

MARSTON MORETEYNE PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of the Meeting of Marston Moreteyne Parish Council held at Marston Moreteyne Sports Pavilion on Tuesday 20th January 2009, commencing 7.15pm.

Present: Councillor M. Petty (Chairman)
Councillors F. Keep (Vice Chairman), B. Chandi, P. Neale, G. Spriggs, T. Hyde & Miss E. Johnstone.

1. **Apologies for absence** were received from Cllrs B. Mead, Mrs J. Allen, P. Hall, Mrs. S. Hall, County Cllr B. King. Apologies for late arrival received from Cllr Mrs. E. Houghton.
2. **Public Participation:** Three residents addressed the Parish Council with regard to starting up the Youth Club again after Easter. They hoped to have a more structured programme to the evenings with planned activities. Youngsters would be invited to re-register at an open evening planned for February. The Chairman advised that a letter requesting a grant had been received from the Youth Club by the Clerk and further discussion on this would take place during Finance. The Parish Council agreed to assist the Youth Club by displaying posters on its notice-boards.
3. There were no **declarations of interest** made in respect of any items on the agenda.
4. **The Minutes of the Extra Ordinary Meeting for Marston Moreteyne Parish Council meeting held on Tuesday 2nd December 2008** 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 Miss E. Johnstone, seconded Cllr P. Neale.
5. **The Minutes of the Planning Committee Meeting for Marston Moreteyne Parish Council meeting held on Tuesday 6th January 2009** 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 F. Keep, seconded Cllr P. Neale.

6. Finance

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

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|----------------------------|----------------------------------|-------------|
| Calverton Factors Ltd | Security Patrols (December) | £ 1,056.94 |
| Calverton Factors Ltd | Security Patrols (November) | £ 1,228.34 |
| LSN Media | Diary delivery (Dec) | £ 40.27 |
| Copykatz | Diary (January) | £ 155.00 |
| Warners of Bedford | Grasscutting (December) | £ 586.98 |
| BTCV | Confident Communities Fund | |
| | Hedge laying at Bedford Road | £ 1,995.36 |
| David Rossiter | Work to Millennium Floodlighting | £ 440.00 |
| Beds Councils Planning | | |
| Consortium | Annual membership renewal | £ 35.00 |
| Mrs H. Trustam | Phone & broadband expenses | £ 135.98 |
| Marston Playing Field Comm | Hall Hire to 31.12.08 | £ 210.00 |
| Pier One Solutions | Web Site Hosting | £ 40.25 SO |
| Bedford Borough Council | Dec 08 Payroll | £2,477.15DD |
| Bedford Borough Council | Jan 09 Payroll | £2,009.40DD |
| FJ Beddoe | Litter Picking | £ 137.23 |

Resolved that the invoices for payment should be agreed. Proposed Cllr F. Keep seconded Cllr G. Spriggs

6.2 **To appoint a contractor for the Churchyard Grass cutting contract 2009**

The Chairman read out the quotations received from DSD Contracting, Warners of Bedford and Mr. J. Cray and their subsequent amounts.

The Council discussed the fact that a contractor needed to be flexible in the approach to the work and that weather conditions were a major factor which needed to be given consideration by the appointed contractor. A question arose over the condition of our cutting equipment, and the Chairman stated that all pieces were in good condition. Cllr P. Neale proposed that the Council appoint Mr. J. Cray, and with Cllr B. Chandi seconding the proposal, the motion was carried. Therefore, the Parish Council resolved that Mr. J. Cray be appointed the contractor to carry out the Churchyard grass cutting for 2009/10 season.

It was agreed that the Clerk make the necessary arrangements with regard to fuel cards etc, and that the Chairman meet with Mr. Cray prior to the commencement of the contract.

6.3 **CCTV Contract 2009/10**

The contract for the CCTV requires renewal from 28th February. It was noted that AVES Security has lent the Council equipment at no charge in the past when needed. It was thought that the problems experienced by the proprietor of the company over the past 18 months have now been resolved and a better service will be received. Therefore it was resolved to continue with the Contract under AVES Security for the next 12 months and to monitor the situation. Proposed Cllr F. Keep, seconded Cllr T. Hyde.

