



**AGREED MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF THE MARDEN PARISH COUNCIL
AMENITIES COMMITTEE ON TUESDAY 28TH FEBRUARY 2023 HELD AT 7.30PM
AT THE ALLENS, ALBION ROAD**

115/23 PRESENT

Cllrs Barker, Besant, Boswell (in the Chair), Newton, Robertson, Tippen and Turner. Cllr Adam and Gibson with the Deputy Clerk were also in attendance.

Cllr Turner arrived at 19.33.

116/23 APOLOGIES

Cllr Stevens had given his apologies.

117/23 COUNCILLOR INFORMATION

Declarations of Interest

Cllr Boswell declared an interest in item 121/23 (Southons Field) as a resident backing onto the field; Cllrs Newton and Tippen declared an interest in item 129/23 (Memorial Hall) as Trustees of the Marden Memorial Hall. Cllr Gibson declared an interest in item 123/23 as a resident on the development near the Allotments.

Granting of Dispensation

There were no requests for dispensation.

118/23 APPROVAL OF PREVIOUS AMENITIES COMMITTEE MINUTES

The minutes of the meeting held on 24th January 2023 were agreed and signed as a true record.

119/23 IDENTIFICATION OF ITEMS INVOLVING PUBLIC SPEAKING

There were no members of the public in attendance.

120/23 DEPUTY CLERK REPORT

The report was submitted to Cllrs prior to the meeting. The Deputy Clerk is continuing to seek other quotes for the Napoleon Drive play area wet pour and plans to have quotes or more information for Cllrs at the March Amenities meeting. The insurers have been contacted and we are awaiting to hear back from them regarding the replacement piece of equipment in the Napoleon Drive play area. The Admin Assistant is approaching other companies about a new piece of equipment to replace the spinning see saw to compare prices on the wet pour installation prices. The picnic benches will be ordered in March/April time when the ground is firmer for the delivery lorry to access the field without causing damage. The Clerk is still waiting to hear about the CCTV on the Playing Field and Golding Homes will be liaising with the CCTV company direct. The Clerk has emailed for an update but no response received as yet. The Deputy Clerk will contact the Community Payback Team to liaise with them about painting the bollards when the weather is a bit drier and are happy to add any jobs to their list. The grave owners in the new section have been contacted. The scrap metal removal will be arranged when the weather is much drier to allow for heavy vehicle access. A new waste bin has been delivered for the Caretaker. The Caretaker is using some of the scrap metal to create a compost heap. The Clerk is also bringing in a compost bin for use at the Cemetery. A date is yet to be organised between Cllr Besant and the Caretakers to see how they can install the cemetery pathway signage.

121/23 OPEN SPACE**Playing Field**Play Inspection Reports from MBC and MPC.

Reports had been received from the Caretaker for MPC and no new issues were reported. There was no report received from Maidstone Borough Council in time for this meeting.

Other Playing Field Issues

Cllr Besant reported that a sign had appeared near the Youth Shelter and asked that the Caretaker remove it.

Southons FieldPlay Trail Inspection Report from MPC.

There were no new issues to report.

Events on Southons Field.

A request had been received from Hazlitt Theatre to put an outdoor production on in Southons Field on Tuesday 15th August. Cllrs agreed and the Clerk would be asked to send the relevant forms.

Other Southons Field Issues

Cllr Adam requested that the Southons Field entrance gates be put on the next Amenities Committee meeting agenda in March.

Other Open SpaceOpen Space Action Plan

There were no new updates since the last Amenities Committee meeting.

TreesTree Planting

Cllr Besant updated Cllrs with his Tree and Hedgerow proposal which included planting trees and hedgerows acquired from the Conservation Trust in areas on Parish Council owned land. It was proposed the planting takes place on Saturday 11th March. Cllr Besant will be joined by the Police Cadets and their Supervisor. Cllrs discussed and agreed with the proposal.

122/23 CEMETERY**Other Cemetery Issues**

Cllr Boswell recommended that the Scattering of Ashes area be prepared by the Caretakers in readiness for the wildflower seeds. Cllr Tippen also asked the Deputy Clerk to approach the Caretaker about the work on the roses.

123/23 ALLOTMENTS

There were no further updates for this meeting.

