

**Marchington Parish Council**  
**Minutes of a meeting held on**  
**13 August 2024 at Marchington Village Hall, 7.30pm**

Present: Cllr A Mann, Cllr D Hayes, Cllr H Bullock, Cllr A Tomkins, Cllr I Glover, Cllr S A Newstead  
Siobhan Rumsby (Parish Clerk)  
14 Members of the Public

1. Chair's Welcome and record of apologies. Apologies received from Cllrs I Morgan, J Hayhurst, P Hudson
2. There were no Declarations of Interest or Dispensations on items relating to the agenda.
3. It was **resolved** that the Minutes of 9 July 2024 were accepted to be signed by the Chair as a true record of the meeting.
4. Public Forum – Several residents were present with concerns about the planning application at Newfield Farm. A spokesman resident outlined his objections regarding the application:
  - The building development was questionable, and information had been provided retrospectively by enforcement rather than by due diligence.
  - The development does not fulfil policies in ESBC's local plan.
  - The planning statement was of poor quality and misleading, references to planning policy were selective – NP8 not mentioned and 14 was not relevant.
  - A traffic survey carried out by residents recorded over 106 vehicles - 26 of which were HGVs, also 4x4's and box trailers; these were travelling contrary to the hours mentioned in the application and were recorded at all hours of the day and at speed. Concerns were around safety of road users, children, cattle, horses and other vehicles.
  - Operational – unsociable hours contrary to the application.
  - Environment – hedgerows had been removed and significant landscaping works undertaken.
  - Flooding – area is Zone 1 and abuts zone 3; the watercourse has been remodelled, fielding into flood zone 3. Surfaces have been removed and replaced with concrete with no drainage. Flooding impact will affect the Woodlands and Marchington village.
  - Pollution - storage of chemicals and flammable materials will run off the concrete into watercourses.

Thanks were expressed to all residents for representations received.

5. Other Organisations
  - a) Staffordshire County Council – none received.
  - b) East Staffordshire Borough Council – Cllr Hudson was aware of the Newfield Farm planning application and will bring into a full planning meeting.
6. Clerk's Report – Some holes have been repaired. Thorney lanes have been done well but elsewhere repairs do not look durable. Some verges have been cut and thanks were expressed to the farmers who have helped. There had been another water burst on the same stretch again at the Woodlands. An asbestos pipe has been repaired in the past.
7. Planning applications, decisions, and enforcement issues:
  - a) **Planning Applications Received –**

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- i) P/2024/00463 - Newfield Farm, Newfield Green Road, Marchington Woodlands, ST14 8PB: Retention of use from an agricultural building for storage of marquees and associated equipment (Use Class B8) and extension of hardstanding.  
*Existing permission was not in accordance with agricultural permission. Main points were that this farming to industrial use was inappropriate, and the development can be seen from the road; hedge removal; traffic safety issues along narrow lanes with poor visibility. Councillors agreed this was creeping development in the Woodlands. There had been 7 barn conversions, all by non-farmers. Flooding issues were a concern and there is no foul water drainage. All in favour of objection. Clerk to circulate response to all councillors before submitting to ESBC.*
- ii) P/2024/00796 - 29 Woodland Views, Marchington, Staffordshire, ST14 8NF  
Reduce Sycamore tree back to previous pollard points – *no objections.*

**b) ESBC Planning Decisions Received and noted –**

**PERMITTED**

- i) P/2024/00309 - The Old Station Masters House, Station Road, Marchington: Erection of a single storey rear extension, alterations to master bedroom including first floor rear sliding doors and formation of flat roof balcony area with handrail.

**REFUSED:**

- ii) P/2023/00954 - Ashleigh, Uttoxeter Road, Netherland Green: Use of the existing stable block and equestrian facilities for mixed personal and full livery use

**c) Enforcement Issues**

- i. Charnwood – no further updates.

**8. Council owned property -**

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

- i. Silver Lane playground report: Cllr Bullock’s report referred to and actions noted.
- ii. Forestside playground report: Cllr Glover’s report referred to. Foliage from back of houses needs cutting back and weed-kill applied. Rear fence had collapsed which is the responsibility of the houses. 2 coping stones are still missing. Football pitch, one net is partially detached. The boards for laminated notices are splitting and will need attention to avoid further deterioration.