6.4 **To finalise the Precept for 2009/10**

Play Area: The Chairman advised that once the Parish Council has taken on responsibility of the play area at Bedford Road, regular inspection checks on the area and equipment must be undertaken. Having taken note of a matter raised at the December meeting with regard to individual accountability, one solution would be for the Parish Council to undertake weekly inspections and have Clements Play Management undertake the detailed inspection of the equipment on a monthly basis. The cost to cover both the Bedford Road and Upper Shelton play areas by Clements would be £924 pa. It was resolved to employ the services of Clements Play Management for monthly checks and that the Parish Council would undertake the weekly inspections.

The Clerk fed the amounts for the play area inspections and the churchyard grass cutting into the budget, giving a final total for expenditure for 2009/10 at £80,370. The Parish Council resolved to set the precept amount for 2009/10 at £80,370.00. Proposed Cllr F. Keep, seconded Cllr G. Spriggs.

6.5 **Finance correspondence**

(a) The following grants requests were dealt with:

(i) Marston Youth Club: Request for £500.00 to cover purchase of replacement equipment. Resolved that the Council in accordance with its powers under Section 137 & 139 of the Local Government Act 1972, should incur the expenditure of £500.00 without precedent, to Marston Moreteyne Youth Club, which in the opinion of the Council, is in the interests of the inhabitants and will benefit them in a manner commensurate with the expenditure.

(ii) Mid Beds Citizen Advice Bureau. The Parish Council did not find in favour in awarding a grant at this moment in time.

(iii) Marston Moreteyne Playing Field Committee: Expenditure details for 2009/10 were received from the Committee. The Clerk advised that £2,500 allocated to the Committee for the financial year 2008/9 was available to be paid, and that a sum of money had also been allocated to the lighting of the skate park upon receipt of an invoice giving details of the units used. Resolved that the Council in accordance with its powers under Local Government (Miscellaneous Provision) Act 1976 s19 should incur the expenditure of £2,500.00 to Marston Moreteyne Playing Field Committee. The Parish Council upheld their decision not to award £2,500 in 2009/10 owing to the future expenditure incurred at the site.

Cllr G. Spriggs requested that the Clerk forward information relating to S106 monies held by Mid Beds District Council in relation to Sports Provision under developers funds to the Chairperson of the Playing Field Committee. The Clerk responded by stating that these amounts had previously been reported but that she would gladly undertake the matter again.

(b) A letter of thanks for grant money awarded was received from the Secretary of Marston Bedford Road Methodist Chapel.

(c) The Council tax base for 2009/10 is expressed as Band "D" equivalent is £1573.

7. **Provision of allotments**

The Chairman reported that after contacting the tenants with regard to returning the land to the Parish Council at an earlier time than Oct 2010, the tenant for Station Road has offered to vacate immediately. The Parish Council resolved to reimburse the tenant with the 12 months rental, and to pursue with re instating the land back into individual allotments. It was resolved that the Chairman seek quotations for the initial clearing the land.

8. **Report from EB Security**: With no representative in attendance, no report was received.

9. Update of information from County Councillor B. King: Owing to the absence of Cllr King, no report was available.

8.10pm. The Chairman, Cllr M Petty, leaves the meeting. Cllr F Keep assumes the role of Chairman.

10. Update of information from District Councillors D. Tysoe & M. Gibson: Owing to the absence of both Councillors, no report was available.

11. Brief update of information on the following committees:

11.1 Community Safety Group – Cllr F. Keep

Cllr Keep reported that things have been quite quiet recently, with no major incidences regarding vandalism to report either. Another Divisional Inspector has been appointed at Ampthill, together with a new Station Commander, and the village sees a new Beat Manager taking over on 2nd February. The Smart Water project has taken off well, especially in Wood End.

11.2 Mid Beds Planning Consortium – Cllrs P. Hall/P. Neale/B. Chandi
Nothing to report.

11.3 Landfill Liaison – Cllrs Mrs. E. Houghton/Mrs. J. Allen
Owing to the absence of both Councillors, no report was available.

