



MINUTES OF THE FULL COUNCIL MEETING HELD ON TUESDAY 8TH DECEMBER 2015 AT THE ALLENS, ALBION ROAD, MARDEN COMMENCING AT 7.30PM

- 113/15 PRESENT:** Cllrs Adam, Boswell, Brown, Childs, Newton, Reed, Robertson, Tippen and Turner. The Clerk, Mira Martin, Community Warden and two members of the public were also in attendance.
Cllr Adam would arrive during the meeting.
- 114/15 APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE:** Cllr Mannington gave her apologies. The Assistant Clerk, PCSO Nicola Morris, County Councillor Paulina Stockell and Borough Councillors Annabelle Blackmore and Steve McCloughlin also gave their apologies.
- 115/15 (a) DECLARATION OF INTEREST:** Cllrs Newton and Reed declared an interest in item 119/15(f) as both are Trustees of Marden Memorial Hall. Cllrs Adam and Tippen declared an interest in item 125/15(a) as are members of Marden Footpath Group.
(b) COUNCILLORS REGISTER OF INTEREST: There were no amendments to the registers of interest
(c) GRANTING OF DISPENSATION: There were no requests for dispensation.
- 116/15 MINUTES OF THE PREVIOUS MEETING**
Minutes of the Parish Council Meeting held on 10th November and the Extraordinary Full Council Meeting on 17th November were agreed and signed as true records.
- 117/15 IDENTIFICATION OF ITEMS INVOLVING PUBLIC SPEAKING:** No member of the public wished to speak on any item.

The meeting to be adjourned for the following items:

EXTERNAL REPORTS

Borough Councillors present – no information received.

County Councillor present – no information received although the Clerk had been in email correspondence regarding highway issues and the ceasing of the No.28 bus.

Police: 5 crimes since last meeting: 2 thefts, 2 thefts from motor vehicles and 1 criminal damage. The Police had received a call in relation to youths climbing over the Hockey pitch fence, switching on floodlights and playing football at 2am. Neighbours had been advised to ring 101 at the time that this is happening so that the Police can attend and establish who it is. Reports also received of a motocross bike on the playing field.

Community Warden: Attended speed watch this morning but was disappointed that only one person attended from Marden luckily Malcolm Buller from Staplehurst came along and assisted. Will be visiting several vulnerable people in the village who need support.

The meeting was reconvened for the rest of the agenda.

- 118/15 MATTERS ARISING FROM PREVIOUS MINUTES (for information only)**
Update from Full Council To Do List – this had been circulated and Cllrs noted actions taken.

119/15 PARISH MATTERS

Parish Office, Goudhurst Road, Marden : 01622 832305

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Parish Office opening times:

Mondays, Tuesdays & Fridays: 10am to 12noon

- (a) Local Needs Housing: awaiting decision from Maidstone Borough Council on the Maidstone Road application.
- (b) Business Forums
MBF – 2016 MBF Directory: Request received regarding a MPC advert in 2016 directory. Cllrs agreed to have Parish Council logo on the front cover and a quarter page advert in the directory at a cost of £60.00
NRBF – new directory currently being delivered to properties.
- (c) Police Forum – next meeting 18th February 2016. The meeting on 19th November had been cancelled.
- (d) Communication
 - (i) Newsletter – The Winter edition has been delivered and a copy placed on the website.
 - (ii) Website – Being kept up to date.
- (e) Cemetery – Exclusive Right of Burial Certificates – There were no certificates to sign
- (f) Marden Memorial Hall Roof update – The work had now been completed and final invoices awaited. The full amount of the Public Works Loan had not been spent however before the Clerk makes contact with DCLG the final invoice for the retainer which is due in May needs to be confirmed and paid.
- (g) Napoleon Drive Transfer – The transfer document had been agreed at Amenities however needed to be signed before witnesses. As a member of the public was in attendance the Clerk and Cllr Reed were able to sign the document, Mr P Kershaw witnessed their signatures. The Clerk would then arrange this to be sent back to MPC's solicitors.
- (h) Marden Neighbourhood Plan – A further draft had been circulated and Cllrs Brown and Turner had viewed this and made it more concise. This would be recirculated and the Chairman would await response from the NP group before sending to be edited in the New Year.
19:55 Cllr Adam arrived at the meeting.
- (i) CCTV – further email received from BT. The company is still insisting that the contract is valid however no money has been exchanged. Cllrs requested that the Clerk send a copy of the timeline to the Parish Solicitors for legal advice.
- (j) Parish Councillor Vacancy following resignation of John Weir – An advert for the casual vacancy had been advertised and the closing date was 3rd December. No electors had come forward to call a bye-election therefore MPC could look to co-opt however as there was less than six months to the main elections the Council were not obliged to do so. There may be a person interested in taking the seat until the parish elections in May 2016.
- (k) MBC – New Parish Liaison Officer - Yasmin Gordine has taken on the role of Parish Liaison Officer with MBC. The Clerk was asked to invite Yasmin along to a full council meeting in the New Year.

