



MINUTES OF THE PARISH COUNCIL MEETING HELD ON TUESDAY 8TH NOVEMBER 2016 AT THE ALLENS, ALBION ROAD, MARDEN COMMENCING AT 7.30PM

103/16 **PRESENT:** Cllrs Adam, Boswell, Brown, Cowin, Harvey, Mannington, Newton, Robertson, Tippen (in the chair) and Turner were present. The Clerk and two members of the public were also in attendance.

104/16 **APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE** Apologies were received from Cllr Childs. PCSO Nicola Morris and Community Warden Mira Martin also gave their apologies.

105/16 **INTERESTS:**

(a) **AMENDMENTS TO COUNCILLOR REGISTERS OF INTEREST:** Cllr Harvey wished to amend his Register of Interests and would visit the Parish Office so that this could be done.

(b) **DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST:** Cllr Boswell declared an interest in item 109(h) as partner had quoted for the fingerpost signs

(c) **GRANTING OF DISPENSATION:** There were no requests for dispensation.

106/16 **MINUTES OF THE PREVIOUS MEETING**

Minutes of the Parish Council meeting held on 11th October 2016 were agreed and signed as a true record.

107/16 **IDENTIFICATION OF ITEMS INVOLVING PUBLIC SPEAKING**

The two members of the public wished to speak on item 112(a) Speed restriction in Chainhurst. The Chairman, with Cllrs agreement, moved the item prior to item 108.

The meeting was adjourned for the following items:

PUBLIC FORUM

Members of the public did not wish to speak on any other item.

EXTERNAL REPORTS

19:35 Cllrs Brown and Turner arrived at the meeting

Borough Councillors: Not present

County Councillor: Not present

Police: PCSO Nicola Morris had sent an email to the Clerk in her absence. Crimes since last meeting – 2: both Criminal Damage. A CCTV camera had been installed in The Maynards.

Community Warden: Mira Martin had forwarded an email to the Clerk informing the Council that she is due to meet with someone regarding youth services and wants to push for more outreach workers in the village.

The meeting was reconvened for the rest of the agenda.

113/16 **HIGHWAYS AND PUBLIC TRANSPORT**

a) **Highways**

Other Highways Issues

Public consultation on speed restrictions in Chainhurst.

Details of this proposal had been received from Kent Highways and circulated to Cllrs.

Residents of Chainhurst had also been informed by the Clerk.

The meeting was adjourned to allow member of the public to speak

The two members of the public in attendance reported that the residents of Chainhurst were

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pleased that something was finally being done however when they viewed the proposals it was felt that some of the problem areas were at either end of the Hamlet and therefore not included in the proposal. Due to the location of the proposed speed limit they felt that vehicles would speed up again once out of the restriction area therefore the speeding issue would be exacerbated on this stretch. They reported that there were a lot of dog walkers, residents walking, farm traffic and additional traffic from barn conversions at Reed Court Farm and ideally would like to see the proposed speed restriction moved to between the Chainhurst sign and 6 Reed Court Farm Cottage north of the Hamlet.

The meeting was reconvened

Cllrs listened to what had been said and had been copied in to several responses from resident and were in agreement to support the changes however did express their concern over the enforcement of this. The Clerk was asked to response to Kent Highways recommending the amendment on the grounds of the larger density of properties to the north, being within the village sign, properties were on both sides of Hunton Road in this location and the envisaged danger of speeding traffic on the brow of the hill.

If this went ahead residents would be encouraged to train up for Speed Watch.

19:46 Members of the public left the meeting.

108/16 **MATTERS ARISING FROM PREVIOUS MINUTES (for information only)**

To Do List update – previously circulated to Cllrs

The Cockpit meeting arranged for 4th November had been cancelled however a telephone conversation was held between William Cornall (MBC) and Helen Grant. A copy of the letter arising from this conversation had been sent to the Parish Office stating that The Cockpit play area would remain in place in the medium term. MBC would also fund remedial works of £2,500. The Clerk was asked to write to Helen Grant and MBC thanking them for this.