124/23 PUBLIC TOILETS AND CAR PARK**Public Toilet Issues**

The Clerk had received an email with regard a transfer of water supply for the Public Toilets and Changing Room. Cllrs had various questions and asked the Deputy Clerk that these answers be taken to the Finance Committee for discussion. Cllrs agreed.

Car Park Issues

Cllr Adam raised the request that the Clerks contact MBC about remarking the lines in the Library car park and that a general tidy up be conducted. Cllrs requested that MBC be contacted with the results of the Car Park Survey that no change to the current car parking restrictions was needed.

125/23 ENVIRONMENT SUB-GROUP**Water Bottle Refill Station.**

At the previous Amenities meeting, the Clerks were requested to obtain quotes from local plumbers to install drinking water taps in the Public Toilets. A quote was received following a detailed site visit. The other two quotes were based on an hourly rate plus parts. In order for Cllrs to discuss the quotes comparatively, Cllrs requested that the Deputy Clerk contact the other two companies, request a site visit in order to give detailed quotes and that these be taken to the next Full Council meeting for a decision.

Environment Sub-Group Update

Cllr Boswell gave an update on the last Environmental Sub-Group meeting on 21st February and the Carbon Footprint Report for Marden was discussed. The next meeting of the Environment Sub-Group would be Tuesday 18th April.

Draft Estate Management Plan

The plan was circulated to Cllrs. Cllrs reviewed and it was suggested that it would be passed to the Clerks to read and see what can be put into action after the King's Coronation event. It was recommended that it would go on the Full Council April agenda.

126/23 CORRESPONDENCE

There was no correspondence received for this meeting.

127/23 HEALTH AND WELLBEING

Cllr Boswell had circulated some notes from a NALC Social Isolation and Loneliness event from a Local Council perspective she had attended and how local councils can help improve the wellbeing of those who are socially isolated or lonely which is a problem nationwide. Marden has already got a few initiatives in place by other service providers which help to tackle this issue. Cllr Boswell suggested that one of the Social Prescribing team working at the Medical Centre could provide a piece for the next Newsletter by providing examples of how Involve has helped patients in Marden. It was also suggested that the Friendly Bench Initiative be placed on the Marden Amenities agenda. Cllrs noted.

128/23 ACTION GROUPS REPORTS**Village Events****King's Coronation – Monday 8th May 2023**

The Clerks and Admin Assistant are busy with the preparations. A good number of stallholders have already booked in and the entertainment had been sorted. An update will be given to the Village Events Sub-Group at their next meeting on Tuesday 7th March.

Village Litter Pick – Saturday 11th March 2023

Volunteers have been coming forward for the Village Litter Pick and preparations are being made. The John Banks Hall has been booked.

129/23 OUTSIDE BODIES REPORTS**Memorial Hall**

Cllrs Newton and Tippen informed Cllrs that there were no new updates to report.

Youth

The Marden Youth Club continues in John Banks Hall. The KCC Youth Worker had been invited to attend this meeting but the Deputy Clerk had not received a response.

130/23 OUTSTANDING ISSUES/CARETAKERS TO DO LIST

There were no new issues to report.

131/23 FURTHER ISSUES FOR DECISION**Review of Amenities Policies, Risk Assessments and Terms of Reference**

The Deputy Clerk had circulated the Amenities Policies, Risk Assessments and Terms of Reference to Cllrs with suggested tracked changes. Cllrs agreed the amendments and these would be put to the Full Council at the March meeting.

132/23 FURTHER ISSUES FOR DISCUSSION/INFORMATION**Site Meetings**

Cllr Boswell suggested Friday 14th and Saturday 15th April for the Amenities Site Meetings. Cllrs noted and added to their diaries.

133/23 INVOICES FOR PAYMENT

There were no invoices requiring agreement.

There being no further business, the meeting closed at 21.00.

Date:

Signed:

Cllr Anne Boswell Chairman, Amenities Committee

Marden Parish Council, Parish Office, Goudhurst Road, Marden, Kent, TN12 9JX

T: 01622 832305 / 07940 241333 E: deputyclerk@mardenkent-pc.gov.uk W: www.mardenkent-pc.gov.uk