors or the Parish Council meetings at which Marchington Woodlands has a permanent agenda item, not via social media. There are now three meetings held at MWVH every year to enable better engagement with residents.

Cllr Hayes noted that the Duchy of Lancaster are clearing ash trees all around the area. Action: Cllr Hayhurst to find out details.

- 7. Forestside Permanent Agenda Item No matters raised
- 8. Other Organisations To receive reports from outside organisations.
 - a) ESBC Cllr Hudson has contacted police about the recent car thefts & actions taken. It was suggested that car owners use Faraday box/pouch to store keys.
 - b) Staffordshire Police No report received.
- 9. To consider planning applications and receive planning decisions, review planning appeals and enforcement issues.
 - a) Planning Applications Received
 - i) P/2023/00478- Proposal: Proposed use of existing maize and grass crops (agricultural land) as a maize maze and car park (Class F.2) including kiosk for a 3 month period per year. Location: Dove Fields, Station Road, Draycott In The Clay, Staffordshire, DE6 5GX MPC Comments: No comments
 - ii) P/2023/00527 Proposal: Pruning of branches to be shorten by a maximum of approximately 2 metres to remove spindly growth and reshape the crown of one Laurel tree. Location: Yew Tree House, High Street, Marchington, Staffordshire, ST14 8LD MPC Comments: No comments
 - iii) P/2023/00530 Proposal: Erection of a single storey extension on the north west elevation. Location: 1 Brookhouse Court, Marchington, Staffordshire, ST14 8TU MPC Comments: No comments
 - iv) P/2022/01464 Proposal: Formation of Pond including ground source heat pump and septic tank. Location: Hanging Wicket Farm, Scounslow Green Road, Scounslow Green, Staffordshire, ST14 8RD Grid Ref: 408961 329968 MPC Comments: No comments
 - v) P/2023/00567 Proposal: Cut back Leylandii Conifer hedge back to the boundary wall. Location: White Walls, 2 Jacks Lane, Marchington, Staffordshire, ST14 8LW MPC Comments: No comments
 - vi) P/2023/00568 Proposal: Cut back one Conifer hedge back to the boundary wall. Location: The Firs, 4 Jacks Lane, Marchington, Staffordshire, ST14 8LW MPC Comments: No comments

Signed:..... Date:....

Present: Cllr Bullock (Vice Chair), Cllr Glover, Cllr Hayes, Cllr Hayhurst (Chair), Cllr Mann, Cllr Morgan, Clare Nash, Parish Clerk 12 Members of the Public (1 for part)

- vii) P/2023/00523 Proposal: Prior Approval for the installation of 14 Solar PV equipment to the roof. Location: The Community Shop, Church Lane, Marchington, Staffordshire, ST14 8LJ MPC Comments: No comments
- viii) P/2023/00593 Proposal: Installation of a map lectern. Location: Hilsea Crescent, Marchington, Uttoxeter, Staffordshire, ST14 8LR MPC Comments: No comments

Chair explained that application for map lectern at Marchington Woodlands has been applied for but not yet validated. Action: Clerk to advise MWVH secretary of application number when received from ESBC.

- b) Decisions Received -
- i) P/2023/00388 Reduce the height of one Holly tree by 3 metres Location: The Pump House, Jacks Lane, Marchington, Staffordshire, ST14 8LW Decision: Permitted
- ii) P/2020/00585 Siting of a mobile home as an agricultural worker's dwelling for a period of 3 years and installation of septic tank. Location: Land adjacent to, Smallwood Manor, Uttoxeter Road, Netherland Green, Staffordshire, ST14 8NR Decision: Permitted
- iii) P/2023/00441 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 Decision: Permitted
- iv) P/2022/00055 Retention of balcony and installation of handrail, base rail and kick plate to rear first floor balcony and retention of Cedral shiplap cladding to the front, rear and first floor balcony area elevations. Location: 15 Windmill Drive, Marchington, ST14 8JP Decision: Permitted
- c) Enforcement Updates None
- 10. 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, Action: Cllr Hayhurst to send to Clerk. Handyman has repaired the gates & started on repairs to fence.
 - ii) Forestside playground and football pitch monthly safety report, Cllr Morgan no issues reported.
 - iii) Community Orchard Knotweed Contractor has been contacted and has said that it is essential to leave it alone until later in the season when spraying it will be most effective.
 - b) Marchington Village Hall, Cllr Mann reported that the VH has a busy programme with Festival activities.
 - c) Cricket Club
 - i) It was resolved to accept quotation of £420 +VAT from Michael Johnson Tree Surgery to cut the hedges.
 - ii) It was resolved to accept quotation of £225 + VAT from Midlands Ecology to conduct nesting bird survey if required.

Nothing will be booked unless planning permission is granted. PC has received notification from one owner that they intended to oppose the application.