109/16 **PARISH MATTERS**

- (a) Local Needs Housing: No further update received
 - (b) Business Forums: No reports received from either Forum
 - (c) Police Forum: A meeting was held on 26th October. However due to the latest of the notice Marden was unable to be represented.
 - (d) Communication
 - (i) Newsletter: The Winter edition has been sent to print and it was hoped to be ready by next Monday.
 - (ii) Website: No news had been received on the upgrade.
 - (e) Cemetery – Exclusive Right of Burial Certificates: There were no certificates to sign
 - (f) Parish Council Action Plan: No further details were added.
 - (g) Street naming for Stanley Farms development: An email had been received from Millwood indicating agreement for Wild Flower names to be used.
 - (h) Cast Iron Fingerpost Refurbishment Response from Kent Highways. The Clerk to contact Kent Highways to repair the barrier at Howland Road junction before any work can be undertaken on the fingerpost and to ask whether Kent Highways are in agreement to erect temporary barriers or signage for both the Howland Road and High Street junction posts.
 - (i) Parish Byelaws – There had been no response from the public following the consultation which ended on 31st October. Cllrs agreed to proceed with the application and Cllr Adam would review the documentation for the next step.
 - (j) Alternative Flood Protection Measures and Flood Group Constitution – Papers had been circulated to all Cllrs and Cllr Tippen went through the documents and whether Marden should be part of the Group. Cllrs agreed in principle to be part of the group and to the wording of the constitution but were concerned about the wording of the Aims of the Group. The Clerk was asked to recirculate for Cllrs to view this document and make representation of different wording. The Clerk was asked to ascertain what properties suffered from flooding in 2013.
- It was proposed that the Clerk would send a copy of the documents to Kate Kershaw and to ask if she would be one of the representatives for Marden on this Group.

- (k) Kent Men of Trees: Report received following 2016 judging. Unfortunately Marden was not judged to be a winning village this year. A copy of the report had been sent to MBC and Marden Parish Church.
- (l) Parish Council Civic Award – proposal for an annual award. The Clerk had obtained information from other Parishes and Cllrs agreed in principle to take this forward. Cllrs Boswell, Brown and Newton agreed to gather information and report back to the January meeting.
- (m) December Parish Council Meeting – A discussion took place as to whether to hold the Christmas drinks in a different location after the December meeting however it was agreed to keep as previous years and continue to hold it at The Allens.
- (n) Vehicle Registration for new mower New mower needs to be registered to take on the road. The Clerk has contact DVLA and completed the relevant forms. A payment of £55 was required for the new registration which was agreed and a cheque was duly signed. A buyer had come forward to purchase the old mower and it was agreed that £700 would be accepted.

110/16 COMMITTEE REPORTS

- (a) **Amenities Committee** – Minutes of the Amenities meeting held on 25th October had been previously circulated. A report was given by the Chairman of Amenities which included: Changing Rooms had been vandalised again but the CCTV was due to be installed next week and the repairs would be undertaken following this. Tree work at the Playing Field would be undertaken next month. Cemetery Fees and Rules & Regulations had been revised and Cllr Newton would reproduce into a booklet. The roof repairs to the toilets were undertaken yesterday.
- (b) **Planning Committee** - Minutes of Planning Meetings held on 18th October and 1st November had been previously circulated. It was reported that a Neighbourhood Plan meeting was to be held following next week's Planning Meeting.
- (c) **Finance Committee** – The next Finance meeting will be held on 29th November.
- (c) **Other Conferences/Meetings attended:**
 - 18th October – Parish Christmas meeting - minutes circulated. The Assistant Clerk would be circulating a timetable to Cllrs shortly.
 - 27th October – Highways Conference at Oakwood House – The Clerk attended and notes circulated prior to the meeting
 - 28th October – The Cockpit Play Area Meeting – cancelled
 - 1st November – Time Management Course – The Clerk and Assistant Clerk attended
 - 3rd November – Internal Auditor in Parish Office
 - 4th November- The Cockpit Play Area Meeting – cancelled
 - 7th November – Meeting with Anna Fisk (Marden Children's Centre) – Cllr Tippen and The Clerk attending. Cllr Tippen gave a report and notes would be circulated shortly.
 - 8th November – MBC Local Plan Inspection on Rural Service Centres – Cllr Brown and the Clerk attended. Cllr Brown gave a report on this.
- (e) **Conferences/Meetings for the coming months:**
 - Annual Parish Meeting Date: 11th April 2017
 - Annual Parish Council Meeting Date 9th May 2017
 - List of all future meetings had been circulated to all Cllrs.

