

# MARSTON MORETEYNE PARISH COUNCIL

## Minutes of the Meeting of Marston Moreteyne Parish Council held at Marston Moreteyne Sports Pavilion on Tuesday 18<sup>th</sup> November 2008, commencing 7.15pm.

**Present:** Councillor M. Petty (Chairman)  
Councillors F. Keep (Vice Chairman), G. Spriggs, T. Hyde, B. Mead, Mrs S. Hall, P. Hall  
P. Neale  
Mr. Rob Ludlow & Mr. Brian Bignall – EB Security  
1 member of public

1. **Apologies for absence** were received from Cllrs. B. Chandi, Miss E. Johnstone, County Cllr B. King. District Cllr M Gibson had advised the Clerk that he had to attend another meeting but would attend this one if time allowed.
  2. **Public Participation**  
A member of public addressed the Parish Council stating that he would like to resurrect the annual village fete which used to be held on August Bank Holiday. He stated that it was very well attended when held previously. The Council advised that he would need to form a Committee with other residents owing to the amount of work involved in getting such a fete organised. He agreed that this was good advice and would look into it and come back to the Parish Council in January with more information on how things would proceed.  
7.25pm District Cllr M. Gibson arrives
  3. **Report from EB Security**  
A report was circulated to all Councillors indicating the hot spots and other locations around the village where problems had occurred over the last month. BB reported that youths were still sitting at the rear of the Doctor's Surgery. Solutions to this were discussed which would enable the youths to be aware that they were trespassing on private property.  
The Council were made aware that large bundles of Beds on Sunday newspapers had been discarded close to the underpass (Marston side). It was agreed to contact BOS and request that the area be cleared up.  
RL offered his services to the Parish Council in relation to audit control procedures in regard to CCTV policy. The Chairman thanked him for his offer but stated that the matter was on the agenda for discussion and that this issue was being dealt with at present.
  4. To receive **declarations of interest** in any items on the agenda.  
Cllr M. Petty declared a prejudicial interest in Item 11.1 (b).
  5. **The Minutes of the Meeting for Marston Moreteyne Parish Council meeting held on Tuesday 21<sup>st</sup> October 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 F. Keep seconded Cllr G. Spriggs.
  6. **Update of information from County Councillor B. King**  
Owing to the absence of Cllr King a report was not available.  
7.55pm Cllr Mrs. E. Houghton arrives.
  7. **Report from District Councillor M. Gibson:**
    - The Unitary Council process continues to proceed.
    - Cllr Gibson attended the Remembrance Service at Marston on Sunday.
    - The plans for an EfW at Rookery by Cavanta would see the usage tonnage increase from 200,000 to 600,000 tons, and would take not just Bedfordshire waste but Buckinghamshire as well. MG stated that he was opposed to it. The Parish Council agreed to send a letter of objection to the proposals. The Council were aware that both Mid Beds District Council and Bedfordshire County Council were also against the proposals from Cavanta.
    - Eco Town: MG visited the DCLG's roadshow at the Forest Centre and made known his objections on the lack of notice given for the visit. MG stated to the Parish Council that he is totally against the Eco Town proposals. MG advised that he had copies of the PPS Eco Town documents and will try to obtain copies for the Clerk.
- 8.20pm Cllr M. Gibson leaves .

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

8.1 Community Safety Group – Cllr F. Keep.

A report was circulated around the Council: The village has been invaded by cold callers from EON Energy asking people to change their suppliers. Intimidating methods were used and therefore Trading Standards were called. Whilst EON Energy were not breaking the law, their methods were challenged. A new District Commander and new Station Commander have been appointed at Beds Police. The pavilion was broken into during the A421 exhibition and equipment was stolen. FK has spoken with Anne Burgess regarding the wall by the shops who has indicated that the necessary repairs will be done. The illegally parked BMW car at the shops car park has been served with a 7 day notice by MBDC and has been removed.

