

MARCHAM PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of a meeting of Marcham Parish Council held on Wednesday 12th September, 2018 in the residents' lounge at Duffield Place, Marcham at 8.00 p.m.

Present:

Mr. M. Denton, Mrs. J. Fabes, Miss R. Mander, (Chairman), Mr. P. Steere.
Clerk: Mrs. L. Martin
Cllrs. R. Webber (County Councillor) and Cllr. Mrs. C. Webber (District Councillor)

- 2018/186 Apologies for Absence
Apologies for absence had been received from Miss. R. Atkins, Mr. I. Charles, Mrs. S. Hill, Mr. M. Hillis, Mr. M. Hoath and Mr. D. Walton.
- 2018/187 Declarations of Interest
There were no declarations of interest.
- 2018/188 Minutes of the meeting held on 11th July, 2018
The minutes were approved and signed as a true record of the meeting,
- 2018/189 Matters arising from the meeting held on 11th July, 2018
- Litter Bins – Inappropriate Use
Council noted that following notices having been displayed on the litter bins by the play area and youth shelter, and an article in the village newsletter, the depositing of household waste appeared to have ceased and no further complaints had been recorded. The Nursery had confirmed that it disposed of its waste in the bulk bins relocated at the Baptist Church.
- Hitchcose Wood – signage for footpaths
Council noted that the County Council had some months ago stated that it would erect 3 signs to encourage walkers to keep dogs under control and to keep to the paths when the new footpath in Hitchcose Wood was added to the rights of way map. The Parish Council, along with St. Helen Without Parish Council had agreed to assist in encouraging walkers to keep to the rights of way. An approach had been made to the County Council to install the signage, and the matter would be kept under review. The Clerk would send the relevant information to Cllr. R. Webber.
- Frilford Road Recreation Ground – Lock and Stonemason's advertisement
Council noted that the padlock had been found unlocked rather than broken, and this had been closed and the site made secure. The stonemason's advertisement sign reported at the last meeting left in the recreation ground had already been removed when the site had been inspected by the Clerk

2018/190 Public Participation
There were no members of the public present.

2018/191 Planning Applications

a) Decisions on previous applications

P18/V0361/FUL Erection of a conventional proprietary design timber framed agricultural general purposes building
Marcham Mill, Mill Road
Permitted 15th August, 2018

P18/V1472/HH Installation of vehicular gates and single pedestrian gate two metres in height at the entrance to the property
Pendlewood Cothill Road
Permitted 21st August, 2018

b) Planning Applications dealt with prior to the meeting

P18/V2004/HH Incorporation of rear parking area into private garden
73 Howard Cornish Road
For: R. Bolitho
Comments: Council had no objection provided policies as to the number of car parking spaces for the size of the property were adhered to, adequate width dropped kerbs were available, and there was no impact on the rear access (if any) to 4 and 5 Anson Close

P18/V2001/HH Incorporation of rear parking area into private garden
75 Howard Cornish Road
For: Mr and Mrs R. Bayley
Comments: Council had no objection provided policies as to the number of car parking spaces for the size of the property were adhered to, adequate width dropped kerbs were available, and there was no impact on the rear access (if any) to 4 and 5 Anson Close

c) Applications for consideration at the meeting

P18/V1855/HH Dropped kerb at front of property
16 Fettiplace Road
For: Mr. D. Painter
Members had no concerns with this application. The Chairman called for a show of hands for those in support of the application

In support	Against	Abstention
4	0	0
	75	

RESOLVED:

that the Council had no objections to the application as it was in keeping with works that similar properties had carried out.

2018/192

District Councillor report – Cllr. Mrs. C. Webber
Vale of White Horse District Council – Local Plan Part 2

Cllr. Webber stated that she had attended most of the Inquiry into the Local Plan Part 2. The Inspector had intimated that there should be no major development until he had issued his report. This implied that changes could be possible. He had been sympathetic to the air quality management area in Marcham, and was aware of issues at Frilford and Shippon. Cllr. Webber had addressed the Inquiry speaking against the 90 houses included in the Local Plan for the south side of the A415 at the Eastern side of the village.

Children's Air Ambulance

Cllrs. C and R. Webber had attended an event to launch a children's air ambulance. This aircraft would enable parents to travel with sick children. Funding would be needed to keep it operational.

2018/193

Bridleway 17 over river Ock adjacent to Marcham Mill

Residents from Drayton approaching the river Ock from the southern side had been unaware that the bridleway bridge was closed. The County Council was erecting further information signs on the Drayton side.

