

MARCHAM PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of a meeting of Marcham Parish Council held on Monday 13th September, 2021, commencing at 7.30 p.m., held in the village hall, Barrow Close, Marcham.

Present:

Sheena Bigden, Mark Harvie, Sandra Hill Michael Hoath, (Chairman), Ruth Mander, James Plumb.

Clerk: Mrs. L. Martin

1 member of the public

Joined by Cllr. Catherine Webber at 7.40 p.m.

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- 2021/135 Apologies for Absence
Apologies for absence had been received from Tanya Rosenfeld.
Apologies from Cllr. Richard Webber were given later in the meeting, by Cllr. Catherine Webber.
- 2021/136 Declarations of Interest
Michael Hoath declared an interest in the agenda item relating to the Community Facilities in that he was a Trustee of Marcham Community Group.
- 2021/137 Minutes of the Meeting held on 15th July, 2021
The minutes of the meeting held on 15th July, 2021 were approved and signed by the Chairman as a correct record of the meeting.
- 2021/138 Matters Arising from the meeting held on 15th July, 2021

Hitchcops – Footpaths
Council noted that St. Helen Without Parish Council had agreed to attend any site meeting with the landowner to discuss the deviations from the rights of way. The Landowner had been approached in regards to a meeting.
- War Memorial
The war memorial area had been weeded. A local resident had offered to tidy it in readiness for Remembrance Sunday service on 14th November 2021.
- 2021/139 Casual Vacancies (2)
The Chairman referred to 2 applications from candidates expressing an interest in joining the Council. One applicant was not attending the meeting owing to illness within the family, and would attend the next meeting. Council considered the application from Keely Ewart-Brookes and it was

RESOLVED:

that Keely Ewart-Brookes be co-opted to the Council

The Chairman referred to working parties which were used to progress items outside of formal Council meetings, and invited Keely and other members to consider on which they could offer assistance.

Keely Ewart-Brookes signed her Declaration of Acceptance of Office.

2021/140 Public Participation
There were no issues raised.

2021/141 Planning Matters

a) (i) Decisions on previous applications

P21/V0983/HH Demolish existing conservatory and construct two storey rear extension, and extend bed 3 over existing garage. Form new en-suite shower room.
4 Hyde Copse
Permitted 16th July, 2021

P21/C1351/HH Erection of oak framed garage to replace existing
Redlands, Rowleigh Lane
Permitted 19th July 2021

P21/V1303/LB Repair of Bridge
Marcham Mill. Mill Road
Permitted 27th July 2021

P21/V0564/FUL Creation of access off A415 and track to farm
Manor Farm, Mill Road
Permitted 16th August 2021

P21/V1929/LB Conversion of garage to habitable accommodation and erection of conservatory
Christmas Cottage, 22 Gozzards Ford
Withdrawn 16th August 2021

P21/V1708/LDP Single storey rear extension for pool room
3 Barrow Close
Withdrawn 25th August 2021

P21/V1965/DIS Discharge of condition (Tree Protection)
Oak House, Woodside
Permitted 19th August, 2021

P21/V1238/FUL Single storey rear extension. Increase in numbers of children from 46 to 50. Enlarge outdoor space enclosed by low picket fencing
The Nursery, 1 Barrow Close
Permitted 11th August 2021

(ii) The Nursery, 1 Barrow Close

A member raised the fact that sadly no alteration to the entrance had been required as part of the application. There were a considerable number of occasions when vehicles travelled the access road to join Morland Road, at a speed beyond what was safe, given that young children and pedestrians crossed the entrance, particularly at peak times going to school. Council discussed the safety concerns again. Cllr. Catherine Webber offered to discuss the matter with the planning officer at the District Council, Stewart Walker, and also with the County Councillor, Cllr. Richard Webber.

RESOLVED:

that a letter be sent to the County Council to fully explain the Council's concerns regarding the entrance, lack of footway, speeding traffic, and dangers to pedestrians.

(iii) P19/V1388/O Erection of 90 houses on south side of A415

Michael Hoath advised that this planning application had been debated at planning committee on 8th September. The decision had been to defer the application to seek further information on Frilford traffic lights, traffic flows and road alterations, air quality, capacity of the primary school, health provision funding, provision for foul water, and connectivity such as footways, cycleways, and crossings.

b) Applications dealt with under delegated powers prior to the meeting

P21/V1928/HH and P21/V1929/LB Conversion of existing garage to habitable accommodation. Erection of conservatory Christmas Cottage, 22 Gozzards Ford

Comments: Council had no comments in principle, provided materials were fully compatible with the listed building. The loss of the garage would result in reduced on site parking. Council required a condition to ensure that the accommodation, if consent were granted, did not become an independent residential unit.