111/16 CORRESPONDENCE

- (a) NALC Bulletins – noted
- (b) Marden Parish Church Magazine - noted
- (c) The Clerks & Councils Direct – noted
- (d) MBC – Invitation for Clean Sweep Volunteers Invitation for volunteers to attend a lunch. Several volunteers from Marden were due to attend.
- (e) Response from Stanley Farms - The Clerk had contacted Millwood (Stanley Farms development) regarding access to the site, clearing of the ditch and fencing and a response had been received giving details of work proposed.

- (f) Details of Highway Conditions relating to Highwood Green Response from Kent Highways regarding conditions set out in the planning decision. The Clerk was asked to contact MBC for an update.

112/16 **FINANCE**

- (a) Balances as at 19th October 2016
Post Office £17,774.54: Santander Account £49,964.43
Nat West Account: £132,690.88 Bank reconciliation had been circulated and would be available at the meeting (October bank statement had not been received prior to this meeting).
- (b) Payments for Approval (list available at meeting). Invoices were agreed and cheques signed.
- (c) Purchase of Trailer for Mower and other attachments available A trailer is available to purchase which will assist the Village Caretaker with transporting items/equipment around the village. Cllrs agreed for the Clerk to purchase the trailer.
- (d) Unity Bank Application Form - Further amendments made. Cllrs agreed that all details were correct, the document was duly signed by all Cllrs and agreed that the Clerk would submit the application at the earliest opportunity.
- (e) Donation to Royal British Legion Cllrs to consider further donation to RBL for large poppies. It was agreed that a donation of £50 would be made.

113/16 **HIGHWAYS AND PUBLIC TRANSPORT**

- a) **Highways**
Highways Issues – Traffic Calming and other highways issues
Other Highways Issues
 Update from Parking Consultation - Cllrs Boswell and Childs are meeting with the Clerk on 9th November to discuss further.
 Public consultation on speed restrictions in Chainhurst – see item at the beginning of the meeting.
 Speeding in Goudhurst Road Email received from resident raising concerns – The Clerk was asked to contact Kent Highways in regard to the interactive speed sign and to respond accordingly to the resident and also inform that residents could volunteer for the Speed Watch.
 Kent Highways Consultation – The Chairman went through the document and Cllrs agreed on a response. The Clerk would submit prior to the closing date.
- (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 chased Jim Wells twice and had also contact Nina Peak of South Eastern but was still awaiting a response. The Clerk was also asked to report the lights again as these had not been repaired.
 Bus Services to and from the Village Resident has visited the office asking if the Parish Council can put pressure on Nu-Venture/KCC for additional bus services to the village – Cllrs noted the concerns and if the opportunity arose for extra services they would discuss in more detail.
 Cllr Adam raised a concern over the “temporary” bus stop on Church Hill for the morning Nu-Venture stop. The Clerk had been contacted by Nu-Venture would was proposed to submit an application to move the bus stop to this location and to put on a double-decker for the early morning service. The Clerk was asked to contact Kent Highways with the concerns regarding this.

There being no further business the meeting closed at 9.46pm

Signed: Date: 13th December 2016
 Chairman, Marden Parish Council

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