

**Marchington Parish Council**  
**Minutes of a meeting held on**  
**11 June 2024 at Marchington Woodlands Village Hall, 7.30pm**

Present: Cllr J Hayhurst, Cllr A Mann, Cllr S A Newstead, Cllr D Hayes, Cllr I Morgan, Cllr H Bullock  
Siobhan Rumsby (Parish Clerk) 16 Members of the Public

1. Chair's Welcome and record of apologies. Apologies received from Cllrs P Hudson, A Tomkins, I Glover.
2. Declarations of Interest and Dispensations on items relating to the agenda were recorded:  
Cllr Hayhurst declared a conflict of interest in the Newfield Green Farm development (item 7 c ii)
3. It was **resolved** to accept the minutes circulated as a true record of the meeting held 14 May 2024.
4. Public Forum
  - a) A resident expressed concerns about prison traffic. Speeding through the village continues to be a problem and the Community Speed Watch still await a training session for new team members once enough people come forward for training. A Speed Indicator Device was discussed for Birch Cross but may be cost prohibitive at approximately £4.5k unless funding could be sought. Cllrs were asked what action was being taken on the feedback from Kate Kniveton on the multi-agency flood meeting. Agencies would be contacted after the Election.
5. Other Organisations
  - a) SCC – Cllr Atkins report had been circulated.
  - b) ESBC – nothing received.
6. Clerk's Report (previously circulated) – Roadmaster has been in village. The Council is pressing our County liaison officer on verge grass cutting as lack of visibility was making driving hazardous. Thanks were expressed to local farmers for their efforts in keeping the verges under control.
7. Planning applications, decisions, and enforcement issues:
  - a) **Planning Applications Received** - None received.  
The Newlands Green Farm application for change of use had not been validated. Consultations will take place when valid. Residents' comments were noted and our Borough Councillor has been asked for full support. He is unable to call in until the application is out for consultation. There had been several past approvals for conversion of farm buildings in Stock Lane. However, impact on flooding issues, traffic, sewerage and drainage had not been referred to. Applicants have taken advantage of Permitted Development Rights which are not as stringent in class uses.
  - b) **ESBC Planning Decisions Received and noted:**
    - PERMITTED**
      - i. P/2024/00422 Threefields, Church Lane: Felling of apple tree in rear garden (T1) and conifer tree (T2) in front garden
    - REFUSED**
      - ii. **P/2022/01145 & P/2023/00241** - (bagshaws), High Street, Marchington : Listed Building Consent and Demolition of outbuildings to facilitate the erection of 9 dwellings with associated garaging, detached garage, parking, alterations and demolition of rear wing to existing farmhouse, erection of a replacement two storey rear extension and provision of parking and workshop, and construction of amended vehicular access (Amended Drainage Strategy)

Signed .....(Chair)

Date .....

Cllr Morgan's report was accepted as briefed at the last full Council meeting following a meeting with ESBC Planning Manager, Naomi Perry and Planning Officer, Lisa Bird. Cllrs had been assured, there were no implications of this refusal on the Neighbourhood Plan and allocated 9 houses. The appeal deadline is September. Heritage to be considered. The black and white building needs to be preserved

- iii. A recent policy amendment is that solar panels are now being permitted in conversation areas.

**c) Enforcement Issues**

- i. Charnwood – no further updates. Cllr Hudson to be approached to find out who is responsible at County, also to establish whether there is a time limit on when the conditions on the height of the wall could be enforced.
- ii. Newfield Green Farm – clerk chased planning enforcement. An application for change of use has yet to be validated. Multiple representations had been received from residents with concerns about this change of use. Back door retrospective application, keep separate from enforcement.

**8. Council owned property -**

**a) Play areas and outdoor park areas safety checks –**

- i. Silver Lane playground report: Cllr Hayhurst circulated her inspection report. The swing structure is now fixed. Our handyman is fixing the gate. Signage has deteriorated and this can now be replaced in the new noticeboard.
- ii. Forestside playground and football pitch monthly safety report: as circulated from Cllr Tomkins. Grass cutting was imminent at the time of inspection. We are awaiting a reply from the grounds maintenance contractor.
- iii. Marchington Village Hall –  
The King Charles III portrait had arrived and this was given to Cllr Mann for installation. Artisan food and beverages will be available during the festival weekend at the hall. The flypast had understandably been cancelled.

**b) Cricket Club –**

- i. Quotes for the drive had been circulated.  
A resident asked if a permeable surface could be considered. As it is an access road with multiple vehicles passing all the time rather than a driveway it was felt this was not appropriate. The car park itself is a hardcore soakaway.  
It was proposed to have the whole drive done rather than patches and Quote 1 being the cheapest, was unanimously agreed with the proviso that the Cricket Club pay half of the cost.
- ii. Pedestrian bridge – When the walkway bridge is installed, the Cricket Club would like pedestrian exit from car park on Silver Lane to bridge. There is already a cut through from trees already so this wouldn't be necessary.