P21/V1846/O - Erection of semi-detached dwelling joined to 19 Mill Road

Comments: Council requested confirmation from the County Council that it was content for a 3rd property to use the shared driveway and access onto Mill Road. It request parking areas and amenity spaces to be identified on the drawings, and also referred to having sight of a flood risk assessment before finalising its comments, as there had been flooding in 2007 in Priory Lane, close to the site of the proposed new house.

P21/V0965/FUL Independent steel frame 20m x 15m storage unit
North west corner of site at
Oxford Instruments, Tubney Wood
Comments: The site was not visible from the road. Provided the District Council's environment and tree officers were certain there was no impact on the surrounding area, as a result of its siting, construction or use, then the Parish Council had no objections.

P21/V2345/HH New garage with office above
The School House, Oakley Park, Faringdon Road
Comments: Council requested a condition that the accommodation created shall be occupied only as accommodation ancillary and incidental to the existing dwelling on the site, and should not be occupied or used separately, and no separate curtilage shall be created.

c) Applications considered at the meeting

No applications were considered.

- 2021/142 Oxford-Cambridge Arc - Consultation
The Chairman deferred this item to later on the agenda as he wished to include Neighbourhood Planning in the topic.
- 2021/143 Vale of White Horse District Council – Joint Local Plan 2041 – Call for sites
Council noted the call for sites.
- 2021/144 District Councillor's Report – Cllr. Catherine Webber
- Garden Waste Collection - Reference was made to the garden waste collection service and the postponement of collections. The matter was being considered by Scrutiny Committee and debated by the District Council the week commencing 20th September.
- Big Green Week – Events taking place during the week 18th-26th September to highlight climate change.
- Social Housing – A family from Afghanistan had been housed within the District. The Council did not require donations, but 2 charities: Care 4 Calais, and Asylum Welcome would co-ordinate any support required.
- Tree Planting Policy - The District Council had drafted a tree planting policy which was being considered by Senior Management Team, and going through its final stages as a draft document. A question was raised as to whether sites in Macham had been included. A land review of District Council owned land was also going through its final stages, and information as to what each plot was used for could not be accessed at the current moment in time. Cllr. Webber would obtain a map indicating the sites of Vale District Council land.

Covid Vaccinations – Incentives such as vouchers and gym leisure passes were being offered to those within the 16-30 age group to encourage them to be vaccinated. A mobile van was visiting business centres where employees not yet vaccinated, could received a vaccination.

Cllr. Catherine Webber answered questions.

2021/145 County Councillor's Report – Cllr. Richard Webber
Cllr. Catherine Webber gave a brief report from Cllr. Richard Webber. He had been involved with the company looking at local highway issues, and ways to mitigate impact of traffic. Options were being narrowed down and would be put out to consultation in due course.

2021/146 Oxfordshire Plan 2050
The chairman explained the hierarchy of local plans. The Oxfordshire plan would be a strategic plan which covered various topics including housing, employment and transport. As the deadline for commenting on the plan was not until 8th October it was

RESOLVED:

- (i) that any response from this Council be delegated to the clerk in consultation with the Chairman
- (ii) that members review the Plan and contact the clerk and Chairman with any comments they may have.

2021/147 Neighbourhood Plan
Tony Mackelworth who had prepared a report was not in attendance at the meeting. The Chairman would contact him to discuss whether he was still keen to take the lead in the Plan process.

2021/148 Cllr. Catherine Webber left the meeting at 8.30 p.m.

2021/149 Community Facilities
Council received a report from the working party on its meeting with Marcham Community Group when the Management Agreement and Lease terms were discussed. There was a Management Agreement requirement that the Terms and Conditions of hire were approved by the Council. Council considered the current terms and conditions, and noted that these would be reviewed in due course as they contained much information regarding remaining Covid safe.

Council considered when works undertaken by the tenant, needed to be referred back to the Council for consent. It was noted that the Anson Trust, as owners of the access road, were considering the maintenance of the access, and public liability cover needed.

Council noted that Marcham Community Group were planning to install a defibrillator cabinet on the northern side of the main entrance door, together with 2 external sockets for use during village events.

