

MARCHAM PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of a meeting of Marcham Parish Council held on Wednesday 11th September, 2019 in the residents' lounge at Duffield Place, Marcham at 7.30 p.m.

Present:

Mrs. S. Hill, Miss R. Mander, Mr. J. Plumb, Mr. P. Steere, Mr. D. Walton
(Chairman)

Clerk: Mrs. L. Martin

2 members of the public

Joined by Cllr. Richard Webber (Oxfordshire County Council) and Cllr.
Catherine Webber (Vale of White Horse District Councillor)

- 2019/188 Apologies for Absence
Apologies for absence had been received from Mr. Malcolm Denton,
Mr. Michael Hoath and Mrs. Tanya Rosenfeld.
- 2019/189 Declarations of Interest
There were no declarations of interest.
- 2019/190 Vacancies on the Parish Council
Mrs. Caroline Garvey from Frilford, who was sat in the public gallery
introduced herself as a candidate for co-option. She was eligible to
be co-opted as she met the criteria and lived within 3 miles of the
boundary.
- The Chairman called for a show of hands for those in favour of co-
opting Caroline Garvey to serve on Marcham Parish Council.
- | In favour | Against | Abstention |
|-----------|---------|------------|
| 5 | 0 | 0 |
- 2019/191 Declaration of Acceptance of Office
Mrs. Garvey signed her Declaration of Acceptance of Office.
- 2019/192 Minutes of the meetings held on 10th July, 2019
The minutes were approved and signed as a correct record of the
meeting.
- 2019/193 Advice from NALC / OALC regarding minutes
Council considered advice from both NALC and OALC in regards to
amendments to minutes. There were differences in regards to leaving
minutes amended with a note in the margin as to corrections, or
substituting a complete new version and destroying the original version.
Council discussed whether to refer back to OALC with questions or to
adopt a view.
The Chairman called for a show of hands of those supporting the view
that minutes amended by a future meeting of a Council should refer
only to the fact that a previous version had been amended, and the
revised text act as a replacement.

In favour

3

The Chairman the asked for a show of hands of those in favour of submitting questions on points of clarification to OALC

In favour

2

There was one abstention.

RESOLVED:

that amendments to minutes not show the original text and the amendment, but state that the minutes had been amended, and contain the revised text only.

2019/194 Matters arising from the meetings held on 10th July, 2019
Vale of White Horse District Council – Community Awards Lunch
Council noted that the Vice-Chairman had lodged a submission for the Awards nominating drivers of the community mini-bus scheme. The District Council had accepted the nomination and had contacted those involved.

Cllr. Mrs. Webber commented that she had personally nominated 2 residents from Marcham who too were likely to attend.

2019/195 Public Participation
Road Closure – A415
A question was asked as to whether the road resurfacing planned for the A415 was patching or a complete resurface. The information had not been supplied by the County Council and the Clerk would make enquiries.

2019/196 Planning Applications

a) Decisions on previous applications

P19/V1395/LB Intrusive investigation works comprising:
trial hoes, slit trenches and cores
Noah's Ark bridge, A338
Permitted 23rd August, 2019

P18/V2473/O Erection of up to 114 dwellings, public open space, landscaping and vehicular access points from Leas Lane.
Land to the north of Longfields
Refused 19th July, 2019

b) Applications dealt with prior to the meeting

MW.0069.19 Details pursuant to condition 19 (water monitoring) of permission MW. 0119/15 for extraction of soft building sand and limestone and infilling with inert waste.

Hills Quarry, Besselsleigh

Exceedances beyond permitted limits in ground water contamination had been indicated. The applicant had suggested that the Environment Agency's permit should be adjusted to suit.

