



## MINUTES OF THE PARISH COUNCIL MEETING HELD ON TUESDAY 11<sup>TH</sup> OCTOBER 2016 AT THE ALLENS, ALBION ROAD, MARDEN COMMENCING AT 7.30PM

- 091/16 **PRESENT:** Cllrs Adam, Boswell, Childs, Cowin, Mannington, Newton, Robertson and Tippen (in the chair) were present. The Clerk and PCSO Nicola Morris were also in attendance.
- 092/16 **APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE** Apologies were received from Cllrs Brown, Harvey and Turner.
- 093/16 **INTERESTS**
- (a) **AMENDMENTS TO COUNCILLOR REGISTERS OF INTEREST:** There were no amendments to the Registers of Interest
- (b) **DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST:** Cllr Boswell declared a pecuniary interest in items 097/16(j) as husband has quoted for the work and 100/16(c) as Chairman of Marden in Bloom. Cllr Boswell would leave the meeting when these items were being discussed.
- (C) Cllr Boswell also declared an interest as a neighbouring resident of Southons Field and Cllr Newton declared an interest as a Trustee of Marden Memorial Hall.
- GRANTING OF DISPENSATION:** There were no requests for dispensation.
- 094/16 **MINUTES OF THE PREVIOUS MEETING**  
Minutes of the Parish Council meeting held on 13<sup>th</sup> September 2016 to be agreed and signed as a true record.
- 095/16 **IDENTIFICATION OF ITEMS INVOLVING PUBLIC SPEAKING**  
There were no members of the public in attendance.

The meeting was adjourned for the following items:

### **PUBLIC FORUM**

There were no members of the public in attendance.

### **EXTERNAL REPORTS**

Borough Councillors: Not present

County Councillor: Not present

Police: 12 crimes had been committed since the last meeting: 4 thefts from motor vehicles (although 3 vehicles were parked on driveways and unlocked); 3 burglaries other than dwellings (2 were in Staplehurst Road and the vehicle number plate had been logged – investigation ongoing); 2 criminal damage (possibly with a catapult); 2 thefts and 1 theft of a fork lift truck.

Other incidents over the past month include: abandoned vehicle in Goudhurst Road being dealt with; nuisance youths in Pattenden Lane; several reports received of a 13 year old sleeping rough – ongoing work involving the family and social services; reports of issues at The Cockpit and Maynards area with children entering the building site; young male entered front garden and knocked door – male identified and advice given; and an operation had taken place in the village with unmarked Police vehicles resulted in 2 arrests at Marden Station with drugs and money being recovered – investigation ongoing.

PCSO Morris had a new mobile number which would be passed to Cllrs for their information.

The issue of Clowns was raised following reports on social media etc and advised to be vigilant especially with Halloween coming up.

A resident had contacted the Parish Office with concerns over motorcycles on the new estate.

Parish Office, Goudhurst Road, Marden : 01622 832305

[mardenpc@btconnect.com](mailto:mardenpc@btconnect.com) / [www.mardenpc.kentparishes.gov.uk](http://www.mardenpc.kentparishes.gov.uk)

Parish Office opening times:

Mondays, Tuesdays & Fridays: 10am to 12noon



Community Warden: Not present

The meeting was reconvened for the rest of the agenda.

**096/16 MATTERS ARISING FROM PREVIOUS MINUTES (for information only)**

To Do List was gone through by the Chairman but no more information was reported.

**097/16 PARISH MATTERS**

- (a) Local Needs Housing: The Clerk had emailed Golding Homes and the transfer of land was due to have taken place last Friday. It was envisaged that work would commence in December/January.
- (b) Business Forums: Nothing to report
- (c) Police Forum: Date for the next meeting is unknown. The Clerk would contact the group for information.
- (d) Communication
  - (i) Newsletter: The Winter edition of the newsletter is due to go to print on 4<sup>th</sup> November. Cllr Boswell gave details of items to be included.
  - (ii) Website: Still waiting for KCC to upgrade.
- (e) Cemetery – Exclusive Right of Burial Certificates: 1 Transfer and 2 ERBs were signed.
- (f) Parish Council Action Plan: Noted and the Clerk would add an annual service for the new mower when delivered later this month.
- (g) Developments & Street naming: Cllr Tippen had put together a document of proposed street names. This was discussed in detail and it was agreed that names of Wildflowers would be used for the Stanley Farms development. It was also discussed to look at Cricketers/Hockey Players and/or Tennis Players for the Marden Cricket and Hockey field development and Doctors/Headteachers names for the Howland Road development. Cllr Adam informed the Cllrs that names cannot be used if the person is still living and this was taken on board for future reference.  
The Clerk had been approached by Peter Hall following the sad death of Trevor Simmons asking if the Council could consider naming a road/path on The Parsonage site after him. As the road names had already been agreed by Maidstone Borough Council it was proposed that the pathway leading from the development towards the open fields would be named after Trevor. The Clerk would contact Redrow to confirm that this was acceptable.
- (h) KCC Consultation – Marden Primary School:  
<http://consultations.kent.gov.uk/consult.ti/MardenSchool/consultationHome?done=GRPJustRegistered> closing date 21<sup>st</sup> October. There was a drop in session at Marden School on 12<sup>th</sup> October when several Cllrs were hoping to attend. It was therefore agreed that this would be deferred until the Planning meeting next week.
- (i) Grant funding for Parish Councils – renewable energy feasibility studies  
<http://www.carbonsmart.co.uk/supporting-parish-councils-to-win-funding-and-develop-renewable-projects/>. It was agreed to pass the information to the Memorial Hall.
- (j) *20:21 Cllr Boswell left the meeting whilst this item was discussed*  
Cast Iron Fingerpost Refurbishment - information had been received as to what work is needed to be undertaken. Cllrs agreed in principle to accept the quote and the Clerk would speak with Kent Highways over the concerns of safety and vegetation clearance.  
*20:26 Cllr Boswell returned to the meeting.*
- (k) MBC Dog Bin Removal Programme previously circulated – A consultation was being held but this was only for 2 weeks however the Clerk had provided details of what bins were due to be removed and which would be replaced. It was agreed that the main priority was to keep a bin in the playing field by Morello Path as the bin at the far end of the playing field was been removed. If possible Cllrs would also wish to see the one in Albion Road remain.
- (l) Other:  
Cllr Tippen reported that the Medical Centre had received confirmation that their boundaries had been retracted.