8.2 Mid Beds Planning Consortium – Cllrs P. Hall/P. Neale/B. Chandi

Next meeting is on 28<sup>th</sup> Nov. The Chairman asked if a copy of their accounts could be requested.

8.3 Landfill Liaison – Cllrs Mrs. E. Houghton/Mrs. J. Allen

Nothing to report.

8.4 Playing Field Committee – Cllr G. Spriggs

Toilet Block: GS advised that R. Garner will be writing to the Parish Council with regard to the costs involved in removing the toilet block and a subsequent request for financial assistance. The costs will be between £1,300 – £1,400. The Chairman told GS that the Committee had not yet written to request their grant this year from the Parish Council. The Council also precept money for the CCTV electric costs and again no invoice has been received. A copy of the electric bill and meter reading would be required as proof of usage.

Youth Shelter: GS advised that the Committee had agreed to remove the inner walls and ceiling in order to make the shelter safe.

Pavilion Extension: The Chairman stated that permission for two of the containers expires in March 2009, and the money which has been agreed to go towards the pavilion extension must not be lost owing to lack of movement on the project.

Other matters: GS reported that the Committee were looking to install two CCTV cameras at the pavilion; one on the front of the building and one in the main hall. The Committee are looking to replace the metal manhole cover by the MUGA with a concrete one to try to combat thieves who regularly steal the metal covers.

8.5 Village Hall Committee – Cllr B. Mead

A meeting has been held but nothing further to report. The Committee expressed it thanks for the grant awarded.

8.6 Church End Lower School – Cllr P. Neale

Nothing to report that is relevant to the Parish Council.

8.7 Shelton Lower School – Cllr M. Petty

New windows are to be installed in the old building.

9. Matters arising from the minutes of Tuesday 21<sup>st</sup> October 2008

9.1 Eco Town: A letter of thanks has been sent to MMETAG.

9.2 CCTV: A favourable letter regarding financial assistance for additional CCTV & lighting at the shops has been received back from the owner of the shopping parade at Station Road. The company wishes to see more detail and costs of the proposals .

9.3 Licence for Skate Park & Play Area at Bedford Road: The Clerk has met with the solicitor who indicated that some alterations to the licence should be undertaken. Therefore a revised license will be drawn up to be presented to the Council.

9.4 Energy from Waste Plant: The village hall is provisionally booked for 13<sup>th</sup> January 2009, for the public meeting. However, confirmation is awaited from Cllr Tom Wootton regarding his attendance.

9.5 Arundel Road – White markings: This matter needs chasing.

9.6 Land adjacent 89 & 91 Bedford Road: Whilst the land has had some maintenance, it was still agreed to try to find the legal owner by advertising in the local newspapers after seeking legal advice.

9.7 Highways Partnership Scheme: The dropped kerb has been put in at the Moat Farm Cottages end of the newly surfaced Woburn Road footpath.

- 9.8 Land East of Bedford Road: The S106 agreement is now available for download from Mid Beds District Council's web site.
- 9.9 Bus Shelter repair: Upper Shelton Road: The shelter has been repaired.
- 9.10 Probation Service: The work by the Probation Service should start in January. Therefore it was resolved that Cllr Petty obtains two pairs of large secateurs as originally identified as equipment being required to carry out the work needed.
- 9.11 Fidelity Guarantee: The Clerk has sent a request to the Insurance Company to increase the Fidelity Guarantee to the level agreed at the previous meeting.
- 9.12 Payroll Service: The agreement has been signed and returned to Bedford Borough Council.
- 9.13 CPRE Membership: Payment to be raised for membership at this meeting.
- 9.14 Franklin Close: The matter of responsibility of grass cutting at Franklin Close continues to be discussed between the resident and Beds County Council. Cllr B. King has now been involved.
- 9.15 Confident Communities Fund Scheme – Hedge laying: The work commenced on 5<sup>th</sup> November and is going well.
- 9.16 A421 M1 Junction 13 improvements: The Clerk has obtained a copy of the work schedule. It was agreed that this might be valuable information for residents and therefore should be printed in the village diary.  
Wood End residents have received letters regarding the contractor's traffic which will be using Wood End during periods of construction. Additional passing bays will be put in and any damage to the road surface will be repaired afterwards.  
The Chairman had received a letter from Roy Brunsdon of the Highways Agency which stated that the Lower Shelton link road will have passing bays and that the signage from the new A421 will be looked into regarding this road. It is hoped to have a no left turn sign placed at the Upper/Lower Shelton Road junction for specific times but apparently it is not enforceable. The matter concerning the traffic calming and closure of the link road should it become a rat run should be addressed to the new Unitary Authority next year.
- 9.17 Parish Council Accounts: A letter of thanks was received from the resident who requested to view the Parish Council accounts.