Comments: Concerns raised that possible changes to trigger levels would increase what had been permitted. The Permit should not be changed to meet what had been found on the ground. Changes should not lead to reduced water quality In the event of major flooding event after heavy rain, there should be no risk of adverse run-off into sensitive areas.

c) Applications for consideration at the meeting

P19/V2049/LB and P19/V2137/FUL Conversion of existing listed barn to new 3 bed detached dwelling
12 Frilford Road

After some discussion, the Chairman called for a show of hands for those in favour of the application

In favour	Against	Abstention
5	0	1

RESOLVED:

Council was in favour of the application but expressed concerns with windows which were to be aluminium and not timber, adequate screening for vehicle parking, possible obstruction of the access off North Street which was used by others, trees should be replaced, and an electric charging point for vehicles installed.

P19/V21232/HH Erect solid panel side and roof extension to the side and rear elevations
21 Fettiplace Road

After some discussion, the Chairman called for a show of hands for those objecting to the application

Objecting	Not Objecting
4	2

RESOLVED:

that the Council objects to the application as the conservatory was very large for the size of the site, was out of

proportion, and represented over development. It would cause a loss of light to the neighbouring property, and would have the potential for overlooking.

2019/197

District Councillor's Report – Cllr. Mrs. C. Webber

Planning Training - Cllr. Mrs. Webber referred to the planning training event arranged for Parish Councils. Parish Councillor, Mr. Steere, who had attended, had felt that the course had assumed prior knowledge, whereas newer councillors needed an induction first. Cllr. Webber would report that point to the District Council.

Extension of mobile telephone coverage in rural areas. – There were consultation proposals were being outlined to deploy 5G networks and extending the mobile coverage in rural areas.

5 Councils meeting 21st October – A building session had been planned for the 5 District Councils previously involved in joint working. Information was going to be given as to the earlier administration of the Councils and Capita.

County Council Gypsy Officer – Cllr. Mrs. Webber commented on illegal encampments, advised that the Gypsy Officer may be able to assist, as well as the Community Safety Team at the District Council, or even the Police where crimes had occurred.

Electric Blanket Testing

Electric blanket testing was to take place on Friday 11th October at the Fire Station in Ock Street, Abingdon.

Local Plan Part 2 – The Inspector's report on the Local Plan Part 2 was to be considered by Scrutiny Committee on 19th September, and a decision would be made as to whether to challenge or adopt the Plan. This would then go to full Council.

Neighbourhood Planning

It was reported that a new organisation had been set up to support areas with neighbourhood plans. Members requested that neighbourhood planning be an agenda item for the next meeting.

2019/198

Council Councillor's Report – Cllr. R. Webber

Local Plan – National matters affected the immediate area. The Growth Deal and Housing Infrastructure Fund could be affected if there were difficulties with the Local Plan, not only at Vale of White Horse District Council, but also at South Oxfordshire District Council .

Reservoir – Thames Water was awaiting decisions from the Secretary of State on its Water Resources Management Plan. The regulators, OFWAT had asked for a strategic study into water supply for the South East, and the sharing of supply with Affinity Water was an issue under question.

Oxford Cambridge Expressway

All Councils in Oxfordshire were against the idea of the Expressway. Cambridgeshire Councils were more supportive.

Speed Reduction A415 to A34

Cllr. Webber confirmed that the reduction in the speed limit from 60 mph to 50 mph on the section of the A415 between the A34 and the village was going ahead.

2019/199

Cllrs. R and C Webber left the meeting.

2019/200

Oxford Cambridge Expressway

Council noted the report from Mr. Hoath who had attended the local meeting on 24th July, which he had attended.

2019/201

Community Facilities

A report was given on the community facilities, and comments invited on the minutes of a meeting of MCG Trustees held in July. Following a change in the Leasing and Transfer arrangements, the legal documents were being re-drafted. Construction was still on target, with the nursery being completed in December, and the hall in the Spring. An agronomist had been appointed by Thomas Homes, and a copy of his report would be issued to the Parish Council. Confirmation had been received from Thomas Homes, that the issues in the s. 106 funding contract between the Parish Council and Vale of White Horse District Council relating to the requirement of an agronomist had been included in their arrangements.

Council noted issues as to CCTV, Gas suppliers, and Bar raised by the Surveyor. Marcham Community Group would deal with these. It was noted that staff from the s. 106 team at the Vale of White Horse District Council had visited the site.