098/16 **COMMITTEE REPORTS**

- (a) **Amenities Committee** – Minutes of the Amenities meeting held on 27<sup>th</sup> September had been previously circulated. A report was given by the Chairman of Amenities.
- (b) **Planning Committee** – Minutes of Planning Meetings held on 20<sup>th</sup> September and 4<sup>th</sup> October had been previously circulated. A report was given by the Chairman of Planning.
- (c) **Finance Committee** – Minutes of the Meeting held on 4<sup>th</sup> October had been previously circulated. A report was given by the Chairman of Finance.
- (d) **Other Conferences/Meetings attended:**  
 26<sup>th</sup> September – KALC Area Committee Meeting: Cllr Childs attended and gave a brief report.  
 3<sup>rd</sup> October – Borough Councillor meeting: Cllrs Mannington and Tippen attended. Minutes of this meeting had been circulated to Cllrs.  
 6<sup>th</sup> October – SLCC Finance Event – The Clerk had attended and several items regarding VAT had come out of this meeting. The Clerk would look into these in more details and report back.  
 10<sup>th</sup> October – Memorial Hall meeting. The Trustees had employed someone to undertake the Risk Assessments and a report would be given to the Parish Council in due course.
- (e) **Conferences/Meetings for the coming months:**  
 18<sup>th</sup> October – Parish Christmas meeting  
 27<sup>th</sup> October – Highways Conference at Oakwood House – The Clerk attending  
 28<sup>th</sup> October – The Cockpit Play Area Meeting – Cllr Tippen and The Clerk attending  
 3<sup>rd</sup> November – Internal Auditor in Parish Office  
 The Clerk was asked to find out when the next Rural Speeding Group meeting was due to be held.

099/16 **CORRESPONDENCE**

- (a) NALC – Local Government Finance Settlement Consultation – ends 28<sup>th</sup> October 2016  
<https://www.gov.uk/government/consultations/local-government-finance-settlement-2017-to-2018-technical-consultation>. The main part of the document which was of interest to the Parish Council was precept referendums. The Clerk would draft a response and circulate to Cllrs.
- (b) NALC Bulletins: These had previously been circulated and noted.
- (c) KALC Parish News: Noted
- (d) Marden Parish Church – invite to Remembrance Service on 13<sup>th</sup> November: Noted
- (e) Marden Parish Church Magazine: Noted
- (f) Email from resident: Concern had been raised over the content of a recent email from a resident and the Clerk would circulate a response which had been drafted by Cllr Brown and a Policy to enable a response to be sent back if this occurs again.

100/16 **FINANCE**

- (a) Balances as at 27<sup>th</sup> September 2016  
**Post Office £17,774.54: Santander Account £49,901.69**  
**Nat West Account: £144,026.93**
- (b) Payments for Approval. A list of payments and invoices were presented to the Cllrs and all cheques signed.
- (c) *21:16 Cllr Boswell left the meeting for this item*  
 Marden in Bloom donation request: Following receipt of a grant application form Cllrs proposed and agreed a donation of £100.  
*21:19 Cllr Boswell returned to the meeting*
- (d) Annual Return 2015/16 received back from External Auditor: No response had been received and the relevant pages have been advertised on the notice boards and website.
- (e) CCTV – update from Finance meeting. The Finance Committee had proposed and agreed the purchase of CCTV at Marden Playing Field from QTec and the order was currently being processed.
- (f) Unity Bank application – The Clerk had completed the majority of the application form and Cllrs were asked to check their details and sign. These would then be collated and the

complete document submitted to the next meeting.

101/16 **HIGHWAYS AND PUBLIC TRANSPORT**

a) **Highways**

*Highways Issues – Traffic Calming and other highways issues*

**Other Highways Issues**

Update from Parking Consultation – The Clerk had completed the analysis and Cllrs Boswell and Childs were passed the documentation. A meeting would be arranged to review the papers and responses.

Clapper Farm Lane – an area of the lane was still being blocked. Cllrs asked to contact Kent Highways and Kent Police quoting the relevant Acts regarding this.

(b) **Public Transport**

*Marden Station*

*Improve Rail and Bus Services and Facilities*

Update from South Eastern following the meeting in July 2016 The Clerk had contacted the Manager but no response had been received.

Cllr Adam reported that there was still some lights out at the station, the Revenue Collection Officers were in attendance this week, the new Autumn timetable was in place and he raised concern over the morning school bus still stopping on Church Hill resulting in children blocking the pavement and parents parking in the station entrance.

There being no further business the meeting closed at 9.32pm

The Chairman then read out the following statement:

**I PROPOSE THAT PURSUANT TO PUBLIC BODIES (ADMISSION TO MEETINGS) ACT 1960, THE PUBLIC BE EXCLUDED FROM THE MEETING BECAUSE OF THE CONFIDENTIAL NATURE OF THE FOLLOWING BUSINESS TO BE TRANSACTED:**

**12.** 102/16 Further Discussions with Developers

Signed: .....

Date: 8<sup>th</sup> November 2016

Chairman

Marden Parish Council