

MARSTON MORETEYNE PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of the extra ordinary meeting of Marston Moreteyne Parish Council held at Marston Shelton Methodist Church on Tuesday 4th December, commencing 7.15 pm.

Present: Councillor M. Petty (Chairman)
Councillor F. Keep (Vice Chairman)
Councillors G. Spriggs, Miss E. Johnstone, P. Hall, P. Neale, T. Hyde & B. Mead.
1 member of public

1. Apologies for absence were received from Cllr Mrs. E. Houghton, B. Chandi, Mrs. J. Allen & Mrs. S. Hall. Apologies also received from District Cllrs D. Tysoe & M. Gibson & County Cllr B. King.
2. Public Participation
Following the publication of the Information Pack, Mr. John Clarke addressed the Parish Council outlining a mistake relating to the entry for Angling. The Chairman gave his apologies for the genuine oversight and advised that this with any other required amendments would be made in the January village diary by way of a pull-out which residents could keep with their Information Pack.
3. There were no declarations of interest in any items on the agenda.
4. The Minutes of the Parish Council meeting held on Tuesday 20th November 2007 were submitted for approval. It was RESOLVED that the Minutes be accepted as an accurate record, and were duly signed by the Chairman. Proposed Cllr G. Spriggs seconded by Cllr T. Hyde.
5. Matters arising from the minutes of Tuesday 20th November 2007.
 - 5.1 Issues & Options, Waste Allocations Plan – Rookery Pit & Wood End
The Chairman advised that it is not in the interests of the Parish Council to hold a public meeting in December. Timescales do not allow for adequate notice to residents. Therefore the meeting will be arranged for the New Year to allow for advertisement.
District Cllr Tysoe had forwarded an e-mail advising that both he and Cllr M. Gibson addressed Mid Beds District Council on the matter for Rookery South but were unsuccessful in getting them to object. Beds CC have agreed to a traffic and health impact survey on the site.
 - 5.2 Holme Close – No change
 - 5.3 National Probation Service – No change.
 - 5.4 A421 Improvements
The Public Inquiry commences tomorrow. Richard Garner will speak on behalf of the Playing Field Committee on 12th Dec, in relation to the Charity Land.
 - 5.5 Churchyard Costs.
The Chairman advised that he and the Clerk met with representatives from the Parochial Church Council and were advised that the PCC currently spends around £800 pa on other maintenance costs within the churchyard. A letter confirming this has been received and the PCC have agreed to advise the Parish Council on the costs of maintenance on an annual basis. With this information the Parish Council have the power to undertake grass cutting in the churchyard. The Parish Council resolved to maintain the current arrangements with regard to grass cutting in the churchyard. The PCC also advised the Chairman that costs in relation to the electricity charges for the millennium floodlighting have significantly increased since installation in 2000, and asked if the Parish Council might review their annual contribution.

- 5.6 S106 Traffic Calming for Station Road
Following correspondence between County Cllr B. King, Cllr R. Watts, Chris Mollart-Griffin (Beds CC), Nicky Stevens (MBDC) and the Clerk, the final response from Nicola Stevens is that the e-mail sent by Chris Mollart-Griffin confirms that the development itself does not require the need for any traffic calming along Station Road. Nicola Stevens confirms that the developer has not offered to pay for any traffic calming work along Station Road and as a result no form of traffic calming will be included in the Section 106 agreement.
The Parish Council resolved that the Clerk write to David Lock Associate with a copy being sent to O&H Properties, asking why traffic calming was offered at the Station Road and Bedford Road junction and not along Station Road.
- 5.7 Ampthill Tidy Tip
Following comments made by the Chairman last month; he has been invited to visit Ampthill Tidy tip with a representative from Beds CC to address the issues raised. The Clerk to arrange a visit in the New Year.
- 5.8 CCTV
Cllr P. Neale attended the launch of the updated CCTV and Retail Radio Scheme at Stevenage operated by MBDC. Cllr Neale advised that the quality of images is excellent. Shefford currently subscribes and has 3 cameras monitored by the scheme. Once you join, a management fee is payable annually at a cost of £2,000 /camera. Images can be obtained via broadband. The Parish Council agreed to keep this scheme in mind as matters progressed and to ask Dave Rollins his views.
- 5.9 Youth Problems at The Green
Cllr T. Hyde stated that he had contacted some residents adjacent to The Green in relation to maintenance of the area on their boundary side of the brook. The Chairman agreed to chase up information on the free tree scheme run by the County Council. It was pointed out that any trees/bushes planted on this area would require permission from MBDC.

6. Finance

- 6.1 To approve invoices for payment and be notified of any income since the last Meeting

LSN Media	Diary delivery	£ 42.96
Mrs. H. Trustam	Clerks wages	£ 1082.18
Mrs. H. Trustam	Petty Cash Advance	£ 30.00
Shelton Methodist Church	Rent for mtg 20.11.07	£ 21.00
Pier One Solutions	Web Site Hosting	£ 41.13 SO
SLCC	Membership Renewal	£ 145.00
Marston Youth Club	S137 Grant	£ 350.00
Church End Lower School	S137 Grant	£1,000.00
FJ Beddoe	Litter Picking	£ 156.00
Lubbock Fine	External Audit fee for a/c ye 31.3.07	£ 626.25
3CD Group (UK)	Delivery of Information Pack on 4.12.07	£ 290.23

Resolved that the payment above is made under the powers of Local Government Act 1972, s142.

Resolved that the Council in accordance with its powers under Section 137 & 139 of the Local Government Act 1972, should incur the following expenditure which, in the opinion of the Council, is in the interests of the area or inhabitants and will benefit them in a manner commensurate with the expenditure:

Royal British Legion	Poppy Wreath	£ 50.00
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Resolved that the invoices for payment should be agreed. Proposed Cllr. F. Keep seconded Cllr P. Neale.

- 6.2 To award the Grass Cutting Contract for 1.4.08 to 31.3.11
The Chairman and Clerk outlined the costs from all three tenders for the contract. The Clerk advised that the Playing Field Committee had seen the tenders at their meeting last night and would like to recommend Warner's of Bedford.
Following further discussions it was resolved that Warner's of Bedford be awarded the grass cutting contract for the period 1.4.08 to 31.3.11. It was also resolved that a clause be inserted into the letter stating that if after numerous attempts to rectify any problems or irregularities relating to the contract prove unsuccessful, then the Parish Council will declare the contract void and terminated.
- 6.2 To finalise the Precept for financial year 2008/9
Discussions ensued regarding the contribution towards the Millennium Floodlighting. It was resolved to award a grant of £450 during 08/09 financial year towards the floodlighting. Proposed Cllr P. Hall, seconded Cllr P. Neale. Agreed.
Litter Picking: Following discussions, it was resolved to increase the hourly rate paid to Mr. Beddoe by 50 pence. Proposed Cllr B. Mead, seconded Cllr G. Spriggs.
The Clerk advised the Parish Council of all other slight increases to figures. The Parish Council resolved to set the precept for the financial year of 2008/2009 at £79,884.00. It was noted that this is a drop on last year's figure.
- 6.3 There was no correspondence relating to finance matters to be discussed.

The Chairman asked for any questions relating to the public meeting on the incinerator to be written down and given to him in order that they can be collated and addressed to the correct person at the meeting.

Finally, the Chairman wished everyone a Happy Christmas and New Year.

There being no further business to transact, the meeting was closed at 8.30pm.