

MARCHAM PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of a meeting of Marcham Parish Council held on Wednesday 11th April, 2018
in the residents' lounge, Duffield Place at 7.30 p.m.

Present:

Mr. M. Denton, Mrs. J. Fabes, Mrs. S. Hill, Mr. M. Hoath,
Miss R. Mander, (Chairman), Mr. D. Walton
Clerk: Mrs. L. Martin
Cllr. R. Webber (County Councillor), Cllr. C. Webber (District Councillor)

- 2018/70 Apologies for Absence
Apologies for absence had been received from Miss. R. Atkins,
Mr. I. Charles and Mr. P. Steere.
Apologies had also been received from Cllr. Mrs. C. Webber (District
Councillor), and Cllr. R. Webber (County Councillor).
- 2018/71 Declarations of Interest
Mr. Walton declared an interest in the agenda item relating to
allotments, in that his wife was an allotment holder.
Although not subject to the Members' Code of Conduct, the Clerk,
in the interests of transparency, placed on record that she was related to
the agent for the applicant in regards to the planning application for
Stone Cottage, Abingdon Road.
- 2018/72 Minutes of the meeting held on 14th March, 2018
The minutes of the meeting held on 14th March, 2018 were
approved and signed as a true record of the meeting,
- 2018/73 Matters arising from the meeting held on 14th March, 2018
There were no matters arising.
- 2018/74 Public Participation
There were no members of the public present.
- 2018/75 Planning Applications
- a) Decisions on previous applications
- No applications had been determined since the last meeting.
- b) Planning Applications dealt with prior to the meeting
- No applications had been received
- c) Applications for consideration at the meeting
- P18/V0624/HH Demolition of existing garage, construction of
two storey extension to form grand parent annex. Construct
new garage and extend dropped kerb to A415.

Stone Cottage
For: Mr and Mrs. A. McRae

Members discussed the size of the garage and large extension as well as the impact at the entrance to the village, some were of the view that it was over development of the plot, and that the proposed windows were not compatible with those elsewhere in Marcham. Others were of the opinion that keeping the entrance to Marcham semi-rural would be difficult given the new housing developments on the opposite side of the road. Air quality was an issue on the A415.

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

In support	Against	Abstention
4	1	1

RESOLVED:

- (i) that this Council supports the application
- (ii) that the District Council be requested to include conditions:
 - a) for an electric charging point in view of there being an air quality action plan for the area.
 - b) for screening of the garage from the road.
 - c) for appropriate materials compatible with the existing to be used.

P18/V0769/HH and P18/V0770/LB Alterations to wall to form new access, drive and erection of 2 bay open port garage 12 Frilford Road

For: Mr. A. Allan

Members discussed the impact on the conservation area and listed building, and whether the scale of work was excessive, the reduction in height of the wall and creation of an opening and new exit on to the A415.

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

In support	Against	Abstention
4	1	1

RESOLVED:

- (i) that this Council supports the

- application
- (ii) that the District Council be requested to include a condition as to an electric charging point in view of there being an air quality action plan for the area.

In regards to the listed building application it was

RESOLVED:

- (i) that this Council does not object to the application provided the conservation officer is content for the work to proceed, and the impact on the setting of the listed building is not significant.
- (ii) that the District Council be asked to ensure that quality materials compatible with the listed building be used, should consent be granted.

2018/76

District Councillor's Report – Cllr. Mrs. C. Webber and County Councillor's Report – Cllr. R. Webber

Cllrs. Mrs. C and Mr. R. Webber had provided a written report, which had been circulated to all members. This referred to:

Oxford Cambridge Expressway

Concerns regarding lack of consultation and speed of delivery of infrastructure had been raised locally. The Highways Agency had confirmed that comments from Parish Councils would be accepted if received by 12th April.

Reservoir

Thames Water had no plans to include any funding for the Marcham Bypass in the proposals. The Water Resources management Plan was out for consultation until the end of April. The group against the reservoir development was keen to gain the support of all Parish Councils who were directly affected should the reservoir go ahead.

Access into Anson field

Cllrs. C and R Webber had both been contacted by the local Police, who were concerned on safety grounds by the fence between the entry driveway and the earthworks on the field, during the archaeological dig. Possibilities of relocating the fence had been explored but the situation was irresolvable, and the closure of the driveway prematurely with key access to those who needed it was the safest solution.

Members discussed the report and commented it was disappointing that the access gate into the Anson recreation field had been locked, but it was accepted that a common sense approach was needed, as well as monitoring the situation.

Cllrs. Mr. R. and Mrs. C., Webber had arranged a meeting held in the Church with Ms. Rachel Roberts, Air Quality Monitoring Officer from the Vale of White Horse District Council, and Mr. Jason Sherwood, Locality and Road Agreements Manager at Oxfordshire County Council. In attendance had been approximately 40 Marcham residents.