11. Highways & Footpath issues,

- a) Highways issues
 - Thorney Lanes junction Cllr Hayes reported that two large boulders have been placed close to the road in a gateway & residents consider this is causing a hazard for traffic. Action: Clerk to report to Highways and Staffordshire Police.
 - (2) Birch Cross Flooding issue appears to be resolved.
 - (3) Potholes Priority list received from SCC Highways includes trench on Jacks Lane.
 - (4) Missing chevrons Cllr Atkins has chased up replacement chevron for Birch Cross but no result yet.
 - (5) HGVs on Marchington Cliff Cllr Atkins informed PC that HGV sign is not enforceable. Action: Clerk to investigate how PC could request that a weight limit be applied to this road.
 - (6) HGVs on Silver Lane Horton's have emailed their tenants and have also offered to pay for additional signage. Action: Clerk to speak with Highways and Hortons.
- d) Footpath issues, Chair
 - Smallwood Manor a proposal has been submitted to SCC Rights of Way to divert Marchington footpaths 7 & 0.688. Action: Clerk to monitor.
 - (2) Permissive Paths(a) Hound Hill PC is awaiting response from Evans Property Group.
 - (3) HMP Dovegate PC has been informed that access to the area/s around the prison have been denied by MoJ. Action: Clerk to ask for clarification on this. Repairs to Silver Lane footpath – (Vice Chair presided) Resident took action to improve the extremely muddy footpath last month and spent £150.24 on materials. Cllrs praised his actions, and all voted in favour of reimbursement upon satisfactory proof of expenditure.

Signed:..... Date:....

Member of public arrived at 8.48pm

- 12. It was resolved to accept quotation from Wainwright Rhodes Design of £390 to install Marchington Woodlands Noticeboard. To be funded from Solar Fund. Action: Clerk to arrange installation.
- 13. Flooding
 - a. Embankment (Bund) Cllr Morgan reported that work is due to start on 26th June, PC had site meeting recently with EA. Contractor will use car park for machinery etc. Work will take 6-8 weeks.
 - b. HMP Dovegate visit Cllr Morgan reported that at recent site meeting the head groundsman agreed to clear the ditch that runs through the prison land which will hopefully relieve the flooding in the village.
 - c. SCC Report Church Lane Flooding. The report has been added to the Parish Council website.
- 14. Finance, Chair
 - a) It was resolved to approve funding for village planters. (Five Cllrs voted in favour with one abstention)
 - b) Previously approved see Item 11 b) iii This will be added to July payments..
 - c) To authorise payments as listed in Appendix A
 - Proposed Cllr Hayes

Seconded – Cllr Bullock

- d) 2022-23 Annual Governance and Accountability Return to be approved for submission to External Auditors.
 - a. The Annual Internal Audit Report was received and noted.
 - b. The Annual Governance Statement was approved by all Councillors. Chair & Clerk signed & dated the document.
 - c. The Accounting Statements were approved by all Councillors. Chair signed the document.
- e) Section 137 Expenditure in 2022-23 was reviewed.
- 15. Vehicle Thefts Cllr Morgan expressed serious disappointment in the local rural policing in response to recent spate of vehicle thefts. Action: Clerk to contact other local Crown Ward Parish Councils to get support for a coordinated response on this issue to Police and Crime Commissioner and local MP. It was noted that it would add weight if residents wrote to the MP also.
- 16. Community Fund Chair asked for suggestions of projects that may be suitable. Action: All
- 17. Neighbourhood Plan Review Cllr Mann agreed to look into this. Action: Cllr Mann
- 18. Correspondence, Clerk
 - a) Resident regarding prison traffic HMP contacted and will advise GeoAmey of the rules, PCSO checking on restrictions re right turn out of the prison. Action: Clerk to follow up
 - b) Resident & MP regarding Birch Cross
- 19. Urgent items for input onto 11th July agenda
 - Severn Trent

Meeting closed at 9.25pm

Date of next meeting 11th July 2023

Signed:..... Date:....

Date 02/05/23	Monies received:						
02/05/23	Momes received:	£					
	RBS Gold Account Interest	£58.57					
15/05/23	Wayleave Payment from National Grid	£26.25					
19/05/23	Transfer from Leek Account (for Noticeboard)	£1,663.97					
19/05/23	Transfer from Leek Account (For MTCB Solar Grant)	£362.08					
	TOTAL OF RECEIPTS	£2,110.87					
Invoice Date	Invoices/Money to be paid out:	Net	Vat	Total	Chq No		
12/05/23	Marchington Village Hall - hire charge for CPR Training	£48.00	£0.00	£48.00	2610		
31/05/23	Perennial Landscapes Ltd - Inv. 6315	£530.12	£106.02	£636.14	2611		
31/05/23	Handyman wages	£511.00	£0.00	£511.00	2612		
31/05/23	Clerk Salary	£568.40	£0.00				
31/05/23	Clerk travel & expenses (incl. planning appl. fees and subscription to BrightPay)	£431.67	£27.21	£1,027.28 2613	2613		
31/05/23	Reimburse Cllr Mann for purchase of posts for Silver Lane playground fence repairs	£61.60	£12.32	£73.92	2614		
31/05/23	Reimburse Cllr Morgan for purchase of postcrete for playground fence repairs	£44.80	£0.00	£44.80	2615		
31/05/23	Payment to Jane Hilton - contribution towards plants for planters around the village	£40.04	£0.00	£40.04	2616		
31/05/23	Re-issue cheque to Clerk (lost by the bank/Post Office) for April salary/expenses	£823.32	£7.96	£831.28	2618	Previous cheque cancelled	
	TOTAL OF PAYMENTS	£3,058.95	£153.51	£3,212.46			
	As of 30th April 2023 Current Account Gold Account Solar Account	£1,008.62 £42,463.36 £59,063.52 £102,535.50					
	Solar Account Transfers						