

# MARSTON MORETEYNE PARISH COUNCIL

## Minutes of the Meeting of Marston Moreteyne Parish Council held at Marston Moreteyne Sports Pavilion on Tuesday 16<sup>th</sup> February 2010, commencing 7.00pm.

**Present:** Cllr M. Petty (Chairman)  
Cllr F. Keep, P. Neale, G. Spriggs, C. Banks, Mrs. E. Johnstone (left 8.10pm) & Mrs. E. Houghton (arrived 7.25pm)  
Mr. T. Talbot – MD Forest of Marston Vale  
2 members of public

1. **Apologies for absence** were received from Cllr T. Hyde and Central Bedfordshire Cllr R. Baker.

2. **Public Participation**

A representative from NMT Cranes raised concern over the current construction of driveways to a property adjacent to their premises. Concern gave rise in the form that vehicles may have to reverse on to Bedford Road from the property and the current speed of traffic along this stretch. The council heard that the representative has contacted the planning authority and also Aragon Housing, and ascertained that no planning permission has been granted for the construction of the driveway on what he believes to be a classified road. Cllr Keep added that driveways are being constructed for Nos. 2, 4 & 6 Moreteyne Road owing to complaints being received over parking on the corner of Moreteyne Road.

A request was also made by the representative that the parish council request yellow lines to be placed on the left hand side along Bedford Road by the shops. This follows several difficult experiences when trying to access NMT's premises with the cranes at the beginning and end of the day through this part of the village. The Chairman explained that parking is at a premium in this vicinity with residents accessing the shops and doctors surgery together with residential parking. If parking is removed it could encourage parking across the footpaths which would cause a hazard. The council has in the past looked at an area close to the shops for additional parking but the amount of services underground proved it impossible to improve economically. Enforcement of the current yellow lines is needed.

3. There were no **declarations of interest** in any items on the agenda.

4. **Update on proposed wind turbine at the Forest Centre, Marston Moreteyne from Mr. T. Talbot, Managing Director, Forest of Marston Vale.**

The Chairman duly introduced Mr. Tony Talbot to the meeting. In Sept 2005 the National Energy Foundation attended a parish council meeting to inform us of trials for a wind turbine. TT advised that these trials looked at the availability of wind for pumping water around the site, providing electricity for the forest centre and the commercial scale of a wind turbine. PN indicated that he did not remember commercial use being advised.

TT advised that this was a good opportunity for the forest centre as an environmental operation and also good for the community. The project has an opportunity to generate income for the forest centre as electricity could be fed into the national grid.

Two years of wind speed data has been gathered, and an average good wind speed of 5.3m/sec has been recorded. TT went on to explain the ways in which the forest centre has consulted with the public and cited support from Stewartby PC in 2005. PN expressed a wish to see the report resulting from a public questionnaire which gave a breakdown of locations of respondees.

TT explained the next steps were to look to applying for planning permission. An ecology report has been carried out which showed no significant impact but some mitigation measures were recommended. Birds do avoid wind turbines successfully. Noise: Guidelines are in force and would be monitored both day & night. Shadow flicker: The conclusion from study shows one existing and one proposed dwelling could be affected.

Regular updates have been published in the Commontree newsletter which is distributed. TT offered to include all councillors on their mailing list if requested. It was hoped to have electronic copies available of the publication soon. The PC thought a link to the forest centre's web site from the councils might be a good idea.

TT explained that the turbine could be 2 mega watt and have an estimated hub height of 85m. This would have a possibility of generating enough energy for 700 homes. TT advised that the forest centre has no means of paying for or building the turbine at present. It is hoped to put in for planning permission at the beginning of March. TT agreed to supply the parish council with copies of the ecology, noise and ornithology reports to enable the council time to read them prior to receiving the planning application.

The parish council requested that should permission be granted the turbine is not delivered to site through the village. Low loader vehicles will "bottom out" on the traffic calming in the centre of the village and with traffic and parking issues access is not suitable and could cause gridlock. It was thought that access would be part of a detailed transport plan. Reservations were also expressed over noise and shadow flicker.

Concern was expressed over the height of the turbine and the impact it would have on the surrounding area. Discussion ensued regarding the commercial side of the project.

The Chairman duly thanked Mr. Talbot for attending and providing an opportunity for discussion on the matter.