Miss Mander, had been in attendance and gave a summary of the meeting. There appeared to be no real solution to the traffic problem through the village on the A415. Modelling had established that banning HGVs would mean too many such vehicles in other areas, including Abingdon where there was an air quality management area too. Questions from the audience had been answered. One point made was there could be a sign at each end of the village advising that it was an air quality management area.

RESOLVED:

- (i) that no comment be made on the Oxford Cambridge Expressway at this stage.
- (ii) that owing to the existence of the Air Quality Management Plan for the A415 through Marcham, the Parish Council was extremely unlikely to support the reservoir unless positive action was taken to reduce local traffic impact. This was particularly so, given the number of additional vehicles attracted to the area by the reservoir.

A member asked for an agenda item for the next meeting to discuss a motion to the District Council to include electric charging points as conditions within planning applications, and to amend the design brief produced by the Parish Council to include electric charging points.

2018/77

Oxford Cambridge Expressway

This item had been discussed under the report item from Cllrs. R. and C. Webber. The Clerk referred to the fact that at the last meeting there had been a resolution to write to the Department of Transport, in support of the Campaign for the Preservation of Rural England, requesting that a public inquiry be held into the proposed route of the Oxford Cambridge Expressway. She advised that a response had been received. Whilst this did not confirm that a public inquiry would be held, it did state that all relevant parties would be fully consulted and have an opportunity to comment.

2018/78

Paths within new developments

Pye / Matthew Homes A415

The Clerk had confirmed with Matthew Homes that it was their intention to construct the paths shown on the approved planning drawings to the boundary with the Pye development. Queries regarding the A415 path would need to be resolved with the County Council. Matthew Homes had offered to meet with representatives from the Parish Council to discuss any issues. This was likely to be

Thursday 19th April. The Clerk has raised the matter of the lack of paths within the Pye development with the planning officer. He did not think a condition had been included in the planning consent which would require connecting paths to be constructed. Further investigation indicated that there were relevant conditions in the planning consents.

RESOLVED:

- (i) that the matter be referred to the planning officer referencing the planning conditions requesting checks as to compliance with the planning consent.
- (ii) that Cllr. Mrs. C. Webber be advised and, if necessary, be asked to contact Pye Homes to require them to respond to what was originally intended.
- (iii) that the invitation from Matthew Homes meet on site be accepted. The Clerk would advise members of the date and time agreed.

Vanderbilt Homes / Taylor Wimpey

The officer at Taylor Wimpey who had met with the footpaths working party was away on extended leave. A meeting had taken place with another officer to bring her up to date with what had previously been agreed. This was the linking of the path from the Taylor Wimpey site through to the Vanderbilt site, across what was a permissive path, and the connection of the tarmac link down to the tarmac path already installed by Vanderbilt homes. This would involve the felling of a conifer tree. The officer was going to check back with Taylor Wimpey's office records and colleagues. The Clerk reported that the transfer of the public open space on the Vanderbilt site to the Parish Council was with the lawyers.

2018/79

Community Facilities

Council received an update report from Miss Mander. The archaeological works had started on site. Council considered instructing its solicitor in regards to the draft Lease from the Anson Trust to the Marcham Community Group, as the Council had been included as a party to this. It was suggested that the draft Lease be sent as drafted by the Landlord's lawyers, but to include the amendments made by the Anson Trust. It was suggested that any changes be highlighted changes, to facilitate comprehension.

RESOLVED:

that Wellers Headley be instructed to represent the Council in regards to the draft Lease.

2018/80

War Memorial

Council noted that Historic England was currently considering whether the war memorial had special architectural or historical interest, and

noted the draft report to the Secretary of State. Council considered restoration to the war memorial in time for Remembrance Sunday 2018, and lodging a grant request with the War Memorial Trust. It would be preferable for the restoration works to take place before the listing.

RESOLVED:

- (i) that a grant application be lodged with the War Memorial Trust towards the costs of restoration work to the war memorial.
- (ii) that Historic England be asked to postpone the listing of the war memorial until the works were complete.

2018/81 Data Protection - GDPR - 25th May, 2018
Council noted that the working party had met. It was undertaking a data audit. Privacy notices would need to be prepared, as well as updating and creating policies relating to data processing and protection. The working party was continuing to work on these.

2018/82 Grant Application
Council had set aside funding from its grant allocation at its November 2017 meeting, for the PCC for its community worker if applied for. An application had been lodged, and the minute of the December 2017 meeting stated that Revd. Zair be asked to complete the grant application form to enable better consideration of this application. The completed grant application form had just been returned. Some members believed that the Council's new grant application form was to be trialled with the PCC, but the intention was that this did not restrict the payment of the grant for 2017/18, nor should it be required for the release of the grant. Council agreed that it would have to accept the minute as recorded and subsequently agreed by Council at the January 2018 meeting. .

Council considered a draft grant policy prepared by the Clerk.

The Chairman called for a show of hands for those in support of releasing the grant cheque to the PCC towards the running costs of the Youth Club and Friday Club and its attendant activities.