**9. Flooding and Environment**

- a) Public Meeting – Kate Kniveton's notes from the meeting had been circulated, various actions listed. Some drain work has been done at Birch Cross. County will keep the road to Uttoxeter open. Agencies to be chased on their action points.
- b) Flooding issues on Jacks Lane & B5017 - no update.
- c) Communication with schools on road closures. Wardens were monitoring the flood situation and communications with the school should be controlled by Parish Councillors. We would usually give them as much notice as possible but it is the school's decision if they close. It was agreed to come up with a liaison plan with school. Clerk to contact school office to arrange.

Signed .....(Chair)

Date .....

10. Highways & Footpath issues

- a) Buttermilk Hill landslip – Cllr Hayhurst advised this was Forestry Commission land. The clay is piled up in mounts and trees are in danger of falling into the road. Clerk to contact Forestry Commission.
- b) Our handyman has cleared the railway footpath. Sleeper installation still to be done.
- c) Styles in village to Moisty Lane are overgrown. Handyman to clear.

11. Dovegate Prison Traffic – Report circulated following meeting with Deputy Governor. List of vehicles presented. If signs are highways, it is a traffic offence. Turning left and then u-turn is not an offence. Licence plates drivers will be contacted so continue to report these to Serco.

Planning Conditions were referred to but it was doubtful if this could be enforceable 25 years on, the road layout has changed. Conditions to be sent to the governor to ask they be adhered to.

Whilst they attempt to release prisoners at appropriate times, it is clear some are being left stranded in the village with no transport to Uttoxeter. Geo Amey have been contacted about using the route through the village.

The art school have been working with them and a display in village halls will be discussed.

12. Finance, Chair

- a) The Annual Governance Statement and Accountability Return 2023-24 was reviewed.
  - i. Explanation of Significant Variances noted and accepted
  - ii. Year End Bank Reconciliation and Receipts and Payments account accepted
  - iii. Internal Audit (p.3 of AGAR) noted and accepted
  - iv. Accounting Statements (p.5 of AGAR) accepted
  - v. Publication of the Notice of Appointment of the date for the exercise of public rights accepted.

Resolved all items approved with one abstention.

- b) Payments as listed in Appendix A, reviewed and authorised.

13. Queen’s Bench – Cllr Mann had prepared the application and provided costings for a bench to be located adjacent the MWWH noticeboard. Categorisation needs clarification. Clerk to complete and circulate. Licence to plant and planning requirements will be investigated.

14. Correspondence and phone calls

- a) No reply from farm on livestock. Cllr Morgan offered to call the farmer but there had been no further incidents.
- b) ESBC forum 19 June – Cllr Bullock to attend if available.
- c) MWWH – Smallwood Manor – Clerk has chased for an update following the delay to the opening last year.

Suggestion of MPC contractors mowing area opposite the hall – this was SCC’s responsibility.

Triangle Chapel Green. Cllr Newstead has tried to get it cleared. Farm vehicles had been parked on it and it was difficult to avoid the potholes. Visibility had improved with tree work. The road markings are barely visible which can lead to accidents.

MWWH Hall hirers have reported state of roads are discouraging use of the hall. Carers also struggle with getting to residents. Clerk to continue to chase up reports.

15. Urgent items for input onto next agenda -

Flooding issues Forestside farm

Advance apologies for the next meeting noted from Cllr Newstead

**Meeting Closed at 21.23    Next Meeting : 9 July 2024, Marchington Village Hall, 7.30pm**

Signed .....(Chair)

Date .....

Date	Monies received:	£	Solar Transfers	
	<b>TOTAL OF RECEIPTS</b>	<b>£0.00</b>	<b>£0.00</b>	<b>£0.00</b>

Invoice Date	Invoices/Money to be paid out:	Net	Vat	Total	Chq No.
31/05/24	Clerk Salary - May	£608.40	£0.00		
31/05/24	Clerk travel & expenses - May	£149.82		£758.22	2703
31/05/24	Mr J Lloyd (Handyman) May Wages & Expenses	£350.57	£4.51	£355.08	2706
11/06/24	Perennial Landscapes - May grounds maintenance	£460.99	£92.20	£553.19	2704
11/06/24	SPCA - Councillor Fundamentals - Cllr Newstead	£30.00	£6.00	£36.00	2705
	<b>TOTAL OF PAYMENTS</b>	<b>£1,599.78</b>	<b>£102.71</b>	<b>£1,702.49</b>	

Bank Balance as at	30/05/24		
Current Account	£1,000.77		
Gold Account	£44,299.73		
Solar Account **	£59,311.91		
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>£104,612.41</b>		

**\*\* NOTE: Solar account Bank Interest paid annually on 1st January**

Signed .....(Chair)

Date .....