Request for Defibrillator at Forestside was considered. Previous units had been donated. Power supply/ location is a problem and maintenance checks would be needed. Replacement of pads, batteries etc need to be factored in. It was agreed to refer back to the enquirer asking if they could assist with sourcing funding and highlighting the issues around location, power source and on costs. Whilst it was unbudgeted, councillors could consider funding from the solar monies if other issues could be overcome.

- b) Marchington Village Hall – Cllr Mann reported plenty of bookings. The canopy lining has been done. It was agreed to move a confidential item to the end of the agenda (item 16) and to exclude members of the press and public for GDPR reasons.

- c) Cricket Club – parking issues. County games increasing. They have been requested to park in Silver Lane. The Chairman would contact Staffs County Cricket Assoc to raise the issues if problems persisted. Silver Lane car park was not opened last weekend due to risk of travellers but with

people on holiday there were less vehicles expected. All comms will refer to parking locations. The footbridge will help when this is built.

9. Flooding and Environment

- a) Members of the flood action group plus one resident had visited the pumping station and the route of pumping seemed to be circular. A gauge will be altered to kick in sooner. Filters are cleared regularly by another company. Contact details to be forwarded. Our new MP is to be briefed and a meeting requested. The pumping will be raised with the prison at the next meeting.
- b) Communication with schools on road closures – meeting to be set for the new term.

10. Highways & Footpath issues

- a) Highways issues
  - i. Buttermilk Hill landslip – a further contact would be pursued. Surface has deteriorated.
  - ii. A50 closure – several closures are in place and diversions are confusing. It was suggested a contraflow would be preferable for vehicles to continue on the A50. Branches were already in the middle of road on Hound Hill from lorry damage and traffic continues all night long. Draycott in the Clay PC are also concerned and had approached Cllr Atkins. Photo or video evidence of the traffic disturbances would be useful.

11. Dovegate Prison Traffic – a follow up meeting had been arranged with the Governor for 23 September.

12. Finance, Chair

- a) The Schedule of Receipts and Payments as listed in Appendix A was reviewed and authorised.
- b) Insurance renewal, circulated quotes were considered, and it was resolved by all in favour to accept quote 1 under a 3-year Long Term Agreement.

13. Queen’s Bench – Cllr Atkins had indicated that CCF funding would be supported and costing options were considered. Concrete fixings for the bench would be more secure. UV paint was discussed. After some discussion, all in favour of Option B. Application to be progressed.

14. Correspondence and phone calls

- a) Cricket club parking issues being addressed.
- b) Request for defibrillator equipment at Forestside had been discussed.
- c) Browns Recycling – they have been made aware and were talking to their drivers.
- d) Army barracks request for information. The enquirer had received positive feedback on his idea for a community hub project in one of the buildings making garments and crafting. However, it is owned by Evans Properties, Leeds, who had not been very forthcoming. More research is being carried out along with liaison with Burton Hope project and a contact at Staffordshire Community Infrastructure. Councillors asked to be kept in the loop with any further developments.

15. Urgent items for input onto next agenda –  
Pumping Station.

16. There followed a closed session item relating to Marchington Village Hall.

**Meeting Closed at 21.15**

**Next Meeting : 10 September 2024, Marchington Village Hall, 7.30pm**

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Aug-24 Appendix A - Schedule of Receipts and Payments

Date	Monies received:	£	Solar Transfers	
01/08/24	Interest	£80.50		
	<b>TOTAL OF RECEIPTS</b>	<b>£80.50</b>	<b>£0.00</b>	<b>£80.50</b>

Invoice Date	Invoices/Money to be paid out:	Net	Vat	Total	Chq No.
31/07/24	Clerk Salary	£608.40	£0.00	£673.18	2713
31/07/24	Clerk travel & expenses	£62.85	£1.93		
31/07/24	Mr J Lloyd (Handyman) Wages & Expenses	£304.00		£304.00	2714
30/07/24	Perennial Landscapes - July grounds maintenance	£460.99	£92.20	£553.19	2715
11/07/24	Cll Andrew Mann - expenses sleepers	£30.00		£30.00	2716
13/08/24	Marchington Parish Council - ESBC funding to Solar (transfer)	£1,000.00		£1,000.00	2717
13/08/24	Insurance Renewal - Zurich	£1,034.95		£1,034.95	2718
	<b>TOTAL OF PAYMENTS</b>	<b>£3,501.19</b>	<b>£94.13</b>	<b>£3,595.32</b>	

Bank Balance as at	26/07/24
Current Account	£1,001.12
Gold Account	£38,339.37
Solar Account **	£63,541.91
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>£102,882.40</b>

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

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