

MARCHAM PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of the meeting of Marcham Parish Council held on Wednesday 12th April, 2017  
in the residents' lounge at Duffield Place, Marcham at 7.30 p.m.

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Present:

Mr. M. Denton, Mrs. J. Fabes, Mr. M. Hillis, Mr. M. Hoath, Miss R. Mander  
(Chairman), Mr. P. Steere, Mr. D. Walton  
Rachel Roberts (Air Quality Monitoring Officer, Vale of White Horse District  
Council)  
Clerk: Mrs. L. Martin  
5 members of the public

- 2017/86      Apologies for absence  
Apologies for absence had been received from Ms. R. Atkins and Mrs.  
S. Hill. Apologies had also been received from Cllr. Mrs. C Webber  
(District Councillor) and Cllr. R. Webber (County Councillor).
- 2017/87      Declarations of Interest  
Mr. Walton declared an interest in the agenda item relating to the casual  
vacancy in that he knew one of the applicants well.
- 2017/88      Mr. Walton left the room
- 2017/89      Casual Vacancy  
Council considered applications from 2 local residents eligible to fill the  
vacancy. None of the candidates was present at the meeting.  
The Chairman called for a show of hands for each candidate in turn.  
There being an equal number of votes cast for each candidate, the  
Chairman used her casting vote.
- RESOLVED:
- (i)      that Ian Charles be co-opted to join the  
Parish Council to serve until the next  
election in May 2019.
- (ii)     that a letter of thanks be sent to the  
unsuccessful candidate.
- 2017/90      Mr. Walton rejoined the meeting.
- 2017/91      Minutes of the meeting held on 8<sup>th</sup> March, 2017  
The minutes of the meeting held on 8<sup>th</sup> March, 2017 were approved  
and signed as a true record of the meeting.

2017/92

Matters Arising from the meetings held on 8<sup>th</sup> March, 2017

Annual Meeting of Electors

The Clerk confirmed that this meeting had been arranged for 24<sup>th</sup> May, 2017 at 7.30 p.m. in Marcham Primary School. The planning policy team from the Vale of White Horse District Council had agreed to be the guest speakers and would give a presentation on the Local Plan part 2.

Morland Road – noticeboard

Council noted that Marcham Primary School was in agreement with the idea of a public noticeboard near the school, but requested that discussion be postponed until after the building works of the new classroom were complete.

Weed Spraying

This would be undertaken in early April and then again mid August. The Clerk would enquire the date in April when this was likely to take place.

Howard Cornish Road – Broken Street Nameplate

Council noted that this was being replaced with a street nameplate just giving the name Howard Cornish Road rather than including the list of roads which led off it.

2017/93

Public Participation

Marcham – Air Quality – A415

Rachel Roberts, Air Quality Monitoring Officer from the Vale of White Horse District Council, introduced herself. There were several locations in Marcham along the A415 and Mill Road where diffusion tubes were located and replaced on a monthly basis. The annual limit for Nox was 40 micro grams per metre<sup>3</sup>. This was averaged over the year. Some areas in Marcham were similar to and just under the limit for several years, however in 2016 these had increased to above the limit at 44 micro grams/m<sup>3</sup>. Exceedances were worst in February and October and at peak travel times. It was long term exposure to Nox that was hazardous and the average as defined by DEFRA was used in the calculations. At the last traffic count there were 13400 vehicles a day which passed through Marcham on the A415.

Miss Roberts was encouraged by members to meet with the District and County Councillors who were organising an exercise on 10<sup>th</sup> May to better understand the profile of traffic

Addressing Council

A member of the public queried being allowed to address Council only during public participation. He stated that there may be issues that he wished to speak about, that had not been raised, and it would be preferable to speak at the end of the meeting, and also contribute to each

preferable to speak at the end of the meeting, and also contribute to each agenda item during the meeting.

#### Vale of White Horse District Council - Local Plan Part II

Mr. Ken Dijksman, planning consultant, spoke regarding sites included in the Local Plan, some of which seemed unjustified. He expressed his concerns regarding the Marcham sites, particularly north of the A415 as it was unrelated to the village. He was promoting a site at Rowstock close to the A34, employment areas, and bus routes which had not been included by the District Council. He believed there were alternate sites, more sustainable than those suggested in Marcham.

#### Council Tax increase

Queries were raised regarding the increase in council tax, the number of extra houses that now in the village. The Council was asked to publish its accounts in the village newsletter. The Chairman replied that they were available on the Council's website, and the budget was presented at the annual meeting of electors each year.

#### Footway - Tower Close to Marcham Primary School along Orchard Way

Comments were made regarding the state of the footway between Tower Close and Marcham Primary School. The Clerk was asked to check with the Vale of White Horse District Council as to its road sweeping schedule.

#### Traffic

It was reported that when traffic lights had been located in Mill Road for sewer repair works, traffic had not been stopped. It was suggested that signs were needed at the A338 and A34 giving advance warning and asking for engines to be switched off. Also when the A34 was closed, then lorries diverted along the A415 and A338. One day 30 lorries had been counted on the A415 in the village, by one resident between 1.30 p.m. – 2.00 p.m. Members commented that this route was the recognised diversion route.

