

MARCHAM PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of the meeting of Marcham Parish Council held on Wednesday 13th July, 2016 in the residents' lounge at Duffield Place, Marcham at 7.30 p.m.

Present:

Miss. R. Atkins, Mr. M. Denton, Mr. M. Hillis, Mr. M. Hoath,
Miss R. Mander, (Chairman), Mr. P. Steere, Mr. D. Walton
Mrs. J. Fabes as newly co-opted member part way through the meeting.
Clerk: Mrs. L. Martin
1 member of the public

- 2016/147 Apologies for absence
Apologies had been received from Mr. W. Cumber and Mrs. S. Hill.
- 2016/148 Casual Vacancy
Council considered the casual vacancy which had arisen following the resignation of Mr. Colin Bough. No election had been required and the Parish Council had been given permission to co-opt to fill the vacancy. It noted and considered the application from Mrs. Jane Fabes.

RESOLVED:

that Mrs. Jane Fabes be co-opted to the Council
to serve until the next election in May 2019

- 2016/149 Declaration of Acceptance of new member
Mrs. Fabes made and signed the declaration of acceptance of office as a Member.
- 2016/150 Declarations of Interest
Miss R. Atkins declared an interest in the agenda item relating to planning application P16/V1696/LB for 12 Frilford Road in that she knew the applicant well. Mr. M. Hoath declared in interest in the agenda item relating to the planning application P16/V1696?LB for 12 Frilford Road in that the applicant was a fellow Director of the Arthur Anson Trust Ltd. Mr. Hoath also declared an interest in the agenda item relating to the planning application P16/V1639/HH 28A North Street, in that he was a Director of the Anson Trust which owned the Institute property immediately adjacent to the application site. Mr. Hoath also declared an interest in the agenda item relating to community facilities in that he was a Director of the Anson Trust

which was trying to provide the facilities. He pointed out this was a non pecuniary interest, and he would remain in the room but not contribute to debate.

- 2016/150 Church welcome pack
Mr. Denton asked the Clerk to contact the Church administrator to provide the details of the new parish councillors so that the welcome pack for new comers to the village could be updated.
- 2016/151 Minutes of the meeting held on 8th June, 2016
The minutes of the meeting held on 8th June, 2016 were approved and signed as a true record of the meeting.
- 2016/152 Matters Arising from the meeting held on 8th June, 2016
Transfer of Public Open Space – Vanderbilt
The transfer document was currently with the Council’s solicitors for them to offer advice.

A415 – Howard Cornish Road junction

Council noted that the grass at this junction had been cut. Members asked questions regarding whether the cut that had taken place was the only cut of the season, or whether the request for an immediate cut owing to sight line problems, had resulted in an additional cut. Members also commented on the length of grass at the entrance to The Farthings which was causing vision difficulties for motorists. Comments were made regarding overhanging branches and lack of visibility of the 30 mph signs, and the general duty of care owed by the County Council to road users, and also to the accidents that were likely to result should the grass and overhanging growth not be cut back.

Youth Shelter – repainting

Council noted that Mrs. Ricketts had arranged for the youth to paint the youth shelter. This would be carried out under the supervision of a painter and decorator. Materials would be invoiced to the Parish Council by the decorator’s firm. Mr. Hoath was preparing a risk assessment.

Fettilplace Road – overhanging tree

Council noted that the tree near the entrance into Duffield Place was in the ownership of the Vale of White Horse District Council. A small amount of overgrowth had been trimmed back, and further works were planned to the tree in Winter.

2016/153

Public Participation

Obstruction of footways

The member of the public present made reference to the fact that footways opposite the post office were obstructed by parked cars making it impossible for him to use his disability scooter, also he commented on cars parked on the verge on the south side of the A415 near the junction with Mill Road. He found it difficult to access the zebra crossing.

The Clerk was asked to place an article in the next issue of Marcham and District News reminding people about causing obstruction when parking, and requesting those affected to report the matter to the Police via the non emergency number 101, and giving the car registration number.

Cllrs. R. and C. Webber joined the meeting.