Parliamentary Boundary Review

At the forthcoming review of the parliamentary boundary it was likely that Marcham would become part of Oxford West and Abingdon constituency rather than Wantage and Didcot as at present.

Oxford Cambridge Expressway

An announcement had been made by the Department of Transport that route B which excluded the extreme northern and southern routes had been selected. This resulted in the area under greater consideration being between Kidlington airport in the North and Sutton Courtenay in the South. There would be the need to do something to improve the A34. A query was raised by a member as to how many times the A34 had been closed over the past year and whether such information could be obtained from the highways agency.

2018/194

Community Facilities

The Chairman gave a report on a meeting of the Marcham Community Group Board of Trustees held on 16th August. The notes of this meeting had been circulated to all members. It had been hoped that costings should be available for the different aspects of the project but these were awaited. The District Council needed to protect itself from challenge in regards to the s. 106 funding, so was proceeding cautiously and was awaiting costings and information regarding

specifications. There was a proposal to have an Agreement to Lease prior to the Lease itself. The Council's working party had met once to consider the first draft and had raised some queries. The Council noted a suggestion from the Marcham Community Group that the Parish Council could consider joining with that group to appoint a shared surveyor to monitor the construction of the facilities. This was an idea not requiring a decision for the time being.

2018/195 Proposed new village hall – website (Marchamcentre.org)
Council in July 2017 resolved to fund the setting up of a new website for the Community Facilities Steering group to host information about the hall and new facilities. Council considered a request to fund the website for a further year, as the renewal notice for the domain name had been received.

RESOLVED:

That the Council funds up to £55 for the village hall website for one year.

2018/196 Street Names for the housing development at the Institute site and in the Anson field
Village organisations and residents had put forward various suggestions for street names. These included names of local people, sporting terms, names of those recorded on the war memorial, and names associated with past history.

RESOLVED

That the following short list of names be submitted to the Vale of White Horse District council for consideration:

Anson Field

Ashers Way

Barrow Close

Lion close

Nicholas Hall / St. Nicholas Close

2018/197 A420 – Correspondence from Fyfield and Tubney Parish Council requesting support for improvements to this road owing to traffic volumes

Council noted correspondence regarding a proposed meeting with Ed Vaizey and the County Council regarding short and long term improvements for consideration for the A420. Council was very aware of its own problems in regards to the A415, and air quality management, and was minded not to support proposals to restrict traffic on the A420. It acknowledged that village gates or pedestrian crossings would assist the residents. If funding were available for improvements to the A420, then consideration should be given to funding improvements for the A415

RESOLVED:

That this Council focuses on the problems of the A415, and air quality

management, together with traffic to the A34 and its interchange, and not join with Fyfield and Tubney Parish Council in putting a case for funding for the A420 improvements.

2018/198

A415 – Correspondence received from resident regarding village issues

Council discussed correspondence regarding speeding traffic in and around Marcham, overgrown cycle track, shortage of footpaths, and closure of Bridleway 17. It was noted that the hedging along the A415 had been cut back. Discussion took place on the speed of traffic into Marcham along Sheepstead Road, and comments made that the original 30 mph roundel on the road should have remained as a reminder when the 30 mph sign was relocated. Mr. Denton offered to speak with the Police regarding visiting the area with a speed gun. A query was raised regarding the proposed speed reduction on the A415 between the village and A34.

RESOLVED:

- (i) that enquiries be made of the Police regarding undertaking speed monitoring in the area
- (ii) that Cllr. R. Webber be asked as to the progress with speed reduction on the A415 between the village and A34

2018/199

Oxfordshire County Council / Woodland Trust – Sapling Tree

Council noted the offer by the County Council and the Woodland Trust to provide a sapling and commemorative plaque to commemorate the end of the first world war.

RESOLVED:

- (i) that a sapling tree and commemorative plaque be ordered
- (ii) that consideration be given to planting the tree in the Frilford Road Recreation Ground with a final decision being made in the Autumn.

2018/200

North Street / A 415 junction

Wall on western side – vision difficulties at the junction

Council noted that the Clerk had contacted the residents who lived close to this junction and arranged to meet in principle to discuss the concerns raised by residents regarding sight lines on leaving North Street. Mr. Hoath and Mr. Charles had offered to attend the meeting on behalf of the Council. The Clerk would progress the meeting arrangements.

2018/201

Village Green

Council noted legal advice regarding easements and wayleaves for

pipes and cables in the village green. This advised that it was a criminal offence to damage the surface of the green and easements should not be granted. Council considered the situation regarding both Southern Gas Networks and Open Reach who had dug within the green without permission, and referred to compensation to the council for damage caused and any legal costs incurred by the Council for advice and action, being refunded.

