

# MARSTON MORETEYNE PARISH COUNCIL

## Minutes of the Meeting of Marston Moreteyne Parish Council held at Bedford Road Methodist Church on Tuesday 20<sup>th</sup> April 2010, commencing 7.00pm.

**Present:** Cllr M. Petty (Chairman)  
Cllr F. Keep, B. King, T. Hyde, G. Spriggs, B. Chandi, Mrs. C. Yates, Mrs. E. Houghton, R. Morris, Miss E. Johnstone, P. Neale & C. Banks  
Central Bedfordshire Cllrs R. Baker & M. Gibson (left 7.35pm)  
Mr. T. Johnson – Youth Worker, Central Bedfordshire Council (left 7.35pm)  
Mr. A. Lear – Village Hall Management Committee (arrived 7.15pm)  
Mr. R. Garner – Marston Playing Field Management Committee (arrived 7.25pm)  
3 members of public

10/04/1 **To receive apologies for absence:** Leigh Iddon (Bedfordshire Police) sent her apologies.

10/04/2 **Toby Johnston – Youth Worker -Discussion on possible replacement youth shelter**

TJ was joined by two youngsters from the village to discuss the subject. TJ advised that they have done some consultation work on what the youngsters in the village would like in their area. It emerged that they feel that they have no-where to congregate and have asked for a youth shelter at the skate park. There is nowhere for youngsters to sit close by whilst others are using the skate park equipment. Full funding is available from Streetcred, however the panel have advised that planning permission will be required. The funding available would include the costs of obtaining planning permission.

Councillors informed TJ that the previous youth shelter close to Bedford Road had been vandalised to such an extreme that the internal walls had to be taken down as a safety measure, thus just leaving a bare shell. The lighting within the shelter had also been vandalised to such an extreme that it also had to be removed. Concern was expressed at placing a new shelter out of sight away from the road. The design for a new shelter was for an anti vandal shelter. A drawing of the design was circulated to the council. The shelter would incorporate solar lighting and have perspex sides and back. TJ confirmed that, if erected on the land under license to the Parish Council, then the Parish Council would become responsible for its upkeep and insurance. The Playing Field Committee had expressed a wish to see the youngsters involved in the ongoing maintenance in order to promote ownership and thus prevent future vandalism. TJ also advised that a request for lighting along the approaching footpath had also been requested from the youngsters.

The chairman duly thanked TJ for attending the meeting and advised that the matter would be placed on the May agenda for further discussion.

10/04/3 **To receive declarations of interest in any items on the agenda.**

Cllr B. King advised that he would be speaking as a member of the village hall committee in regard to item 5 on the agenda.

10/04/4 **Public Participation**

Mr. Richard Garner – Vice Chairman of Marston Moreteyne Playing Field Committee:

RG addressed the Parish Council in relation to the letter received from the Parish Council regarding the status of the sports pavilion extension. RG explained that quotations relating to main contractors and professional fees were available to inspect. These amounted to £57,000 and £6,000 respectively, giving a total of £63,000. VAT extra.

The Parish Council explained that no meeting of the working party had been held in recent weeks and the whole project seemed to have come to a halt, this resulted in the letter being sent. Details of the Quantity Surveyor had not yet been received by the Clerk and thus the QS had not been officially appointed. RG agreed to forward his contact details asap to enable this to be rectified.

The Clerk reiterated the way in which the working party should be working; namely to undertake the running of the project and when happy, together with the QS making recommendations to the Parish Council in regard to contractors. The Parish Council in turn would make the final decision and arrange for the orders to be placed. Members of the working party must work together as a team and all share the information that is held.

RG agreed that a meeting should be called and the clerk agreed to advance the Secretary of the Playing Field Committee with the contact details of the Parish Council members on the working group to enable a date to be organised.