2016/154

Planning Applications

a) Decisions on previous applications

P16/V0694/HH Single storey side extension to form study

68 Howard Cornish Road

Permitted 8th June, 2016

P16/V1109A New signage

The Crown Public House, Packhorse Lane

Permitted 22nd June, 2016

P16/V1148/HH Single storey side extension

Single storey rear extension with centre two storey element

12 Parkside

Permitted 23rd June, 2016

b) Applications dealt with prior to the meeting

No applications had been received.

c) Applications considered at the meeting

P16/V1383/FUL Change of use from C3 to C1 usage

Fir Tree Cottage 33 North Street (within grounds of Denman College)

For: Denman College

Council discussed the application and had no objections to the proposal

The Chairman called for a show of hands for those in support of the application

In support	Against	Abstention
8	0	0

Comments: Council supports the application.

P16/V1442/HH 2 storey rear extension, front porch, pitched roof over garage with office over 4 Priory Lane

For: Mrs. M. Tierney

Council discussed the application and had no objections to the proposal

The Chairman called for a show of hands for those in support of the application

In support	Against	Abstention
8	0	0

Comments: Council supports the application.

P16/V1420/HH Demolish and rebuild left hand drive wall. Erection of porch

Peartree Cottage, 7 Packhorse Lane

For: Mr. A. Stacey

Council discussed the application and had no objections to the proposal. It asked that there should be footway provision, if possible, for pedestrians using the north side of the A415, or at the very least, the reconstruction of the wall should not reduce the currently available space for pedestrians.

The Chairman called for a show of hands for those in support of the application

In support	Against	Abstention
8	0	0

Comments: Council supports the application. Council requested that improved footway provision be created wherever possible, and that the limited existing footway provision not be reduced.

Mr. Hoath took no part in the debate of and voting on the following application.

P16/V1639/HH Single storey extension

Magnolia Cottage, 28A North Street

For: Mrs. C. Moodey

Council discussed the application and had no objections to the proposal

The Chairman called for a show of hands for those in support of the application

In support	Against	Abstention
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7	0	0
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Comments: Council supports the application.

P16/V1533/LDE Conservatory and outbuildings

Old Rose Cottage, 44 North Street

For: Mrs. L. Oakes

Council discussed the application and had no objections to the proposal

The Chairman called for a show of hands for those in support of the application

In support	Against	Abstention
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8	0	0
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Comments: Council supports the application.

P16/V1662/PDH Single storey rear extension with flat roof. Two flat roof skylights

2 Fettiplace Road

For: Mr. T. Maloney

Council discussed the application and had no objections to the proposal

The Chairman called for a show of hands for those in support of the application

In support	Against	Abstention
8	0	0

Comments: Council supports the application.

Miss. Atkins and Mr. Hoath did not take part in the debate and voting on the following application.

P16/V1696/LB Alteration to grade II listed barn to form 2 bed annex
12 Frilford Road
For: Professor J. Allan

Council discussed the application. Concerns were raised regarding car parking, and whether the proposal would encourage parking on North Street. North Street was particularly narrow and already suffered from congestion and parked vehicles, some of which obstructed the footway. In addition new dwellings were being constructed on the former garage site at the junction of North Street and A415 which too would increase the number of vehicles in the area. Council noted the land ownership plan for the allotments adjacent to the barn, and noted that parking provision for the barn had been shown on the Council's land. Members discussed having a site meeting with the applicant to show him the allotment boundary and point out the likely parking problems. Members had no worries in regards to the works to the barn itself.

The Chairman called for a show of hands for those in support of the application

In support	Against	Abstention
0	5	1

RESOLVED:

(i): Council objects to the application on grounds of inadequate parking provision

- (ii) that if granted consent and if appropriate any permitted development rights be rescinded
- (iii) that a site meeting be arranged with the applicant so that the concerns regarding parking on Council's allotment land could be discussed

d) Planning Correspondence

Notification from the Vale of White Horse District Council had been received by the clerk that the owner of Stone Cottage, Abingdon Road proposed to create an infill section between 2 existing extensions and was seeking a determination from the District Council as to whether prior approval was required for an extension which could be built under new increased permitted development legislation.