## 10. Finance

10.1 To approve invoices for payment and be notified of any income since the last meeting  
The Chairman thanked Cllr Keep for laying the Remembrance Day wreath on behalf of the Parish Council. The Chairman proposed that the Parish Council send a payment of £100.00 to the Royal British Legion to cover the cost of the wreath and a small grant. Resolved that the Council in accordance with its powers under Section 137 & 139 of the Local Government Act 1972, should incur the expenditure of £100.00 to the Royal British Legion, 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.

Calverton Factors Ltd	Security Patrols (September)	£ 1,420.43
LSN Media	Diary delivery (Dec)	£ 41.15
Copykatz	Diary (Nov)	£ 180.00
Pier One Solutions	Web Site Hosting	£ 41.13 SO
Bedford Borough Council	Nov Payroll	£2,067.82DD
Bedford Borough Council	Payroll provision charge	£ 176.25
Mobile Glass	Bus Shelter repair (U/Shelton Rd)	£ 220.90
Totalcard Services	Petrol – churchyard mower	£ 39.62
Royal British Legion	Poppy wreath	£ 100.00
Bedford Rd Meth Church	Grant	£ 2,000.00
CPRE Membership	Membership application	£ 25.00
Mr. S. Long	MMETAG expenses	£ 101.40
Mrs J. Green	MMETAG expenses	£ 23.00
FJ Beddoe	Litter Picking	£ 169.00
A. Bunker	Churchyard Grass cutting	£ 300.00

Resolved that the invoices for payment should be agreed. Proposed Cllr F. Keep seconded Cllr Mrs. S. Hall.

**10.2 Churchyard Grass cutting contract 2009 – update and further discussion**

The Clerk reported that no response has been received back yet from the current contractor. Resolved that the Clerk and Chairman draw up a grass cutting document to be sent out to DSD, Warners of Bedford and two residents who have expressed a wish to tender for the work.

**10.3 To discuss allotment rents for 2009/10.**

Resolved not to raise the rents for the allotments for the next financial year.

**10.4 Finance correspondence**

A letter of thanks was received from Shelton Lower School in relation to the grant awarded last financial year.

**10.5 Draft precept discussion: 2009/10**

The Clerk prepared and presented to the Council a financial report on the second quarter expenditure for 2008/9 accounts. The report detailed current expenditure against the precept expenditure figures. The Parish Council duly accepted the figures presented. Draft precept figures for 2009/10 were presented to the Parish Council. Some areas of spending could not yet be identified. Quotations need to be sought regarding churchyard grass cutting and payroll expenditure needed to be finalised. The Parish Council looked closely at the expenditure incurred relating to the Playing Field Committee. It resolved to continue to cover the costs of their insurance premium, but to abolish the annual grant each year. Grass cutting will continue to be covered.

It was resolved to obtain the costs not identified in the draft precept and once obtained to discuss the precept at a further meeting and agree on the final figure.

9.15pm The Parish Council resolved not to have a break in the meeting.

**11. Planning Matters**

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

(a) Application No. 08/02008/FULL

Full: New side entrance porch and change of use to A5

The Rose & Crown, 171 Bedford Road, Marston Moreteyne

Comments: The Parish Council requested that plenty of external litter bins are provided in order that customers using the facility can dispose of their litter responsibly. Also comment was made on the difference between the two drawings in relation to missing chimneys. Clarification on the matter was sought.