11.4 Playing Field Committee – Cllr G. Spriggs

Cllr Spriggs reported that it is hoped that the planning application for the pavilion extension will be sent in by the end of the month. The toilet block has finally been removed. The Committee felt that it was too late now to organise a village fete for the summer. The Committee has asked when the probation service will be in the village to carry out the work required. The Clerk to contact S. Barlow to obtain dates.

8.20pm. District Councillors D. Tysoe and M. Gibson arrive after attending the Council meeting at Lidlington. The Chairman allowed reports to be given.

Report from Cllr Gibson: County Councillor B. King has decided not to stand as a candidate for Central Bedfordshire. The Conservative Association will now select another candidate to stand alongside M. Gibson. Mid Beds District Council will cease to exist on 31st March. MG stated that he has been looking at the Eco Town proposal documents; the consultation deadline for comments is 7th March. The Local Development Framework Committee has been discussing it at their meetings, and feels that the proposals do not fulfil the criteria. Ian Clapham (Lidlington Action Group) has been to see the Minister again today.

Report from Cllr Tysoe: A resident of Lower Shelton Road has been visited by John Hickin (Enforcement Officer) after reports of barking dogs by neighbours. The resident confirmed that a boarding kennel was not being run from the premises; however JH requested that the number of dogs held at the premises be reduced. Rookery South: WRG have submitted a document regarding their proposals for an energy from waste plant at Brogborough. The site would be fairly small, taking around 160 – 180,000 tonnes of waste. Any formal planning application for a facility of this type would be done through the local planning authority. WRG are currently consulting on their proposal. DT stated that this proposal was separate from the BeAR Project. The Clerk advised that the proposal document from WRG was being circulated and would be discussed at the next meeting. DT asked if the Clerk would let him know Parish Council's views once determined. The Parish Council considered obtaining advice from Cranfield University on the whole energy from waste matter.

8.45pm District Councillors D. Tysoe & M. Gibson leave the meeting.

11.5 Village Hall Committee – Cllr B. Mead: Owing to the absence of Cllr Mead, no report was available.

11.6 Church End Lower School – Cllr P. Neale: Nothing to report

11.7 Shelton Lower School – Cllr M. Petty: Nothing to report.

12. Matters arising from the minutes of Tuesday 2nd December 2008 & Tuesday 6th January 2009.

12.1 EfW at Rookery Pit: The Parish Council hosted the public meeting held at the village hall on 13th January. It is estimated that around 40 people attended, which included members from neighbouring Parish Councils.

12.2 Eco Town: The Clerk has forwarded the Eco Town consultation documents electronically to those Councillors who have email facilities. Hard copies of the documents are on order and will be circulated once received. The deadline for responses is 6th March.

12.3 CCTV: No response has been received back from Burgess Builders regarding financial assistance for the new camera.

Action: The Clerk to chase.

12.4 Confident Communities Fund: The hedge laying project has been completed. It was agreed that the hedge looks a lot better and is at a more realistic level allowing the whole area to be on view.

12.5 Millbrook Station: A letter has been sent to Mr. Sleight at BRCC.

13. Planning Matters

13.1 To discuss the following planning applications received since the last meeting

(a) Application No. 09/00005/FULL

Full: Demolition of existing double garage to facilitate new construction to form family suite. Modifications to internal walls and provision of new door and surround to north east elevation and new surround to door on north west elevation.

Site: The Old Rectory, The Green, Marston Moreteyne

Comments: No comments.

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

(a) Application No. 08/02008/FULL

Full: New single storey side extension and entrance porch, single storey rear extension, external stairs to rear, extract ducting to rear, new window to side elevation, new rear door at first floor, external lighting, cctv, external boundary fence.

The Rose & Crown, 171 Bedford Road, Marston Moreteyne

APPROVED.

(b) Application No. 08/02087/OUT

Outline: Prefabricated single storey classroom building with access ramp and steps.

Lower School, Lower Shelton Road, Marston Moreteyne

APPROVED.