- 10/04/5 **Village Hall – A. Lear & B. King – Discussion regarding future community facilities for village.**  
 BK advised that whilst bookings are good people are looking for a higher standard of hall. Utility bills for the hall are ever increasing. The committee has identified that the hall will need a significant amount of work on it to bring it in line with modern facilities, therefore the committee would like to know from the parish council where it sees community facilities for the village in the future. A copy of the projected costs for improvements and repairs was circulated with the agenda. Costs totalled £160,000 allowing for contingencies. The priorities from this list being floor, toilets and heating. Costs will be covered by grants, although it was established that the committee will most likely need some form of financial support in order that applications are successful.  
 The Chairman explained that O&H Properties have advised that the earliest date for acquisition of the community building under the S106 agreement at Land East of Bedford Road will be 2014.  
 The Parish Council believes that three facilities will be able to run effectively in the village owing to the fact that the three will provide for different activities.  
 The Parish Council resolved to support the refurbishment of the village hall.
- 10/04/6 **Report from EB Security by B. Bignall.**  
 Report for period 17.3.10 – 20.4.10 circulated. BB noted that there has been a recent spate of shed tampering which has resulted in some thefts. BB expressed concern over the potential location of the youth shelter advising that it would be difficult to access without being spotted.  
 Cars are continuing to park in Lower Shelton Road; the Jubilee path area could become a problem as a result from this. BB agreed to continue to monitor.  
 Bundles of newspapers have been stolen from the Denton and Howes Drive areas.  
 The village hall is experiencing fly tipping.
- 10/04/7 **To confirm and agree the Minutes of the meeting of Marston Moreteyne Parish Council held on Tuesday 16<sup>th</sup> March 2010**  
 It was RESOLVED that the Minutes be accepted as an accurate record, and were duly signed by the Chairman. Proposed Cllr G. Spriggs, seconded Cllr F. Keep.
- 10/04/8 **Update of information from Central Bedfordshire Councillor R. Baker**  
 Cllr Baker advised that Central Bedfordshire Council has just completed its first year. There will be more savings having to be made. CBC is aiming for a zero increase in council tax for 2011/12. After the general election spending will take a large hit. Currently CBC receives 25% of its funding from government and 75% from local people. CBC is considering their position in regard to the two tier education system. Additional funding has been given to repair the roads and footpaths which have been damaged over the winter. Funding is to be reduced on grass cutting.
- 10/04/9 **Brief update of information on the following committees:**
- 10/04/9.1 Community Safety Group – Cllr F. Keep  
 Things are good in the village at present. Bedfordshire Police are proposing to introduce a new initiative called Street Watch which involves residents.  
 7.5 tonne weight restriction: Nothing further heard from PC Rivers  
 Traffic calming – Station Road: After discussions, it was agreed that a site visit and invite to a council meeting should be organised with Highways.
- 10/04/9.2 Bedfordshire Councils Planning Consortium – Cllrs P. Neale/B. Chandi  
 Nothing to report
- 10/04/9.3 Landfill Liaison – Cllr Mrs. E. Houghton/Miss E. Johnstone  
 Meeting is next Thursday. Cranfield PC is unhappy with WRG's turbine proposals.
- 10/04/9.4 Village Hall Committee – Cllr C. Banks  
 Nothing to report.
- 10/04.9.5 Church End Lower School – Cllr P. Neale  
 Nothing to report.
- 10/04.9.6 Shelton Lower School – Cllr M. Petty  
 Nothing to report.
- 10/04/10 **Matters arising from the minutes of Tuesday 16<sup>th</sup> March 2010**
- 10/04/10.1 Enforcement of double yellow lines: Nothing further heard
- 10/04/10.2 Wind turbine at Forest Centre: The application has been submitted to Central Bedfordshire. A CD copy of the application has been received. Any councillors wishing to see it to contact the clerk.
- 10/04/10.3 CCTV at Sports Pavilion: Nothing heard yet.
- 10/04/10.4 Holme Close issues: To be discussed with J. Chandler

- 10/04/10.5 Tax Penalty: The clerk has chased up payment. No further information received.
- 10/04/10.6 Cemetery Provision: Andre Douglas (Public Protection at Central Bedfordshire Council) has stated that without any structures planned and assuming the drainage and flooding situation are well managed, the authority would not expect a contamination report for this provision. The clerk will now contact the Environment Agency for their comments.
- 10/04/10.7 Church yard mower: On agenda for discussion.
- 10/04/10.8 Lower Shelton Play Area: Awaiting a quotation for bins from DSD.
- 10/04/10.9 Rental Agreement for Wood End: The chairman and clerk to go through prior to submission to the Parish Council for discussion.
- 10/04/10.10 Electricity cuts in village: Clerk to source contact to attend a council meeting.
- 10/04/10.11 BeAR Project: Planning Liaison Group will meet on 4<sup>th</sup> May.
- 10/04/10.12 Standing Orders for Local Councils (NALC): Two copies have been received. Clerk has one copy and the chairman the other.
- 10/04/10.13 Code of conduct training: The first session has been held. The second will be on 27<sup>th</sup> April. 3 new councillors are attending together with the clerk.
- 10/04/10.14 Gate adjacent to Bedford Road play area: Chairman has not yet heard from Rick Thompson.
- 10/04/10.15 Allotment: Bollard: Chairman to arrange installation once water pipe has been pullet in. Water provision: Water pipe to be pulled in 24<sup>th</sup>/25<sup>th</sup> April. Hedging: Fencing and hedging completed. Some spiky hedging has been put in where tracks have emerged from the forest centre into the allotments in the hope it deters those using it.
- 10/04/10.16 Covanta/BeAR Project: Clerk has sent official response to Covanta. Letter of thanks has been sent to Hugh Roberts (MMAG) re his statement on MMAG's position.
- 10/04/10.17 Compulsory purchase of Playing Field charity land: The clerk has confirmed that the parish council are to hold the compensation money and is currently looking into suitable high interest accounts.
- 10/04/10.18 Mid Beds District Council commemorative tree: Clerk to contact CBC to see if they will replant it.
- 10/04/10.19 Green Infrastructure: A second meeting will be held at the Forest Centre on Sun 9<sup>th</sup> May between 10am – 1pm.
- 10/04/10.20 Parish Council insurance: One alternative quotation received. Clerk to call finance committee meeting once current provider supplies renewal information.