(b) Application No. 08/02097/RM

RM: Prefabricated single storey classroom building with access ramp and steps

Lower School, Lower Shelton Road, Marston Moreteyne

Clr M. Petty did not enter into discussion with regard to this application.

Comments: No objections.

12.2 There were no details of any approvals / refusals / withdrawals of planning applications.

12.3 To receive any planning correspondence

The Appeals in relation to planning applications at 28 Upper Shelton Road have been determined by the Planning Inspectorate.

Application 07/01610/FULL Approved

Application 07/01743/OUT Dismissed

Application 08/00322/OUT Dismissed

Application 08/00279/OUT Dismissed

**13. Provision of allotments**

The Clerk stated that she had not yet received guidance on how to proceed further with regard to land allocation. Therefore no further discussion could take place. It was agreed that a letter be sent to both tenants advising them that the Parish Council were looking into providing allotments and that the land they rent may not necessarily be available in the future.

**14. CCTV at Station Road shops – update**

AVES Security have advised that the costs to supply, wire and install a camera assembly together with infra-red illumination would be £1,370.00 plus VAT. The costs to supply and install a 6U, 19” wall mounted cabinet including any wiring modifications to house the CCTV equipment at the Station Road shops would be £350.00 plus VAT.

It was resolved

- to write to the owner of the shopping parade advising the costs and asking for a considerable contribution.
- to proceed with the purchase of the CCTV cabinet at a cost of £350.00 plus VAT.

#### **15. Adoption of CCTV Policy and appointment of authorised persons**

Copies of the draft document had been sent to all Councillors prior to the meeting. The Clerk advised that Mr. D. Rollings (MBDC) had approved that the information contained in the policy was relevant and complied with regulations. The Council resolved that any breaches of the policy by authorised persons should be investigated by the Chairman of the Parish Council and that the wording should be changed to reflect this. The Council resolved to appoint a CCTV Committee of around six village residing Councillors who would undertake the day to day operational responsibility and that a rota be devised in order that weekly checks on the equipment can be made. The wording in the draft policy should therefore be changed to reflect this.

#### **16. Eco Towns: Update.**

This matter has been discussed earlier in the meeting with District Cllr M. Gibson.

#### **17. Correspondence**

- 17.1 Formulate a response to the Core Strategy & Development Management Policies: Draft Submission – CD circulated.  
The Clerk circulated her report on the document and drew attention to the areas relating to Marston Moreteyne. It was resolved that the Parish Council comments state that to comment on information contained on a disk was difficult
- 17.2 MBDC Site Allocations Document & Settlement Area  
Over 12,000 responses have been received by MBDC on the 443 sites put forward. A CD copy of the report for the whole area or a paper copy of a particular parish report is available upon request. It is expected that only about 50 out of 440 sites will eventually be allocated for development. It is hoped that a list of preferred sites be published in Summer 2009, whereby further comments through consultation will be undertaken.
- 17.3 Beds Playing Fields Assn Newsletter (Autumn 08)  
The newsletter was passed to Cllr G. Spriggs as representative on the Playing Field Committee.
- 17.4 Bedford Borough Council: Town Centre Area Action Plan adoption.  
The Action Plan was adopted by Bedford Borough Council on 8<sup>th</sup> October. The plan is available to view at [www.bedford.gov.uk/planning](http://www.bedford.gov.uk/planning).
- 17.5 Creating Central Bedfordshire Council – Stakeholder update 6.  
The six update on the activity towards creating Central Bedfordshire was made available to all Councillors
- 17.6 The November edition of the Bedfordshire Bugle was distributed to the Council.

#### **18. Clerk's Monthly Report.**

The Clerk had nothing further to report other than what had been raised during the meeting.

There being no further business to transact, following the discussion in the closed meeting, the Council meeting was closed at 10.30pm.