120/15 COMMITTEE REPORTS

- (a) **Amenities Committee** – Minutes of the Amenities Committee Meeting held on 24th November had been previously circulated.
- (b) **Planning Committee** - Minutes of Planning Meetings held on 17th November had been previously circulated.
MBC Planning Committee meeting to be held on 10th December – The agenda for this meeting had been published and there were no applications due to be heard that were relevant to Marden.
- (c) **Other Conferences/Meetings attended:**
 - 24th November – Hall Roof meeting - meeting held 6th December.
 - 24th November – KALC Meeting Cllr Mannington attended and sent an email with the report of this meeting. The Chairman read the comments out.
 - 4th December – Rural Speeding Group – Cllr Childs attended and gave an update of what was discussed.
 - 7th December – Southern Water meeting was held with Nick Davies and Michael Tomlin from Southern Water and Cllrs Brown, Reed and Turner. Cllr Turner gave an update to the meeting.
- (d) **Conferences/Meetings for the coming months**

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3rd February – SLCC Regional Roadshow. The Clerk was asked to obtain further information from this rather than attending.

Other: Cllr Adam asked to attend the workshop run by Kent Design on 10th February and Cllr Turner for the workshop on 16th March. The Clerk would book these places.

121/15 **CORRESPONDENCE**

- (a) MBC – Green and Blue Infrastructure Strategy – draft Action Plan (consultation ends 9th December) previously circulated to Cllrs - noted
- (b) Response from Helen Grant re Solar Farms – This was read out to Cllrs along with Ms Grant's comments sent to MBC regarding the Widehurst Solar Farm application.
- (c) Marden Parish Church Magazine - noted
- (d) River Beult CIG previously circulated – Cllrs asked to defer until next meeting.
- (e) Request for use of Southons Field for holding a renewal of vows at Southons Field in 2016 – Cllrs agreed for this to take place and as the hirer did not wish to have exclusive use of the field there would be no charge however a copy of the terms and conditions would be sent for agreement.
- (f) Letter from next of kin regarding memorials on grave - A second letter had been sent following the Amenities meeting and a response to this has been received. Cllrs did not wish to meet as the rules stipulate that no further memorial tablets should be installed and needs to be removed. The Clerk was asked to write a third letter outlining this.

122/15 **FINANCE**

- (a) Balances as at 25th November 2015
Post Office £17,642.22: Santander Account £37,739.48
Nat West Account: £168,894.99
- (b) Payments for Approval – invoices agreed and cheques signed.
- (c) Finance Committee Minutes – 1st December 2015. The minutes of this meeting had previously be circulated and were agreed and signed as a true record.
- (f) NEST – Employee pensions. To be deferred until January meeting.
- (d) Budget – ratification of 2015/16 budget – draft details had been circulated to Cllrs. The budget decision would be made at a Finance meeting to be held on 19th January.
- (e) Precept – ratification of 2015/16 precept – details of the Precept for 2015/16 would be discussed in detail at the next Finance meeting and an Extraordinary Full Council Meeting on 26th January.
- (f) Agreement of three year plan – draft details had been circulated and this would be agreed at the next Finance meeting.

123/15 **HIGHWAYS AND PUBLIC TRANSPORT**

- a) **Highways**
 Highways Issues – Traffic Calming and other highways issues
 No 28 Bus – withdrawal of service – Correspondence received had circulated between Nu-Venture, Kent County Council and parents. A response had been received from Helen Grant and Paulina Stockell however nothing further had been received in the past week. The Clerk was asked to continue chasing KCC and our MP to get an answer.
 Update regarding speeding concerns at Chainhurst - emails previously circulated to Cllrs. There seemed to be some confusion between Kent Highways departments but the Clerk would email Paulina Stockell and Andy Corcoran again for updates.

Other Highways Issues

PROW KM275 – consultation for diversion of this PROW – Cllrs agreed with the new proposals.

PROW KM259 – notice given by MBC for termination of PROW KM259 at Great Cheveney Farm Bungalow, Marden - noted

Responses from Kent Highways – several emails had been received regarding the High Street tree and signage at the junction of Green Lane and Hunton Road. Cllrs agreed to wait until Spring to make final decision regarding the High Street tree.

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Notification had been received that Plain Road would be closed for re-patching week commencing 15th December.

When the B2079 was resurfaced part of the single yellow line had not been replaced outside the Vestry Hall – The Clerk was asked to contact Kent Highways to rectify.

The Clerk was asked to contact MBC as to when the no parking restrictions and the double yellow lines in the High Street were being changed.

(b) **Public Transport**

Marden Station: The new timetable is published next week but the missing stop on the 17:39 service from Charing Cross has not been reinstated. South Eastern promised additional carriages on the 16:21 train from Tonbridge to assist with the high volume of school children using the service.

A further meeting is to be arranged with Network Rail. The Clerk to arrange for an early morning meeting.

Further to meeting with Ben Ward there were still a few issues outstanding including the car parking lining, bent traffic sign on station approach and the gulleys in station approach full of grit. The Clerk asked to chase for these to be undertaken.

Improve Rail and Bus Services and Facilities

There being no further business the meeting closed at 8:57pm

PUBLIC FORUM

No member of the public wish to raise any issues.

Signed
Chairman, Marden Parish Council

Date: 12th January 2016