#### **5. Report from EB Security**

Owing to the absence of a representative from EB Security, the Chairman allowed a report from PC A. Rivers (Beat Manger) and L. Iddon (PCSO).

PC Rivers introduced himself and advised that he has been in the post covering the village for 3 weeks. He hopes to attend a council meeting every 3 months.

A speed survey was undertaken along Bedford Road between 30<sup>th</sup> Jan and 5<sup>th</sup> Feb which showed over a quarter of motorists are exceeding the speed limit. As a result of this, the village should receive 12 visits/year. The parish council advised that speeding was also a problem from motorists entering the village along Station Road. Other areas of concern are illegal parking at Bedford and Station Road junction and the lack of enforcement for the 7.5 tonne weight restriction in the centre of the village.

As a result of discussions, it was agreed that the Parish Council's priorities for the police are speeding in the village, illegal parking at Bedford/Station Road, the lack of 7.5 tonne weight restriction enforcement and nuisance youths. PC Rivers agreed to give these priority and also contact Millbrook re 7.5 tonne restriction.

Cllr Keep advised that Central Bedfordshire Council has withdrawn its funding of the CSG's and that the CS Management Group is being re-routed from Greyfriars.

#### **6. To confirm and agree the Minutes of the meeting of Marston Moreteyne Parish Council held on Tuesday 19<sup>th</sup> January 2010**

It was RESOLVED that the Minutes be accepted as an accurate record, and were duly signed by the Chairman. Proposed Cllr P. Neale, seconded Cllr G. Spriggs.

#### **7. Update of information from Central Bedfordshire Councillors**

Owing to the absence of both councillors, no report was available. It was noted that no contact has been received from Cllr Gibson for a several weeks.

#### **8. Brief update of information on the following committees:**

##### **8.1 Community Safety Group – Cllr F. Keep**

Information advised in Agenda Item 5.

##### **8.2 Bedfordshire Councils Planning Consortium – Cllrs P. Neale/B. Chandi**

Last meeting was cancelled.

##### **8.3 Landfill Liaison – Cllr Mrs. E. Houghton/Miss E. Johnstone**

The Chairman asked that if neither rep can attend a meeting please could they contact another councillor to cover.

##### **8.4 Village Hall Committee – Cllr C. Banks**

AGM is coming up.

##### **8.5 Church End Lower School – Cllr P. Neale**

Nothing to report.

##### **8.6 Shelton Lower School – Cllr M. Petty**

The Head-teacher retires at Easter 2011. Wheels are in motion to fill the vacancy. One member of staff also retires next year. Discussions are taking place that a new replacement may cover a deputy headship as well.

## 9. Matters arising from the minutes of Tuesday 19<sup>th</sup> January 2010

- 9.1 Bedfordshire Councils Planning Consortium: The copy of accounts have not yet been received, however it was noted that Mr. A. Murphy has not been well recently.
- 9.2 CCTV at Sports Pavilion: The playing field committee have not yet responded.
- 9.3 A421 Land Compensation: Await response from the playing field committee.
- 9.4 Holme Close issues: to be discussed with J. Chandler
- 9.5 Tax Penalty: Not yet received. The clerk to chase.
- 9.6 Cemetery Provision: Central Beds (Public Protection) has confirmed that the only information required is a spike test to ascertain if either a landfill or infill hole was within 250 yds of proposed cemetery land and a flood risk assessment to consider the potential impact upon the watercourse from the intended use. External consultations with the Environment Agency will also have to be undertaken. The clerk has responded back to Peter Brett Associates with this information and await their response. Planning permission will need to be sought from the planning authority for change of use
- 9.7 Churchyard mower: Ongoing
- 9.8 Lower Shelton Play Area: One quotation has been received for supply and installation of bins at all play areas. The clerk will obtain another one. Costs have also been received for emptying a bin at Lower Shelton play area.
- 9.9 Rental Agreement for Wood End: The chairman and clerk have met with R. Palmer (solicitor) to discuss. A draft agreement will be drawn up for consideration.
- 9.10 Gypsy & Traveller Proposals: With the site at Clifton being withdrawn, the intention is to increase the pitch allocation between the shortlisted sites to accommodate the 4 from Clifton.
- 9.11 Bank Mandate: A slight issue was raised by the bank which has now been resolved. It is hoped that the mandate will come into force by the next meeting.
- 9.12 Covanta: Owing to an administrative error by the IPC the response date for the “scoping opinion” has been extended to 12<sup>th</sup> March. The clerk has resent the council’s comments to ensure they are taken into consideration.
- 9.13 Electricity cuts in village: Having received a contact name at EDF Energy from Jan Bath, Balfour Beatty, Cllr G. Spriggs eventually made contact with an EDF engineer who promised to look into the matter and report back. Unfortunately nothing has been heard. It is thought the best way forward now is for the council to write to EDF and request a visit to a council meeting to explain the issues personally.