2016/155

District Councillor's Report – Cllr. C . Webber

Planning Application on behalf of Anson Trust – New Community Facilities

Cllr. C. Webber had spoken with the planning officer, Stuart Walker. He was aiming to put the application to planning committee on 17th August. There were still some outstanding issues regarding viability and affordable housing about which he would speak with the applicant. She referred to s. 106 contributions from the Anson Trust, and queries that were to be confirmed. The Parish Council had queries regarding s. 106 payments on other sites in the parish, rather the application for new community facilities, so there may have been some confusion.

Grants – Cllr. Webber referred to the District Council's area grant committee and the availability of grants and encouraged applications for the benefit of Marcham.

Planning Training – Training in the new District Council arrangements for processing planning applications was taking place at the end of July. Cllr. Webber encouraged parish councillors to attend. Cllr. Webber was advised that the Parish Council had commented that putting housing developments of only 10 or more houses to planning committee could disadvantage smaller villages. The cut off point whereby applications for small housing developments in villages automatically went to committee should be set at a much lower number than 10.

2016/156

County Councillor's Report
Unitary Authority

Cllr. R. Webber provided an update on the position of the County Council in regards to the bid for unitary authority status. General discussion was had regarding elected members and representation for residents on any new Authority.

- 2016/157 Community Facilities
Council received an update from the representatives on the community facilities steering group. The date when the application would be determined was awaited. Discussions were ongoing regarding a possible requirement for affordable housing provision. The order in which the works would be undertaken should consent be granted was outlined. The construction of the hall, sports pavilion, car park and landscaping should be VAT free. It was thought that the multi use games area and sports pitches would incur VAT if undertaken by the Anson Trust.
Timings for any financial contribution from the Parish Council would need to be agreed. Information as to this from the Anson Trust, its solicitor and developer would be passed to the Parish Council via its representative on the Community Facilities Steering Group. The Clerk and Responsible Financial Officer advised, that a request for the release of any public funding into the project would need to come from the Anson Trust in order to provide a proper audit trail. Monies would not be released at the request of Council representatives on the Steering Group.
- 2016/158 Oxfordshire County Council – Unitary Authority Workshop 22nd June
Miss Atkins and Mr. Steere gave a report on a meeting which they had attended. It had been a productive meeting, and there had been a general feeling among parishes that should they take on additional service provision, then support for that would be required.
- 2016/159 Vale of White Horse District Council – Parish Forum 7th July, 2016
Mr. Denton and Miss Mander gave a report on the District Council's parish forum meeting which they had attended. There had been considerable discussion regarding the creation of a unitary authority, and contrary to the ideas being put forward by Oxfordshire County Council, there was a proposal to merge South Oxfordshire District Council and Vale of White Horse District Council. Changes to the processing of planning applications was discussed and the fact that fewer planning applications would go to committee. In addition an update on the Local Plan was provided.
- 2016/160 Oxfordshire Association of Local Councils –Annual General Meeting 4th July 2016
Mr. Steere gave a report on this meeting which he had attended.

Formal annual business had been undertaken such as approval of accounts. There followed a presentation on the work of the National Association of Local Councils and then discussion as to the devolution of powers to parish and town councils, what they could take on and the requirements that they needed.

2016/161 The duration of the meeting had been 2 hours and Council resolved to suspend standing order no. 1a in order to allow business to be continued

2016/162 Parkside Allotment – Clearance
Council discussed quotations from different contractors for clearance of Parkside allotments, and whether the work should be divided into sections, and undertaken at different times, and possibly by different contractors. It was proposed that ADM Trees be offered the work to clear the allotments at a total cost of £3250, with funds being transferred from reserves.

The Chairman called for a show of hands for those in support of awarding a contract for the work to ADM Trees.

In support	Against	Abstention
3	0	5

RESOLVED:

- (i) that ADM Trees be instructed to clear Parkside allotments at a cost of £3250
- (ii) that funds be transferred from reserves to cover the cost

2016/163 Overhanging trees/shrub growth
Comments were made by members regarding the path from the village to the A34 which was in need of cutting back, as overhanging growth and weeds were causing obstruction. White edging lines were not showing. It was suggested that the Clerk contact the County Council and the landowners to see whether it could be cut back.