2019/202

North Street – footway

Council noted a report on the North Street footway, and estimated costs in the region of £45,000. Council noted the costs of MJA of the safety audit, and submission of the drawings to the County Council.

It was RESOLVED:

that MJA, as the firm was dealing with the County Council on behalf of Mactaggart Mickel in regards to road works, and had prepared the drawings, should manage negotiations with the County Council and Mactaggart Mickel in regards to the construction of the footway.

2019/203

Path – Vanderbilt site into Mactaggart Mickel Development

Council received a report from the working party. It had had site meetings with Strutt Parker, the Police, and tree surgeons in regards to the route of the path through the public open space on the Eastern side, and the works required to the trees. A quotation for the work to the trees was noted, and the options for the route of the path discussed

RESOLVED:

that the path to link the Mactaggart Mickel development with the Vanderbilt development and then onto the Howard Cornish Road, be constructed at a width of 1.5m to the west of the line of trees in the public open space on the Eastern side of the Vanderbilt development.

2019/204

Path Howard Cornish Road to Vanderbilt site

Council noted comments made by residents in Longfields regarding the maple trees on the path from Howard Cornish Road to Harding Way, which they felt

were overshadowing their property, and dropping debris onto their shed and house. It was noted that the trees had a Tree Preservation Order on them. When maintenance was required, such as raising the crowns, it would be possible to take into account the residents' comments.

RESOLVED:

that the points made be considered when maintenance on the maple trees was under consideration.

2019/205

Joint Cemetery Committee with Frilford Parish

Council considered the past comments from the internal auditor IAC regarding the operation of the accounts of the cemetery committee. The operation of the cemetery committee in the future was considered. The detailed view of Frilford Parish was required. As far as Marcham was concerned the Chairman called for a show of hands for those in favour of working co-operatively with Frilford and continuing with the cemetery committee structure

In favour
4

Against
1

Abstention
1

RESOLVED

that the view of Marcham Parish Council is to continue with the cemetery committee structure.

2019/206

A415 – Zebra Crossing

Council noted correspondence received from a resident regarding a near miss accident with a pedestrian on the zebra crossing. The upgrading of the belisha beacon was suggested, so that it would be more visible.

RESOLVED:

that Oxfordshire County Council be approached to request improved lighting from the beacon.

2019/207

War Memorial

Council considered a brief for works required for the garden area around the war memorial. This was to clear the gravel area from weeds, replace the membrane and gravel, provide improved flower area, and a slope to the war memorial to enable improved access for wreath laying.

RESOLVED:

that the suggested works be approved and quotations be obtained

2019/208

The Gap – Marcham – Lack of footway near junction with North Street

Council noted correspondence from a resident expressing concern regarding the lack of footway at the end of the Gap where the road emerges into North Street. The resident had contacted the County Council who had suggested that the Parish Council should be informed, and invited to support any action. A hedge which had been overhanging the footway had been cut back, but the tarmac path had been destroyed and was in need of replacing.

RESOLVED:

- (i) that this Council supports any action to reinstate the tarmac footway on the northern side of The Gap near the junction with North Street
- (ii) that a letter be sent to the County Council showing support for the works.