## 10. Finance

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

Copykatz	Diary (Feb)	£ 170.00
Pier One Solutions	Web Site Hosting (Jan)	£ 40.25 SO
Pier One Solutions	Web Site Hosting (Feb)	£ 39.37 SO
Pier One Solutions	Web Site Hosting – outstanding amount	
	Owing to VAT increase	£ 2.64
Bedford Borough Council	February Payroll	£ 2,073.72 DD
3CD Group	Diary delivery (Feb)	£ 282.00
Clements Play Management	2 new gates & safety works	£3,191.25
Citizens Advice Bureau	Grant	£ 100.00
FJ Beddoe	Litter Picking	£ 136.50

### Income

Central Bedfordshire Council	Skate Park grant	£ 192.05
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Resolved that the invoices for payment should be agreed. Proposed Cllr G. Spriggs seconded Cllr F. Keep.

## 10.2 Finance correspondence

The clerk requested that consideration be given to her attending a training course for clerks at Eaton Bray Village Hall on 3<sup>rd</sup> March, between 9.30am – 3.30pm. Total cost £20.00. The council resolved that the clerk should attend and that payment be drawn.

## 11. Planning Matters

- 11.1 To discuss the following planning applications received since the last meeting
- (a) Application No. CB/09/06821/MW  
Variation of condition 3 of planning permission no. 16/2008 to allow the removal of clay stockpile to be extended until 2011  
Site: Brogborough Landfill Site, Woburn Road, Lidlington  
Comments: Objection on the grounds that the original conditions were pertinent at the time of permission being granted and the council feels that nothing has changed in the meantime therefore the original conditions and deadlines should be upheld.
  - (b) Application No. CB/10/00174/FULL  
Full: Single storey rear extension  
Site: 22 Hockley Court, Marston Moreteyne  
Comments: No objections, but request that neighbours comments are taken into consideration.
  - (c) Application No. CB/10/0231/FULL  
Full: Erection of two storey and single storey side and rear extension, revised boundary treatment.  
Site: 1 Browns Close, Marston Moreteyne.  
Comments: Concern expressed that the proposed extension gives the impression that the dwelling could easily be converted into two separate properties at a later date. The first floor storey is not integrated at all with the extension. The council also notes that the applicant lists the “company” as FOD Ltd on the application which is the same as the Agent Name.

### 11.2 To receive details of any approvals / refusals / withdrawals of planning applications – for information only

- (a) Application No. CB/09/06918/FULL Full: Construction of surfaced footpath to the wetlands. Erection of 3 ground level bird hides, 1 tower hide with associated ramp, 3 wooden board walks across wetlands at The Marston Vale Millennium Country Park, Station Road, Marston Moreteyne.  
GRANTED
- (b) Application No. CB/09/06893/FULL Full: Single storey side extension at 58 Lower Shelton Road, Marston Moreteyne.  
GRANTED
- (c) Application No. CB/09/06156/MW Variation of condition no. 18 of planning permission 15/2008 to allow an extension of time for restoration of the site at Brogborough Landfill Site, Woburn Road, Lidlington.  
GRANTED

### 11.3 To receive any planning correspondence: Nothing to receive.

## 12. To fill current council vacancies by co-option

All councillors had had an opportunity to read the application forms completed by candidates. The chairman explained the co-option process to the council so that everyone was clear on the process. Each candidate's name was put to the vote with the result of Mr. R. King, Mr. R. Morris & Mrs. C. Yates receiving majority votes. Resolved that the above named be duly co-opted as members of the Parish Council at the next council meeting on Tuesday 16<sup>th</sup> March 2010.

## 13. Extension to Sports Pavilion: Update

Members of the working party advised that the last meeting went well with the agreement that phases 1 & 2 be taken forward as resolved by the Parish Council. It is thought that a grant could be obtained from the Football Foundation. The chairman stated that the clerk had not yet received any details regarding the quantity surveyor. A schedule of works and tenders need to be obtained as well.