Comments were made regarding the path from Howard Cornish Road to the school, and also the path from North Street to the rear of Parkside. The Chairman had already mentioned overhanging growth to the occupier of this property who had undertaken to clear it. It was suggested that an article be placed in September MAD News reminded residents to clear any growth overhanging their front gardens.

2016/164 Campaign for Real Ale
Council noted and considered a request from the Campaign for Real

Ale to register The Crown Public House as a Community Asset under the Localism Act 2011. Members were generally in support, but felt unable to start the process, and suggested that a group of local residents who use The Crown public house, should take the initiative.

RESOLVED:

- (i) that Council supports the principle of applying to the District Council to register The Crown public house as a Community Asset under the Localism Act 2011.
- (ii) that CAMRA be advised that the initiative should be taken by a local users of the facilities, and that it should approach The Crown to seek assistance with its aims.

2016/165

A415 – Speed checks/speed gun

Council noted that St. Helen Without Parish Council and Abingdon Town Council, did not wish to participate or contribute to the cost of speed checks on the A415 i.e. rubber counting strips across the road. The Clerk had approached Drayton Parish Council, who was looking elsewhere for access to a speed gun. Sutton Courtenay Parish Council had deferred the matter to a future meeting. Council discussed whether parishes to the North and North East would wish to share in the cost of providing a speeding gun. The estimated cost was £2500.

RESOLVED:

that enquiries be made of Wootton, Cumnor and St. Helen Without Parish Councils as to whether they would be interested in sharing a speed gun.

2016/166

Request for Grant

Council considered a request for a grant from Marcham Community Group towards additional expenses incurred for The Queen's 90th Birthday celebrations which amounted to £180.06. The Clerk reported that the Council was still holding £89 from the grant awarded by the Vale of White Horse District Council.

RESOLVED:

that Council agrees that under s. 145 Local Government Act 1972 the sum of £89 be awarded to Marcham Community Group towards additional expenses in

connection with The Queen's 90th Birthday celebrations.

2016/167

Defibrillator

Council noted that Marcham Primary School had agreed to site a defibrillator at the school, at a mutually agreed location provided there was no cost to the school. Council noted that there were no funds in the budget for the cost.

RESOLVED:

- (i) that the school be approached to agree the actual location, and discussions had as to electrical connection required.
- (ii) that funds be included in the budget for the next financial year with a view to acquiring a defibrillator Spring 2017

2016/168

Correspondence

- a) OALC – update June 2016
- b) Wantage Independent Advice Centre – Annual Report 2016
- c) South Oxfordshire District Council – Design Guide supplementary planning documents

2016/169

Accounts

Council noted the list of cheques numbered 2865 to 2872 to be signed and authorised payments totalling £3007.16 in respect of administration costs, play area checks and repairs, training course, installation of bench seat.

2016/170

Matters Raised by members

Anson Field

It was reported that there had been an attempted break in in to the pavilion in the Anson Field. In addition trees were low on the southern side of the field, and these would be cut back.

Grass Cutting – undertaken by District Councils

A member had seen press information regarding the District Council taking on highway grass cutting in the Vale area, as had been the case in Cherwell District.

Howard Cornish Road – parking

It was reported that cars had been seen on the verge in Howard Cornish Road. It was thought that this had been connected to people attending a memorial service for a relative.

Tower Close / Orchard Way junction

Reference was made again to parking on the amenity grass at this junction.

Visibility 30 mph signs

It was reported that the 30 mph signs are not visible, and the Council could therefore not expect traffic to keep within the speed limit when motorists could not see the speed restriction signs. It was suggested that a letter be sent to the County Council regarding this.

2016/171

Items for Marcham and District News

The Clerk would prepare an article for MAD News, and include reference to obstructions to pavements.

2016/172

Date of Next Meeting

The next meeting of the Council would be held on Wednesday 14th September, 2016 in the residents' lounge at Duffield Place at 7.30 p.m.

The meeting closed at 9.55 p.m.

Signed Date