- 2019/209 Christmas Lights / Tree
 Consideration of the possibility of Christmas Lights or Christmas Tree in the parish.
- RESOLVED:
 that this matter be deferred to a future meeting.
- 2019/210 Grant Application Form
 Council reviewed the grant application form as used by applicants in previous years. It was thought that there could be some confusion by applicants between stating the purposes of the organisation and the purposes of the grant, as these were adjacent boxes. The sum available for grant giving under s. 137 Local Government Act 1972 would need to be considered.
- RESOLVED:
- (i) that the box on the grant application requesting information as to the purposes of the organisation be removed.
 - (ii) that a review of the grant budget take place in October, in readiness for grant awards at the November meeting.
- 2019/211 Play Area
 Council received the RoSPA safety report and quarterly report on the play area from MRH services.
- RESOLVED:
- that a quotation be obtained to replace the spring base plate on the rocker, which RoSPA had identified as in need of replacement.
- 2019/212 Cow Lane Pony Paddocks – Grass Keep
 Council considered the agreement for the sale of the grass keep at Cow Lane, and noted the tenant’s request to terminate the Agreement in January 2020.
- RESOLVED:
- that the grass keep in the paddock be let for a period of 6 months to terminate in January 2020.
- 2019/213 Vale of White Horse District Council – Polling Places Review
 Council noted that the Vale of White Horse District Council was undertaking a review of the polling places. Members expressed some concern regarding the use of the Baptist Church Hall, and its proximity to the A415, and whether it was generally safe. Its use was temporary until the new hall was available.
- RESOLVED:
- that the Council’s preference, should there be an election before the new hall was available, be that the Church, Denman College or primary school be used.
- 2019/214 Harding Way – Public Open Space – Church BBQ 17th August, 2019
 Council noted that a request had been received from All Saints Church to Hold a BBQ for residents in the new housing development in Harding Way on

17th August, on the Council's public open space area. The Clerk had circulated the details of the event to members as there was no scheduled meeting planned. Members had supported the event, subject to the Church providing proof of insurance and a risk assessment. The Council was asked to ratify this decision. The Chairman called for a show of hands

In favour
5

Against

Abstention
1

2019/215

Correspondence

a) Scottish Southern Electricity Networks – Workshop Event

SSEN are required to consult with stakeholder groups, and have invited Parish Councillors to the Kassam Stadium on 17th September, 2019 9.30 a.m. for 10.00a.m. Comments will be invited, and critique and recommendations required in order to shape their future business plans.

b) BBOWT – Notification that the appeal to the High Court to require an Environmental Impact Assessment for the Oxford Cambridge Expressway was dismissed.

c) Oxfordshire County Council – Availability of salt, and salt bins for “gritting” in local areas in the Winter. One bag of salt free of charge, bins available at cost. This was discussed. The matter would be reviewed in the future.

d) Police and Crime Commissioner – Bulletin

e) Oxfordshire Environment Board – Board established to inform decision makers /Growth Board in regards to the natural environment. Membership is invited.

f) Police and Crime Commissioner – Thames Valley – newsletter

g) OALC – August Newsletter

h) Oxfordshire County Council - Road Closures:

Southern end of North Street (south of the shop to the A415 junction) from 7th October to 8th November, 2019 24 hours a day for gas replacement works.

A415 Monks Walk to Church Street, 8th November to 10th November, 2019 night time (20.00 hrs. – 06.00 hrs.) for resurfacing works.

Bus diversions – along the A415 during the North Street closure, and Howard Cornish Road, Sheepstead Road, Faringdon Road, A338 during the night time closure of the A415.

2019/216

Accounts

Council noted the list of cheques numbered 3210 to 3228 and authorised payments in the sum of £10348.78 in respect of administration costs, surveyor's costs inspection of construction of new hall, grass cutting, play equipment checks, footway design and water rates.

2019/217

Matters raised by members for information

Harding Way – Public Open Space

Mr. Steere mentioned that he had been approached by a resident from Harding Way who had expressed comments regarding children playing football on the public open space. It was suggested that Mr. Steere

should ask the resident write into to the Council with his comments, concerns and any queries that he may have.

Baptist Church – Use of Hall

It was understood that the Lease arrangement between the Baptist Union and All Saints Church would come to an end before the new hall was opened. It was suggested that the Parish Council may wish to consider the benefits of keeping the Baptist hall available until the time the new hall was available. A request was made that perhaps it could be an agenda item for discussion at the next meeting.

2019/218

Items for Marcham and District News

The Clerk would prepare an article for MAD News.

2019/219

Date of Next Meeting

The next meeting of the Council would be held on Wednesday 9th October, 2019 in the residents' lounge at Duffield Place at 7.30 p.m.

The meeting closed at 9.42 p.m.

Signed Date