#### 10/04/11. Finance

##### 10/04/11.1 **To approve invoices for payment and be notified of any income since the last meeting**

Bedford Borough Council	April Payroll	£ 2,575.57 DD
3CD Group	Diary delivery (April)	£ 282.00
Marston Playing Field comm.	Feb-March hall hire	£ 54.00
Warners of Bedford	Grass cutting (April)	£ 599.74
Mr. D. Cray	Churchyard grass cutting	£ 250.00
Mr. J. Millard	Bus shelter & notice board window	
	Cleaning	£ 30.00
BATPC	NALC Standing Orders x 2	£ 53.76
Clements Play Management	Play area inspections	£ 478.23
Copykatz	Diary printing (April)	£ 170.00
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TotalCard Services	Petrol for churchyard mower	£ 24.89
Palmer's Solicitors	Wood End allotment tenancy fees	£ 186.88
Palmer's Solicitors	Play area licence fees	£ 183.88
Mr. A.D. Money	Water connections re allotment	£ 188.03
Beds Assn Town & Parish Councils	Affiliation Fee	£ 782.00
FJ Beddoe	Litter Picking	£ 172.76
Village Hall Committee	2010/11 grant	£ 2,700.00
Mr. E. Curtis	Post & rail fencing – allotments	£ 3,024.18
Mr. E. Curtis	Hedge planting – allotments	£ 395.74

Mr. M.J. Petty	Water tanks – allotments	£ 850.00
MKM Agriculture	Strimmer repair	£ 64.63
<u>Income</u>		
Central Bedfordshire Council	½ precept	£44,532.50
Allotment rental		£ 25.00

Resolved that the invoices for payment should be agreed. Proposed Cllr F. Keep, seconded Cllr B. Chandi.

10/04/11.2 **Appoint Internal Auditor for 2010/11**

Mrs. B. Cross has advised the clerk that owing to personal reasons she will be unable to undertake the role of internal auditor for the council. The clerk has obtained a list of independent internal auditors held by Beds Rural Communities Charity. It was resolved to appoint Mr. D. Jones as internal auditor to inspect the accounts year ending 31.3.10. Mr. Jones has had 10 years experience as clerk to Oakley PC and currently undertakes the audit for Arlesey Town Council and Bromham Parish Council. Having contacted the clerk at Arlesey TC she would fully recommend him. Mr. Jones will charge between £100-£150 to undertake the work. This amount is within the costs budgeted.

10/04.11.3 **Discussion disposal of mower and replacement of strimmer and petrol mower**

The chairman explained that the Dixon mower has been used for 5 grass cutting seasons. However, Mr. Cray no longer uses it, preferring to use his own equipment. If kept unused, it will deteriorate. An offer has been received for £1,400.00 which is just under half of the original cost.

The strimmer and Hayter mower (which is 6 years old) needs replacing.

Costs for replacement are: Strimmer £480.00 + VAT

Mower £535.28 + VAT

This will leave a surplus of £384.72

The old mower could be left to undertake work on the rough patches around the church and station road footpath.

It was resolved to sell the Dixon mower at £1,400.00 and purchase a new strimmer and mower totalling £1,015.28.

10/04/11.4 **Finance correspondence**

- (a) A letter of thanks was received from Citizens Advice Bureau for the grant of £100.
- (b) BDO LLP Auditors have appointed an audit date of 9<sup>th</sup> July. The clerk advised that section 1 of the annual return must be approved by 30<sup>th</sup> June 2010 in accordance with the Accounts & Audit (Amendment)(England) Regulations 2006.