#### Sustainable development

General comments were made regarding poor quality new housing which was squeezed in, and the lack of bungalows, and play grounds within the new developments. Linking footways were missing. On design matters, there was no provision for birds, and trees had been planted too close to properties in Harding Way. These needed to be clumped together and grass patches remain unmown. Criticism was

levelled at the Parish Council for not doing more and not stating what it did do. It was suggested that road names should not follow people, but should relate to environmental and geological features in the area and follow nature.

2017/94

Planning Matters

a) Decisions on previous applications

P17/V0052/A Double sided directional sign  
Junction of A415 and Howard Cornish Road  
Withdrawn 16<sup>th</sup> March, 2017

P16/V3250 HH Demolition of conservatory and erection of  
single storey rear extension  
28 North Street  
Permitted 29<sup>th</sup> March, 2017

P15/V3042/O Conversion of Anson Institute building to 3  
apartments, and erection of 5 dwellings, along with new  
community building, MUGA and rearranged sports pitches on  
Anson field. Erection of nursery building on Anson field with  
all matters reserved.  
The Institute, North Street, and Anson field, Morland Road  
Permitted 10<sup>th</sup> April, 2017

b) Planning Applications dealt with prior to the meeting

P17/V0621/HH Alteration and change of use of barn to  
residential annexe  
12 Frilford Road  
For: Professor J. Allen  
Comments: Roof height not to increase, and damage to access  
way to be restored, window on north side must not be oversized  
when compared to existing window, work to garage area must  
conform to work done on the barn, no parking on North Street,  
and access to Council's allotments maintained.

c) Path Howard Cornish Road to Harding Way and Kings Field phase II  
Council received a report from the footpath working party who met  
firstly with Mr. Tim Stringer, the arboricultural officer at the Vale of  
White Horse District Council, and subsequently with Taylor Wimpey.

A tree preservation order was on 66 maple trees in a line from Howard Cornish Road towards the allotments. No preservation order was on the poplar trees. There was a scrub area to the Eastern side of the path which the officer preferred to leave untouched. It had been noted that Vanderbilt Homes developing to the Western side of the row of trees still had to install a footway around part of the public open space. Discussion had taken place that it would be helpful if this could be a straight path to link the existing path with the Taylor Wimpey site to the East, and also link to a proposed new development to the north. Taylor Wimpey had agreed to talk direct to Vanderbilt Homes. The need for a safety rail at the Howard Cornish Road end of the path had been identified.

c) Applications for consideration at the meeting

P17/V0712/FUL Conversion of car port and storage into residential annex including roof lights to the front and dormer window to the rear.

1 The Green

For: Ms. E. Thomas

Council discussed the application and concerns were expressed regarding adequate on site parking provision should another bedroom be added.

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

In favour	Against	Abstention
7	0	0

RESOLVED:

that Council supports the application, subject to there being adequate on site parking

P16/V3224/FUL Erection of 49 dwellings with associated means access, car parking, footpath links, amenity space, landscaping (amended plans)

Land off Sheepstead Road

For: Mrs. H. King, and Mrs. H. King-Thompson

Council considered the amended plans. Members referred to inadequate capacity within the sewerage system, a lack of bungalows, the footpath at the Eastern side to go behind the car

parking spaces, the footpath led directly into private allotment land which was not permitted, there should be a path alongside Sheepstead Road to Cow Lane. Points from the previous application for this site should be reiterated.

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

In favour	Against	Abstention
5	0	2

**RESOLVED:**

that Council supports the application, however the concerns outlined above to be referred to the Vale of White Horse District Council

P16/V2791/RM Application following outline consent granted under P14/V2373.O for appearance, landscaping, layout and scale (amended plans).

Land off Sheepstead Road

For: Mrs. H. King, and Mrs. H. King-Thompson

Council discussed the amended plans. It was noted that there was no sewer impact study, and the landscaping proposals could affect the run of into the sewers. Comments on the paths to the allotments and ensuring that they ran to the Eastern side of the site remained.

**RESOLVED:**

that the Council express concerns regarding:

- (i) the lack of sewer impact study, the and landscaping which could affect run off into the sewers.
- (ii) the route of the footpaths within the site, both directly into the allotments, and the path to the Eastern side
- (iii) the lack of footway to Cow Lane alongside Sheepstead Road.
- (iv) that previous comments regarding design on entry to the village, and open space maintenance be repeated

The Vale of White Horse District Council had identified 2 sites in Marcham on the Eastern side of the village, one on the northern side of the A415 for 400 houses, and the second on the southern side of the A415 for 120 houses. Mr. Walton had produced a written note, and Miss Mander gave a verbal report on the meeting between representatives of the Parish Council and the Vale of White Horse District Council Planning policy team. Marcham had been selected for housing as it could be justified to take some of the unmet housing need in Oxford. Members discussed concerns regarding the inclusion of both sites in the draft Local Plan part 2. The key issues were the poor air quality adjacent to the A415 and the existence of the designation as an air quality management area and the impact of the traffic, the lack of connections and direct road/pedestrian links to the village, the lack of primary school provision. Several land owners were involved with the sites, and it seemed not practical to deliver a developable plan. It was suggested that the Council keep the residents informed regarding Local Plan Part 2 by producing a leaflet to be delivered around the houses setting out the housing proposals for the Local Plan and inviting residents to submit comments to the District Council.

