

MARSTON MORETEYNE PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of the meeting of Marston Moreteyne Parish Council held at Marston Shelton Methodist Church on Tuesday 20th November 2007, commencing 7.15 pm.

Present: Councillor M. Petty (Chairman)
Councillor F. Keep (Vice Chairman)
Councillors Mrs. J. Allen, B. Chandi, T. Hyde, P. Neale, Mrs. S. Hall,
B. Mead, G. Spriggs, P. Hall & Miss E. Johnstone.
District Councillor M. Gibson
5 members of public

1. Apologies for absence were received from Councillor Mrs E. Houghton, and late apologies were received from District Cllr D. Tysoe
2. Public Participation
Members of public addressed the Parish Council advising of their objection to Item 11.1(a) on the agenda. Copies of letters of objections were lodged with the Parish Council citing their reasons. Many residents expressed a wish to return at approx 9.30pm to listen to the formal response from the Parish Council for this application.
3. Report from EB Security
Cllr F. Keep extended the apologies for Brian and April. They were currently attending Lidlington Parish Council's meeting after being invited and would be along as soon as they could. In the meantime Cllr Keep circulated a report from EB Security on the previous months' activities.
4. No declarations of interest were made in relation to items on the agenda.
5. The Minutes of the extra ordinary Parish Council meeting held on Tuesday 6th 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 B. Mead seconded by Cllr Mrs. J. Allen.
6. Update of information from County Councillor B. King
Owing to the absence of Cllr King it was not possible for the Parish Council to receive a report on the County Council's activities
7. Update of information from District Councillors D. Tysoe/M. Gibson
Cllr Gibson advised that Item 11.1(a) on the agenda has been called into the DCC.
Cllr Gibson stated that he had met with residents to discuss matters concerning the application.

Cllr D. Tysoe arrives at 7.25pm

An up to date brief report was given about the current unitary status bid.

The Executive will meet in the next few weeks to make a decision over expanding the Waste Bins & Food collection to the District. The trials held had been successful and the Overview & Scrutiny Committee have recommended in favour of expanding.

Discussions ensued on this matter between Cllr Gibson and the Parish Council.

The Parish Council and District Councillors discussed the Waste Allocations Plan and the fact that Rookery Pit has been included and is the County Council's preferred site.

The PC heard that Stewartby Parish Council are objecting to Rookery Pit and are in favour of joining together with Marston Moreteyne PC to form a united front to fight against the plans for the site. It was resolved that the Clerk contact both Lidlington & Millbrook parishes to ascertain their position on the matter.

Cllr Gibson advised that perhaps a meeting with Hugh Jones, Director for Environment at Beds County Council would prove informative for both sides.

8. Matters arising from the minutes of Tuesday 6th November 2007.

8.1 Holme Close

Awaiting action by Beds CC.

8.2 National Probation Service

Awaiting responses from both Village Hall & Playing Field Committees

- 8.3 A421 Improvements
Copies of the Highways Statement of Case together with a full set of the Proofs of Evidence and their summaries that will be presented at the Public Inquiry have been received. Any Councillor wishing to see the documents to contact the Clerk.
- 8.4 Churchyard Costs
A meeting with the PCC has been arranged for 22nd November.
- 8.5 EB Security
A letter confirming the hourly price increases quoted at the meeting on 6th November has been received.
- 8.6 S106 Traffic Calming for Station Road
A responding letter has been sent to Richard Watts at Beds CC. Due to annual leave Mr. Watts has passed the letter on to a colleague for a response.
9. Brief update of information on the following committees:
- 9.1 Community Safety Group – Cllr F. Keep
A report was circulated to all Councillors. Complaints had been received regarding dog fouling around the village again. It was resolved to discuss dog bylaws in the New Year to see if the matter can be addressed on a local basis.
- 9.2 Mid Beds Planning Consortium – Cllr F. Keep
Next meeting is at the end of the month.
- 9.3 Landfill Liaison – Cllr Mrs. E. Houghton
Cllr Mrs. J. Allen reported that no meetings had been held.
- 9.4 Playing Field Committee – Cllr P. Hall
The exterior repair work has largely been completed. It is hoped to order the kitchen shortly. Matters concerning the internal cleaning are progressing rapidly.
- 9.5 Village Hall Committee – Cllr B. Mead
Nothing to report.
- 9.6 Church End Lower School – Cllr P. Neale
Nothing to report.
- 9.7 Village Plan – Cllr P. Neale
Cllr Neale has e-mailed the plan to the Clerk to put the information on the web-site. The Chairman duly thanked Cllr Neale again for all of his hard work.
- 9.8 Shelton Lower School
Nothing to report.
- 9.9 Information Pack – Cllr B. Mead
Printing should be completed by the end of the week. The Clerk agreed to contact the delivery company and make the necessary arrangements.