10/04/12. **Planning Matters**

10/04/12.1 To discuss the following planning applications received since the last meeting

- (a) Application No. CB/10/00595/FULL  
Full: First floor side extension  
Site: 29 Denton Drive, Marston Moreteyne  
Comments: No objections. Request neighbours comments taken into consideration.
- (b) Application No. CB/10/00868/FULL  
Full: Erection of new fence to increase garden to rear  
Site: 81 Denton Drive, Marston Moreteyne  
Comments: No objection.
- (c) Application No. CB/10/00988  
Full: Single storey rear extension  
Site: 34A Upper Shelton Road, Marston Moreteyne  
Comments: No objections. Request neighbours comments taken into consideration.
- (d) Application No. CB/10/00770/FULL  
Full: Change of use to A1 retail  
Site: Charity Farm, Beancroft Road, Marston Moreteyne  
Comments: No objections.

10/04/12.2 To receive details of any approvals / refusals / withdrawals of planning applications – for information only

- (a) Application No. CB/09/00616/FULL  
Full: Erection of a single detached 5 bedroom dwelling and new access  
Site: Land rear of 28 Upper Shelton Road, Upper Shelton, Marston Moreteyne  
Appeal Ref: APP/P0240/A/09/2109987 Appeal dismissed.

- 10/04/12.3      To receive any planning correspondence  
 (a)      Application No. CB/09/07007/FULL Rock Villa Farm, Woburn Road, Marston Moreteyne. Full: Single storey side extension to replace existing conservatory and lean-to. Raised section of roof to existing side elevation to create loft space. An appeal has been made to the Secretary of State against Central Bedfordshire Council's decision to refuse planning permission for the above. The Parish Council resolved that they had no further comments to add.
- 10/04/13      **Play Areas: To receive reports and to approve any required action.**  
 The clerk advised that there are two pieces of equipment which require repair asap at Bedford Road play area:  
 Proludic Slide Climber – The wooden desk has been smashed on one side leaving it very splintered. Honeycombe Whirl – 1 seat is missing, the seat frames are loose and one section is missing. Frame require repairing and the missing parts need replacing.  
 It was resolved that the clerk obtain costs from Clements Play Management to undertake the work and arrange for the work to be undertaken.
- 10/04/14      **BeAR Project/Covanta update**  
 Covanta: Nothing to update at minute. Meeting on Monday.  
 BeAR Project: CBC is opening project up for bidding. Under an act of parliament re tendering for local councils, Covanta will be eligible to bid.  
 Nadine Dorries MP has raised matter in parliament. Cllr P Neale agreed to circulate a copy of the email to all councillors.
- 10/04/15      **Allotment Update**  
 The pipe work will be pulled through on the 24<sup>th</sup>. A volunteer group has been set up to backfill the holes. The troughs will be fitted the following weekend. Tanks will require signs advising of deep water.  
 Cllrs C. Banks & P. Neale will undertake a survey of those plots which have not been tended and have a lot of weeds. Letters will be sent out to those tenants advising them of their obligation.  
 Cllr Banks asked if the Parish Council would be willing to donate their old strimmer to the allotment club. There was no objection to this, but a disclaimer will be added.
- 10/04/16      **Village diary – advertising and delivery**  
 (a)      The clerk advised that she has received quite a number of local businesses wishing to advertise in the village diary; something which has not been available at present. Given the increase in costs associated in publication, did the council wish to re consider.  
 It was resolved that the intention of the diary was to inform residents on what is going on in the village. By taking in advertising it would increase the production time of the diary, as well as increasing the clerk's work load in invoicing all those who advertise and collecting payments.  
 The Parish Council resolved to maintain the diary as it is and not accept advertising.  
 (b)      The clerk has been contacted by a 13 year old boy who has asked if the Parish Council needed anyone to distribute the diary in Upper and Lower Shelton.  
 The Parish Council indicated their interest and it was resolved that the clerk look into this matter further.
- 10/04/17      **Correspondence**
- 10/04/17.1      A421 Improvements – Parish Council's update April 2010  
 An update on the current situation and future work regarding the A421 works was received.
- 10/04/17.2      Fire & Rescue Service – Public consultation paper  
 Cllr T. Hyde took the information to read and respond.
- 10/04/17.3      Brogborough Landfill Site Annual Environmental Report  
 Cllrs Mrs. E. Houghton & Miss E. Johnstone took copies of the report.
- 10/04/17.4      Central Bedfordshire – Executive reorganised: Details of the re-organisation were noted.
- 10/04.17.5      Invite to CPRE AGM – 22.4.10: No members came forward to attend.
- 10/04.17.6      Commontree: Newsletter circulated.
- 10/04/17.7      Keech matters newsletter: Newsletter received.
- 10/04/17.8      Fieldwork – CPRE newsletter: Cllr P. Neale took the newsletter.
- 10/04/18.      **Clerk's Monthly Report**      Nothing further to report.

There being no further business to transact, the meeting was closed at 10.08pm.