**RESOLVED:**

- (i) that the Council objects to the inclusion in the Vale of White Horse District Council's Local Plan Part 2, the housing sites north and south of the A415 at the Eastern side of the village comprising 400 houses and 120 houses respectively.
- (ii) that the reasons for objection were the air quality management area, transport and traffic, lack of integration with the village, lack of commitment to infrastructure
- (iii) that a leaflet advising residents of the Local Plan, the sites in Marcham, and reasons for objection be prepared and distributed to households in the village.

2017/96

District and County Councillor's Reports

In the absence of Councillors R and C Webber no reports were available.

2017/97

Community Facilities

Council received a report on the Community Facilities Steering Group meeting held on 6<sup>th</sup> April, 2017. The design of the hall

had been discussed. There had been a compromise on the nature of the second hall. There was the possibility of extending the facilities at some point in the future. Council recognised the work that had gone into the preparation of the drawing, and appreciated the attempt to locate the windows overlooking the field.

2017/98 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

2017/99 Anson Trust Contract  
Council considered the contract, and comments from its Solicitor. There was one clause regarding encumbrances which still required agreement, otherwise Council was in agreement with the terms drafted.

RESOLVED:

- (i) that the draft contract (version 8) be accepted by Council other than the clause 10 relating to mortgaging the facilities
- (ii) that the working party continue to negotiate the terms of the grant contract.

2017/100 Village Car Parking  
Council considered correspondence from residents regarding the letter written by the Parish Council to parishioners concerning parking obstruction and damage to verges. Members thought that in future, a letter sent to most or all residents, should indicate that whilst it was being sent to all, the content may only apply to some.

RESOLVED:

that the correspondence be noted

2017/101 Defibrillator – Morland Road  
Council noted that the defibrillator outside of the school was fully functional and that clerk had received an email from South Central Ambulance Service confirming that it had been added to its list of locations.  
Council noted that South Central Ambulance Service had offered to provide a 90 minute free AED community awareness training session if the Parish Council provided a suitable venue. Council discussed this possibility.

RESOLVED:

- (i) that the offer of CPR/AED training be accepted
- (ii) that enquiries be made of the primary school for the use of the school hall.
- (iii) that enquiries be made of Marcham Primary School parents teachers association as to whether it would wish to join with the Parish Council in CPR/AED training and to run fund raising activities alongside

2017/102

Youth Shelter – Litter Bin

Council considered a replacement litter bin for the youth shelter. Previous bins made from plastics and metal had been vandalised.

RESOLVED:

That a glass reinforced concrete litter bin with fixing anchors from Wybone be purchased

2017/103

Parkside Allotments

Council considered quotations for removing tree roots from Parkside allotments. The Clerk was in the process of balancing the accounts as at 31<sup>st</sup> March 2017, and advised on likely balances available.

RESOLVED:

- (i) that the tree roots at Parkside allotments not be cleared for the time being.
- (ii) that the matter be reconsidered when setting the budget for 2018/19.

2017/104

Correspondence

Oxfordshire County Council – Final proposal for a unitary authority in Oxfordshire.

2017/105

Accounts

Council noted the list of cheques numbered 2948 to 2961 to be signed and

RESOLVED:

- (i) that payments totalling £3204.71 in respect of administration costs, training
- 411

course fee, Chairman's allowance, fees for signage, and installation of defibrillator cabinet be authorised.

2017/106 Matters raised by members for information

Increase in precept

It was raised that several residents had commented on and queried the rise in the level of the precept. The overall percentage rise appeared high, but the increase in the parish council precept was £2415.

Marcham Mill

It was reported that work to divert the water course had started.

Cars

It was reported that cars parked in North Street and Church Street had been damaged. It was suggested that a letter be written to the owner of the vehicle parking at the junction of Howard Cornish Road.

101 Police report number

It was reported that a shed on the Cow Lane allotments had been pulled over. It was suggested that the police 101 telephone number for reporting minor incidents be put in MAD News.

New dwellings junction of North Street / A415

It was reported that the wall and fencing at the A415 boundary of New dwellings on the garage site was too high and interfered with vision for motorists leaving North Street. The Clerk would Check the approved planning application drawings.

2017/107 Items for Marcham and District News

The Clerk would prepare an article for MAD News and include reference to the Police 101 telephone number.

2017/108 Date of Next Meeting

The next meeting of the Council would be held on Wednesday 10<sup>th</sup> May, 2017 in the residents' lounge at Duffield Place at 7.30 p.m.

The meeting closed at 10.00 p.m.

Signed ..... Date .....