RESOLVED:

- (i) that Southern Gas Networks and Open Reach not be granted permission to lay pipes and cables in the village green
- (ii) that reimbursement of any Council costs and compensation for damage be sought if appropriate.

2018/202

Marcham Mill – Bridleway

Council noted correspondence from a resident in Drayton regarding the closure of Bridleway 17. This had been referred to in the report by Cllr. R. Webber. The matter of the right of way was being handled by the County Council.

RESOLVED:

that no action be taken by the Parish Council

2018/203

Vanderbilt Development – Harding Way – Open Space

Council noted that the engrossed Transfer had been received for signing. The electricity supply box was still on site and required removal. The Chairman called for a show of hands for those in favour to the Chairman and Vice-Chairman signing the Transfer of Open Space document

In favour
4

Against
0

Abstention
0

RESOLVED:

- (i) that the Transfer of the open space area be signed by the Chairman and Vice-Chairman
- (ii) that the Clerk progress the issue of the removal of the electricity box and cabling before the transfer of the land is completed.

2018/204

Play Area Inspection Report

Council noted the play area inspection reports from RoSPA and MRH Services. Equipment was satisfactory, a small cut in the seat on the flat swings was being monitored. Items raised were low risk. In one place there was uneven ground, particularly at the western entrance gate and gaps within safety tiles. It was suggested that these could be

filled with soil whilst waiting for the appointed contractor to install a new surface. Some corrosion on metal posts in the youth shelter had been noted as well as graffiti.

RESOLVED:

- (i) that the reports be noted
- (ii) that soil be placed in the areas of uneven ground and in the gaps in safety tiles.
- (iii) that the state and condition of the play area be monitored.

2018/205

Correspondence

a) Letter received from resident regarding tree on the verge on northern side of Orchard Way near the junction with Fettiplace Road. Concerns have been raised that this is overhanging a property, and branches are creaking against each other. A request was made for the tree to be pruned. This has been reported to the County Council by the resident via Fix My Street.

b) Oxfordshire Playing Field Association – newsletter

c) Environment Agency – newsletter – work to reduce flooding in Abingdon

d) Oxfordshire County Council – Joint Spatial Strategy Planning meeting 24th September, 2018 at 7.00 p.m. at Stanton St. John village hall.

e) Vale of White Horse District Council – Parish Forum event 24th September, 2018 at 6.30 p.m. at The Beacon, Wantage

f) Vale of White Horse District Council – Nomination of recipients of the Vale Community Award. Council considered possible nominations and

RESOLVED:

that the village team undertaking work at Trendles Archaeology Project, namely Eric Dunford and Simon Blackmore, with their consent, be nominated

g) Letter from allotment holder thanking the Council for dealing with the rat problem on the allotments.

2018/206

Accounts

Council noted the list of cheques numbers 3099 to 3114 to be signed and authorised payments totalling £7185.48 in respect of administration costs. play area checks, and grass cutting.

2018/207

Matters raised by members for information

Churchyard - path edges and yew tree

Mr. Denton asked when the path edges and yew tree were to be cut. The Clerk advised that she had already spoken with the contractor who had indicated that he had made a start on the works. Mr. Denton said he would check the position on site.

Church - Welcome Pack

The Church welcome pack had been delivered to new houses within the village. Residents on the Taylor Wimpey estate had arranged a

social event to welcome newcomers which had been successful. A similar attempt to arrange a social event on the new Pye development had not received support.

Vale of White Horse District Council - Path Clearance

It was noted that the District Council had cleared the edges of some paths from overgrowing grass. Particularly noted was the start of Howard Cornish Road and New Road. The Clerk had received complaints that sacks with the cuttings had been left for several days before being removed. It was suggested that a letter of thanks be sent to the District Council for the work carried out.

Howard Cornish Road – flats - mattress

Concerns were raised regarding a mattress that was still in the front garden of a flat near the junction with North Street. It was thought that this may encourage pests. A suggestion was made that it may be a breach of tenancy to leave such items in the front garden area. The Clerk would contact Sovereign Housing Association.

2018/208

Items for Marcham and District News

The Clerk would prepare an article for MAD News.

2018/209

Date of Next Meeting

The next meeting of the Council would be held on Wednesday 10th October, 2018 in the residents' lounge at Duffield Place at 7.30 p.m.

The meeting closed at 9.10 p.m.

Signed Date