10. Finance

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

Calverton Factors Ltd	Security Patrols (Oct)	£ 1322.58
LSN Media	Diary delivery	£ 42.96
Mrs. H. Trustam	Clerks wages incl backpay Apr-Oct	£ 1262.68
Mrs. H. Trustam	Telephone & internet expenses	£ 207.28
Mrs. H. Trustam	Reimbursement for Parish Council	
	Laptop computer purchase	£ 709.62
Mrs. H. Trustam	Petty Cash Advance	£ 30.00
Shelton Methodist Church	Rent for 16 Oct & 6 Nov	£ 27.00
Copykatz	Diary printing (Nov)	£ 170.00
The Society of Local Council Clerks	Local Council Admit 7 th Edition & Highway Law 2 nd edition	£ 67.60
Pier One Solutions	Web Site Hosting	£ 41.13 SO
KallKwick	Printing Information Pack	£ 1765.00

FJ Beddoe	Litter Picking	£ 127.28
A. Bunker	Churchyard grass cutting	£ 250.00
DJ Granger	Grass Cutting	£ 704.26

Income

J. Shanley	Allotment Rent	£147.00
HM Revenue & Customs	VAT Refund	£3,049.74

Resolved that the invoices for payment should be agreed. Proposed Cllr P. Neale, seconded Cllr Mrs. S. Hall.

- 10.2 To discuss allotment rents for 2008/09.
Resolved not to raise the rents for the allotments for the next financial year. The Parish Council agreed that following several enquiries during the year for allotments it would be a good idea to see if there is a demand for such an amenity. Resolved to put a piece in the diary asking for any residents who would like an allotment to make it known to the Parish Council.
- 10.3 To discuss the precept for 2008/09
The Clerk circulated draft proposed figures for the precept. Areas left currently blank were for grass cutting and S137. These figures will be inserted at the December meeting along with any necessary adjustments.
- 10.4 To receive any correspondence relating to finance matters
Thank you letters for membership were received from Beds Rural Communities Charity and Bedfordshire Playing Field Association.
A grant request was received from Marston Youth Club. Cllrs P. Hall & Mrs. S. Hall declared an interest and left the room. The Youth Club wished to purchase replacement and new equipment.
A grant request was received from Church End Lower School. Cllr P. Neale declared an interest. The school wished to put a grant towards the refurbishment of the school swimming pool.
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:
Grant award to Marston Youth Club of £350.00
Grant award to Church End Lower School of £1,000.00

8.35pm Representatives from EB Security arrived.

Officers were asked to keep an eye on youths who are causing a nuisance behind the shops along Station Road. A letter from a resident was read out regarding ball games played on The Green and the associated litter and vandalism of trees. The officers agreed to keep an eye on the situation.

With no further matters to discuss both security officers left the meeting.

8.50 County Councillor B. King arrives giving his apologies for arriving late.

The Chairman asked Cllr King if he wished to present his report to the Parish Council.

Cllr King advised that the Parish Council should be receiving an invitation to visit a working waste treatment plant from the County Council.

Mid Beds, South Beds & County are to put forward a business case by 17th December in relation to the unitary status.

Criticism was made of the Amptill Tidy tip which comes under County's remit. The Chairman stated that it would be nice to see it operating under the same conditions as Barkers Lane tip. Cllr King duly noted his comments.

Councillors highlighted some highway problems to Cllr King:
Lorries which are unable to find addresses in Denton Drive. It was suggested that a sign showing the house numbers be put at the entrance to each cul-de-sac to assist.
A cul-de-sac sign is put on the sign for Barkers Piece where it meets the junction of Arundel Road.

The Chairman with the agreement of the Parish Council brought forward Item 14 for discussion.

- 14 To formulate a response to the Minerals & Waste Development Plan – Issues & Options Waste Core Strategy.
The Clerk had attached a brief report on the workshop for the Issues & Options Waste Core Strategy held on 7th November at the Harpur Suite, Bedford with the agenda to all Councillors.
After discussions, it was resolved to totally oppose the inclusion of both Rookery Pit and Wood End in the Waste Core Strategy based on lack of infrastructure, pollution, increase in traffic, environmental issues, and that the Thrift at Wood End is a site of scientific interest.
It was resolved that a public meeting be held for residents of Marston Moreteyne, and that the Clerk seek out the views of Lidlington & Stewartby Parish Councils, and Millbrook Parish Meeting with a view to inviting representatives from their Councils to the meeting as well. It was resolved that the Clerk invite Hugh Jones – Director of Environment at Beds County Council to address the public meeting on this subject. It was resolved that the public meeting should be published in the Village Diary.

9.15pm The Parish Council recessed for a 15 minute break.

5 Members of public re-entered the room to hear the Parish Councils decision on Item 11.1(a).

9.30pm The Chairman reconvened the meeting.