Without a representative on the playing field committee feedback is difficult at present. It is hoped that one of the new councillors will represent the parish council on the committee. The chairman offered to attend their first two meetings to help guide the councillor in his/her role.

- 14 **Site Allocations Development Plan Document – to formulate a response**  
The document has been published for consultation between 25<sup>th</sup> Jan – 8<sup>th</sup> March 2010. Having circulated around the parish council, no objections to the proposals were raised regarding development at Land at Moreteyne Farm for employment and residential, but the parish council reserved the right to comment on the matter in the future and express its views upon further information supplied.
- 15 **Play Areas: To receive reports and to approve any required action.**  
It was resolved that the clerk reports back to the council any work required and associated costs. If required urgently in between meetings then the clerk is able to use the emergency fund.
- 16 **Highways 5 Year Maintenance Scheme – condition of Franklin Close**  
The clerk explained the appalling condition of the footpath at Franklin Close. The parish council resolved that the clerk should request the repair of the footpath be included in the Highways 5 year maintenance programme as soon as possible.
- 17 **BeAR Project/Covanta update**  
At the Parish Council Involvement Group meeting on 13.1.10, it was discussed about setting up a Planning Liaison Group (PLG) to provide information to parish councils on the proposed planning strategy and various technology solutions. It is proposed that the group consist of 4 representatives, one from each of the parish councils nearest to the Brogborough site as the greatest potential impact would be on these councils and their communities. The PLG will also be involved with the design of the waste treatment facility and will be able to review environmental, transportation and logistical issues. It is envisaged that they will meet bi-monthly. Other members of the group would include one local action group representative, the BEaR project team, a planning advisor and a member of Central Beds Waste Services dept. It was resolved that both Cllrs M. Petty and P. Neale be appointed as the parish council’s representatives.

**10.15pm** Parish Council resolves to suspend standing orders and continue with the meeting.

**18. Correspondence**

- 18.1 **Shelton & Church End Lower Schools-views of council sought re change to Foundation Schools.**  
Both lower schools have declared an intention to become members of the Vale of Marston Schools Trust which also includes Wilstead Lower School and Wootton Upper School. Both schools are looking to become Foundation Schools and acquire a Trust by May 2010. Foundation Schools are responsible for their own budgets and employing staff. There is some uncertainty at present over education with Bedford Borough looking to go to a two tier education system. It was resolved that the parish council backs both schools in their Foundation and Trust request.
- 18.2 **A421 Improvements update**  
The January 2010 newsletter on the current status of the A421 improvements was received.
- 18.3 **Appointment of representative to Marston Vale Children’s Centre Advisory Group**  
It was resolved to defer this appointment until the March meeting.
- 18.4 **Bedfordshire Bugle**  
The clerk circulated copies of the January bugle to the council. A new edition of NALC’s publication “Standing Orders for Local Councils” is now available to order at a cost of £25.00 per copy. It was resolved to order two copies. One for the clerk and one to be circulated.
- 18.5 **Mid Beds District Council commemorative tree.**  
Having been planted in the wrong location initially without liaising with Cllr T. Hyde, the tree has been planted again. However, one resident has complained about its present location. It was resolved that owing to the absence of Cllr Hyde the matter should be deferred to the March meeting where Cllr Hyde will be able to provide a full account of the details.

## 19. Clerk's Monthly Report

1. Highways:  
There have been numerous reports of pot holes in and around the village over the past month, together with reports of street lights not working.
2. Local Government Pay 2010/11: The clerk gave an update on the current situation.
3. STOR scheme at Brogborough Landfill Gas Compound. Following the council's comments regarding noise levels the chairman read out the response.
4. RE: 7.5 tonne restriction  
Two objections were received following the advertising of the weight restriction order. The next stage is to take a report to the Portfolio Holder outlining these objections, this has now been sent. However it can take about 4 weeks for us to hear the outcome as it needs to be presented at the next Portfolio Holders meeting for approval. I will contact you on receipt of the minutes of this meeting which I feel will be around mid March.
5. Waste services structure: Notification of changes were advised.
6. Two sessions of code of conduct training at Central Beds offices have been organised for Thurs 25<sup>th</sup> March and 27<sup>th</sup> April, 7-9pm for anyone wishing to attend.

There being no further business to transact, the meeting was closed at 10.35pm.