In support	Against	Abstention
5		1

RESOLVED:

- (i) that the grant cheque in the sum of £1500 now be released to the PCC
- (ii) that Revd. Zair / PCC be asked for feedback on completion of the application form.
- (iii) that the draft grant policy prepared by the Clerk not be accepted

- (iv) that the draft grant policy be considered in conjunction with the grant application form by a grants working party.

2018/83

Dog Fouling

Further to general comments from the public regarding dog fouling, Council noted a list of the litter bins and dog waste bins in the village. Mr. Denton advised that the Parochial Church Council would be willing to have a waste bin in the churchyard by the main gate. The Clerk advised that there was not a specific sum within the budget for bins. Mr. Denton offered to walk the village to check on the existing bins. A comment was made that organisations such as the Marcham Sports Scouts and Social Club probably would not welcome dog faeces in their bin.

RESOLVED:

- (i) that a map showing the locations of bins where dog waste could be deposited be prepared
- (ii) that this matter be brought back to a future meeting in due course, but without urgency

2018/84

Thames Water Management Plan

Council noted Thames Water Utilities Ltd Water Resources Management Plan, and noted the proposal for a reservoir in years to come, on land south of Marcham. The Council expressed concern that it would have transport impacts in the area, yet there was no reference to a By Pass or road improvements. Of concern too, was the volume of leaks elsewhere which should be addressed.

RESOLVED:

that the following comments be submitted to Thames Water regarding its Water Resources Management Plan:

- a) The council would not support the reservoir without plans for road infrastructure and measures to reduce the impact on Marcham being included.
- b) measures to substantially reduce leaks within the Thames region should be increased in the first instance before consideration of reservoir be included in the Plan.

2018/85

Street Lighting – North Street

Council considered whether the street light outside of the Post Office in North Street, which was currently turned off over night, should remain lit, to improve security around the shop. It was currently one of those which was switched off between 12.30 a.m. and 5.30 a.m. under the County Council's carbon action plan.

RESOLVED:

that the County Council be requested to return to keeping the street light outside of the Post Office on over night to assist with security.

2018/86

Cothill – White gates – traffic calming

Council noted that St. Helen Without Parish Council wished to arrange for the painting of the white gates traffic calming feature at Cothill. These were once within the parish of Marcham, but, owing to parish boundary changes, were now in the parish of St. Helen Without.

RESOLVED:

that Council has no objection should St. Helen Without Parish Council wish to arrange the repainting of white gate entrance features at Cothill.

2018/87

Cow Lane Allotments

Council noted the resolution at the last meeting, the allotment legislation in regards to rent increases, the requirement to set a rate at which a tenant can reasonably be expected to pay, previous legal cases and a requirement not to discriminate against what was a recreational activity compared to other recreational activities.

Council also considered a quotation for pest control.

RESOLVED:

- (i) that the new charges effective from 1st April 2019 will be

Cow Lane

Rent	£12
Water - watering can	£16
Water – hosepipe	£26
Parkside rent	£5

- (ii) that Vale Pest Control Services be instructed to deal with the problem of rats as a one off treatment in the sum of £495.

2018/88

North Street – Howard Cornish Road - verges

Council considered the damage caused to the grass verges caused by the parking of vehicles. Comments made included using grasscrete on the verge, and residents applying to the County Council to install dropped kerbs so that they could park in their own front gardens. It was thought that a meeting with Sovereign Housing Association would be useful. Mr. Denton offered to meet with the Association.

RESOLVED:

- (i) that the Clerk arrange a site meeting with Sovereign Housing Association to discuss vehicles on the verges next to the flats.
- (ii) that the date, once arranged be notified to all members.

2018/89

Correspondence

- a) Vale of White Horse District Council – A register of local charities, voluntary and community groups will be started and retained. Invitations to submit details of local groups was received.
- b) Vale of White Horse District Council – grant of £174,000 to Wantage Independent Advice Centre .
- c) OALC newsletter

Council agreed to receive two items of correspondence received since the preparation of the agenda.

- d) Copy letter from resident regarding naming of new development off The Green. Council noted the new development had been allocated the name Walnut Tree Mews, and expressed surprise that it had been consulted. Council did not support the name Walnut Tree Mews as the tree had been felled, and the site was the site of the Old Forge.

RESOLVED:

that a query regarding the new street name, and lack of consultation with the Parish Council be referred to the Vale of White Horse District Council.

- e) Letter from resident regarding planting a tree on the village green Council noted that a letter had been received. Further information would be sought for the next meeting, when the item would be on the agenda.

2018/90

Accounts

Council noted the list of cheques numbered 3065 to 3070 to be signed.

RESOLVED:

that payments totalling £3370.71 in respect of administration costs, grants. Grass cutting and play area maintenance be authorised.

2018/91

Matters raised by members for information

There were no matters raised

2018/92

Items for Marcham and District News

The Clerk would prepare an article for MAD News.

2019/93

Date of Next Meeting

The next meeting of the Council would be held on Wednesday
9th May, 2018 in the residents' lounge at Duffield Place at
7.30 p.m.

The meeting closed at 9.25 p.m.

Signed Date