11. **Planning Matters**

- 11.1 To discuss the following planning applications received since the last meeting:
- (a) Application No. 07/01743/OUT
Outline: Erection of three detached houses with garages and a new access road (including Layout and means of access).
Site: Land Rear of 28 Upper Shelton Road, Marston Moreteyne.
The Chairman read out a sample of letters from members of public and duly thanked the residents for attending the meeting.
Comments: Resolved to object to the application based on grounds of overdevelopment, backland development which is contrary to Mid Beds Planning regulations, disruption of building line, setting a precedent, overbearing effect on neighbouring properties and obtrusive. It was resolved to request a site visit.
Should the application come before the DCC it was resolved to send a representative to speak against the application.
 - (b) Application No. 07/01710/FULL
Full: Single storey rear extension, conservatory & detached garage.
Site: 33 Upper Shelton Road, Marston Moreteyne.
Comments: No objections. Neighbours
 - (c) Application No. 07/01824/FULL
Full: Two storey side extension
Site: Greenrigg House, Wootton Green, Marston Moreteyne.
No objections. Neighbours.

- 11.1 To receive details of any approvals / refusals / withdrawals of planning applications – for information only
- (a) Application No. 06/01619/FULL
Full: Erection of three terraced dwellings, detached triple car barn, formation of vehicular access and revised public house parking following demolition of existing barn.
Site: Land adjoining The Bell, Bedford Road, Marston Moreteyne
Approval of Details: Condition number 2 (materials) attached to planning permission dated 16.2.07.
 - (b) Application No. 07/00419/FULL
Full: Erection of two dwellings and detached garage.
Site: Land adjacent to 145 Lower Shelton Road, Marston Moreteyne
Approval of Details: Condition number 6 (obscure glazing) attached to planning permission date 24.5.07.
 - (c) Application No. 07/01548/FULL
Full: Alterations and extension to existing barn to form 1 no. 3 bed farm dwelling.
Site: Walnut Tree Farm, Upper Shelton Road, Marston Moreteyne.
Application withdrawn.
- 11.2 To receive any planning correspondence – for information only.
- (a) Receipt of letter stating that Mid Beds District Council have no objection to application BC/CC/2007/33/JSB for alterations and extension to form new office at Church End Lower School.
 - (b) Notification that application 07/01403/FULL for 3 no. detached dwellings at Land South West of 100-102 Bedford Road, Marston Moreteyne was duly refused by the Development Control Committee on 14th November 2007.
There was some speculation that a right of way existed across the proposed development to access the small bridge near to the site. It was resolved that the Clerk investigates and looks at some old Rights of Way maps held by the Ramblers Assn.
- 12 To formulate a response to the Gypsy & Traveller – Second Issues & Options
No sites are currently proposed in the boundary for Marston Moreteyne. It was resolved that the Parish Council has no comments to this document.
- 13 Further discussion on the Confident Communities Fund 2007/8
The Clerk circulated a report from AVES Security on the current status of the existing CCTV within the village operated by the Parish Council.
It was resolved that the Village Hall system is currently adequate for its functional requirements at the present moment and that the CCTV at the skate park and play areas have only been in operation for a short while and do not require any updating.
It was resolved to request that the CCTV equipment sited at the Bedford Road shopping area, the Church and MUGA be upgraded under the Confident Communities Fund in order to reduce the fear of crime and anti social behaviour for local residents.
It was resolved that any surplus funds be allocated towards layering the hedge adjacent to the MUGA.
- 15 Correspondence
- 15.1 Information on remedial works by Carillion-URS along the A421 at Brogborough was received. The work is to be scheduled for the evening of Monday 3rd December between 21.00 hrs to 23.00 hrs for one night only.
 - 15.2 Local Government Reorganisation in Bedfordshire
Copies of the up to date information supplied by both Bedfordshire County Council and Mid Beds District Council were supplied by the Clerk to all Councillors with their agendas.

The Chairman reiterated the fact that the Parish Council had resolved to undertake a good working relationship with whoever is successful in the bid to become a unitary body.

15.3 Youth problems at The Green

The Chairman reminded the Parish Council of the problems experienced by residents adjacent to the Green which were previously mentioned when EB Security were present. It was agreed that this area was open space and that ball games could not realistically be prevented. The Chairman agreed to contact David Alderman to see what could be obtained under the free tree scheme by way of a prickly hedge to be planted along the edge of the brook, thus preventing balls from rolling into the water. It was also agreed that the rubbish needs to be cleared from the brook at regular intervals.

15.4 Bedfordshire Police is holding a Special Constabulary Information meeting on Wed 28th Nov & Wed 5th Dec for any interested parties. The Clerk has put notices up on the notice board. A copy of Beat Manager Sgt Nigel Denham's report for the month will be sent out with the December agenda.

10.15pm The Chairman duly suspended Standing Orders with the approval of the Parish Council.

16 Closed Meeting:

Matters concerning the Parish Clerk's contract were discussed and agreed. Proposed Cllr G. Spriggs, seconded Cllr P. Hall.

There being no further business to transact, the meeting was closed at 10.17pm.