



MINUTES OF THE PARISH COUNCIL MEETING HELD ON TUESDAY 14TH JULY 2015 AT THE ALLENS, ALBION ROAD, MARDEN COMMENCING AT 7.30PM

- 038/15 **PRESENT:** Cllrs Adam, Boswell, Mannington, Newton, Reed, Tippen, Turner and Weir.
The Clerk was also in attendance.
- 039/15 **APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE:** Apologies were received from Cllr Childs, Cllr Brown and Cllr Robertson.
- 040/15 **(a) DECLARATION OF INTEREST:** Cllrs Newton and Reed declared interests in item as Trustees of Marden Memorial Hall and item as Trustees of Allen & Maplesden Charity.
(b) COUNCILLORS REGISTER OF INTEREST There were no register of interests
(c) GRANTING OF DISPENSATION – There were no granting of dispensation
- 041/15 **MINUTES OF THE PREVIOUS MEETING**
Minutes of the Parish Council meeting held on 9th June and the Extraordinary Parish Council meeting held on 16th June were agreed and signed as true records.
- 042/15 **IDENTIFICATION OF ITEMS INVOLVING PUBLIC SPEAKING** There were no members of the public in attendance.

19:33 – Cllr Turner arrived at the meeting

The meeting was adjourned for the following items:

EXTERNAL REPORTS

Borough Councillors present – any information from MBC – no Cllr present

County Councillor present – not present

Police – not in attendance but an email had been received regarding the crime figures: 5 in total – 3 theft from motor vehicles which had been left insecure; 1 criminal damage and 1 theft of garden furniture.

CCTV had now been installed outside shops in Church Green and all shop owners had been spoken to and advised to report any issued regarding youths. On Sunday 28th June a fire was reported at Marden Train Station and British Transport Police were aware. Email was due to be sent to NHW co-ordinators advising residents to lock vehicles. Posters would also be placed around the village.

Community Warden – not in attendance but an email had been received reporting that the dog show went well. Incidents of trapping wild birds in the area which is a crime – any suspicious activity should be reported.

19:41 Cllr Weir arrived at the meeting

The meeting was reconvened for the rest of the agenda.

- 043/15 **MATTERS ARISING FROM PREVIOUS MINUTES (for information only)**
There were no matters arising.

044/15 PARISH MATTERS

- (a) Local Needs Housing – Planning Inspectorate was due to visit to the site on 22nd June 2015.

- (b) Business Forums
MBF – Marden Business Showcase held on 2nd July – several Cllrs attended the evening and felt it was a very good way in making Marden aware of what businesses are within the parish.
NRBF – Newsletter which had been circulated to Cllrs prior to the meeting
- (c) Police Forum – no meeting had been held
- (d) Communication
(i) Newsletter: The next newsletter was due to go to print 28th August – items proposed for the next edition are: events being held in the parish throughout the year, play scheme, elections 2016, Marden Dog Show, Big Musical Picnic, update on Marden in Bloom, Marden cemetery extension, Fire Hydrants, Children’s Centre, Marden History Group, Memorial Hall roof update, Local Heroes, CCTV, untaxed vehicles, trim trail.
(ii) Website: nothing to report
- (e) Cemetery – Exclusive Right of Burial Certificates - no ERB certificates were presented to be signed
- (f) Marden Memorial Hall Roof update, borrowing approval application and Public Works Loan application – Works commencing on 25th July. Borrowing approval application has been sent to DCLG and now awaiting response before we can request the loan. Building Regulations have been applied for and confirmation of receipt has been received.
Cllrs agreed to proceed with the insurance once questions are raised with the insurers regarding what is covered within the policy.
- (g) Napoleon Drive Transfer – Email received from Parish Council’s solicitors regarding signatories and payment of legal fees which had been replied to on 26th June, no further information received.
- (h) River Medway Flood Storage Areas - Joint newsletter from Local Authorities and Environment Agency regarding progress on work to reduce flood risk which had previously been circulated to Cllrs - noted
- (i) Allen & Maplesden Charity – Parish Council representation - The Clerk had contacted the Chairman of the Charity for details of the four representative Trustees but to date had not received a reply.
- (j) Parish Council documents – off site back up facilities – Information and quotes were being obtained by the Clerk as the Parish Council computers now hold a lot of information including financial and Pear Technology software.
- (k) CCTV – It is hoped that delivery on the camera will be soon. Maidstone Community Safety Unit will then be asked to come and install at Marden car park. At the same time the clerk will ask for advice regarding camera positioning etc at Marden Playing Field.