13.3 To receive any planning correspondence

(a) Application 08/00043/FULL dated 10.1.08. Sun Valley Works, Wood End, Marston Moreteyne. Notification received of a split appeal decision. Building A – Dismissed. Buildings B & C – allowed with conditions.

(b) Application 08/00189/OUT. Site at Land at 71 Upper Shelton Road, Marston Moreteyne. Appeal to take place on 18th February, at MBDC Offices, Shefford.

14. Appointment of CCTV Committee: It was resolved that the following Councillors serve on the CCTV Committee: P. Hall, B. Chandi, P. Neale & F. Keep.

15 Bedford Road Play Area & Skate Park. Discussion on draft licence:

A copy of the draft licence had been circulated to all Councillors with their agendas prior to the meeting. With no major alterations required, it was proposed to forward a copy of the draft licence to the Playing Field Committee for their consideration.

16. Correspondence

16.1 EDF Energy – Installation of High Voltage Electricity Cables at Lower Shelton Rd

The Clerk reported that Carillion Utility Services have been contracted by EDF Energy Networks to install new high voltage underground electricity cables. The work commenced 19th January and is expected to be completed by 13th March latest. During this period Lower Shelton Road between nos. 140 to 110 will be closed to traffic. It is hoped that access to residential properties will be maintained. An original notice to close the road was received by residents on 23rd December, and was due to take place on 5th Jan. However, following the intervention of the Clerk, Chairman and residents, the closure was postponed to allow rescheduling of the school buses. The Council heard that school children are now collected and returned to an interim bus stop adjacent to the Exhibition PH. Whilst the situation is not wholly acceptable, the matter will be monitored.

- 16.2 Energy from Waste:
- (a) Invite to attend a Joint Councils meeting at Ampthill Town Council offices. To agree a representative. Resolved that Cllrs P. Neale, B. Chandi & Miss E. Johnstone attend the meeting on behalf of Marston Moreteyne Parish Council.
 - (b) WRG Proposals regarding an EfW at Brogborough Landfill site: The Clerk advised that these proposals are currently circulating and the matter will be placed on the February agenda for discussion.
- 16.3 Central Bedfordshire Prioritised Works Programme: The Clerk circulated a schedule of the roads and footpaths identified by the County Highways for repair. The Parish Council resolved that Station Road resurfacing should be included in the programme and that its priority should be high. Also identified were Manor Road, and the footpaths for Woburn Road and Manor Road. All are in need of attention.
- 16.4 A421 Improvements: Notification of Rights of Way Closures: Correspondence had been received from Balfour Beatty regarding the closure of rights of way applied for due to the construction of the A421 Improvement Scheme.
- 16.5 BRCC Network magazine (Jan 09) was made available to Councillors.
- 16.6 Beds & Luton Fire & Rescue Service draft Community Risk Management Plan 2009-12: Cllr T. Hyde requested to read this information.
- 16.7 Invitation to attend the Farewell Reception for Town & Parish Councils at Beds CC. (10.3.09 7-9pm): Cllr B. Chandi & T. Hyde expressed a wish to attend the reception.
- 16.8 The Bedfordshire Bugle was circulated.

17. Clerk's Monthly Report.

Highways:

Footpath outside Post Office has been reported as flooding when raining. The matter is under further investigating as jetting proved ineffective. Footpath outside 15 Station Road is raised by 1" causing a trip hazard. 2m2 of path patching to remove the joint problem will be done together with a pothole on the next road nearby next to an access cover and a small pot hole on the path opposite. Large pot holes have been reported opposite Station Road shops. 3 way lights are being planned due to the problems of the junction and the shops. Various street lights have been reported to the Highways Dept as not working over the last 2 months. The sunken piece of road adjacent to The Bell was reported to the builder. I believe the matter has been addressed now. The alley way in Beancroft Road reported as full of pot holes and ruts. Order raised to resurface path.

Pam Melrose at Balfour Beatty is being moved to another road project which has been brought forward. She leaves on Fri 23rd Jan. Jan Bath takes over as our Liaison contact in relation to the A421 improvements.

There being no further business to transact, the meeting was closed at 9.30pm.