045/15 COMMITTEE REPORTS

- (a) **Amenities Committee** – Minutes of the Amenities Committee Meeting held on 23rd June had been previously circulated. Play Trail was being installed in Southons Field tomorrow and would take approximately 2 days. An official opening would take place on 30th July as the Thursday Club and Marden Play Scheme would be using the field.
- (b) **Planning Committee** - Minutes of Planning Meetings held on 2nd, 16th and 30th June had been previously circulated.
The pillars had been erected at Highwood Green and Cllrs noticed that the “pineapples” had been installed. The Clerk to contact the site manager as it was discussed at the previous meeting that these were not being used. The Clerk was also asked to retrieve the agreed plans regarding the pavements outside the development and the proposed parking area.

(c) **Other Conferences/Meetings attended:**

17th June – SLCC Clerks Conference – The Clerk and Assistant Clerk attended
 27th June – Parish Council S106 site meeting – notes of this meeting would be available prior to the next Amenities meeting.

(e) **Conferences/Meetings for the coming months:**

17th July – Pear Technology training
 24th July – KALC Councillor Conference
 11th September – Rural Speeding Working Group – Cllr Childs to attend

046/15 **CORRESPONDENCE**

- (a) Marden Parish Church – July edition - for information
- (b) The Clerk Magazine – July edition - for information
- (c) KALC Parish News – July edition - for information
- (d) KALC Maidstone Area Committee – proposed Motion regarding housing numbers – this had previously been circulated to Cllrs and was discussed at the meeting. Cllrs felt they could not agree with this motion as there was no evidence to support a lower figure of housing numbers in the Borough.
- (e) Maidstone's Draft Cycle Strategy – email from Maidstone Cycle Forum for information requested regarding cycling provision in Marden. The Clerk was asked to respond with details of what is available in Marden.
- (f) ACRK – Oast to Coast - for information
- (g) Community Heartbeat – Village Emergency Telephone System (VETS) - information passed to the Parish Council from the History Group but the Clerk was unsure as to what was being asked of the Parish Council. Cllr Newton would discuss at the next History Group meeting and report back to Amenities Committee.
- (h) Other *not on agenda* – Copy letter to Cllr John Perry regarding Low Weald Designation in the Draft Local Plan. Item to be placed on planning agenda.

047/15 **FINANCE**

- (a) Balances as at 24th June 2015
Post Office £17,642.22: Santander Account £37,660.48
Nat West Account: £109,274.12
- (b) Payments for Approval (list available at meeting)
- (c) Quotes received for Changing room building repointing – Three quotes had been received and the Clerk was asked to place item on Amenities Agenda together with providing Cllrs with a breakdown of the finance budget. Cllrs were asked to visit the site to view the building before the Amenities meeting.

048/15 **HIGHWAYS AND PUBLIC TRANSPORT**

- a) **Highways**
 Highways Issues – Traffic Calming and other highways issues
Other Highways Issues
 Maidstone Road and High Street were due to be closed for two days for resurfacing work from Wednesday however the Clerk had been informed that this was now being moved to Thursday/Friday.
 The Clerk had been contacted via Facebook of concerns over parking on the Chantry Road estate roads.

(b) **Public Transport**

Marden Station

Improve Rail and Bus Services and Facilities

Meeting with a representative of South Eastern was held on 13th July – Cllrs Adam and Reed attended with the Assistant Clerk. Main issues raised were parking, step free access to down platform, potholes and relining of car park. Notes had been circulated.

Other items raised by Cllrs:

Fingerposts – The Clerk was asked to speak to Dave Bishop regarding repainting

New street name plates have been replaced for some streets but not in others

Arrange the Litter bin meeting with MBC

There being no further business the meeting closed at 21.16pm

PUBLIC FORUM

The Chairman closes the meeting and then invites members of the public to ask questions or make statements. The public must not take part at any other times

There were no members of the public in attendance.