RESOLVED:

- (i) that the Terms and Conditions of hire (V17 August 2021) as presented be approved by Council.
- (ii) that in the following circumstances the tenant is required to consult with the Landlord:
 - a) that noticeably change the internal or external appearance of the building or site
 - b) that require planning permission, building regulation consent or other 3rd party consent
 - c) that would affect the structural integrity of the building
 - d) that are not readily reversible and cannot easily be made good
- (iii) that consent for the defibrillator cabinet be given to be sited to the northern side of the entrance door.

Council received a report from Sandra Hill in regards to the proposed new youth shelter. She sought consent to relocate this from the southern side of the field to a site north of the play area. Council discussed the proposal and new site, and

RESOLVED:

that detailed dimensions and a scale plan be provided.

Council noted that MCG intended to erect fencing rear of the football goal area on the east side of the field, and also on the southern side, to prevent footballs going into the gardens of nearby housing. They had lodged an enquiry with the District Council as to whether planning consent was needed.

2021/150

Litter Bin for Arboretum

Council considered whether to install a litter bin in the Arboretum. This item had been deferred from a previous meeting to allow time for an assessment of litter to be undertaken. No significant amounts of litter had been noted.

RESOLVED:

- (i) that no litter bin be purchased for the Arboretum
- (ii) that the matter be kept under review

2021/151

Plantation Avenue – Dog Fouling

Council noted comments from a resident regarding dog fouling, people not clearing up after their dog, and dogs running off the lead causing a nuisance. This was particularly from users of the permissive path from Howard Cornish Road, and from where there was easy access into Plantation Avenue.

Council noted that Cllr. Webber had raised the issue with the Vale of White Horse District Council. That Council is not currently installing new litter bins and unless there is a high priority need. Council considered the installation and emptying of a bin itself, and considered information notices and stickers.

RESOLVED:

- (i) that the district council be approached to see whether they could supply signage regarding dog fouling.
- (ii) that the question of the litter bin be kept under review.

2021/152

Vale of White Horse District Council – Community Infrastructure Levy

Council noted that the District Council was holding the parish element of CIL funds collected from housing developments. The sum was in the region of £6000. Council considered whether this should be passed to the parish. There were no immediate plans for this funding and to accept it now would mean the time in which it had to be spent would start diminishing. It was

RESOLVED:

that the CIL money allocated to Marcham Parish Council be retained by the Vale of White Horse District Council for the time being.

2021/153

Public Noticeboard

Council reconsidered the possibility of the erection of a noticeboard off Morland Road, close to the school, which had been deferred from a previous meeting owing to the construction of the new school classrooms. Questions were raised as to the current need of this noticeboard.

RESOLVED:

that public opinion first be sought as to whether a noticeboard in that location would be helpful for residents

2021/154

Play area- inspection report

Council received and noted a report following the annual and quarterly inspection of the play area. A quotation had been sought for the minor making good identified.

2021/155

Correspondence

- a) Request from GigaClear to meet with representatives of the Parish Council to discuss ultrafast broadband.

- b) Vale of White Horse District Council – New Monitoring Officer, Patrick Allan, had been appointed. He is working on reviewing the complaints process under the Code of Conduct, and the Code itself. Training on standards to be observed, would be provided in the Autumn.
- c) Oxfordshire County Council – Library opening times to return to pre-pandemic hours.
- d) Vale of White Horse District Council – Letter for use in circumstances where dog fouling occurs.
- e) Police Crime Commissioner – Newsletters July and August
- f) Oxfordshire County Council – Notification that civil enforcement for parking infringement commences on 1st November, 2021
- g) OALC – newsletters July and August
- h) Vale of White Horse District Council - ~Confirmation of Tree Preservation Order for certain trees within the grounds of Denman College.
- i) Oxfordshire County Council – Notes from Public Transport Representative Meeting 6th July 2021
- j) Oxfordshire County Council – Bridleway 17 – bridge repairs
2 Emails received from the County Council, firstly advising that it was hoped that repair works to the bridge over the river Ock would commence in September, then a second email confirming works had been postponed to Spring 2022 owing to the risk of flooding as river waters rose. One archway of the bridge, having to be blocked whilst works continued on the another arch, could result in problems.

2021/156

Accounts

The list of payments had been circulated to members, and Council noted the cheques numbered 3433 to 3449 and authorised payments in the sum of £8125.42 in respect of administration costs, play area inspections, grass cutting. In addition Council noted the transfer of £50,000 to the new account with Nationwide Building Society.

2021/157

Matters Raised by Members

Speeding Traffic

It was raised that speeding traffic had been an item on the village facebook page. This would be an agenda item for the next meeting.

Village Green – Christmas Tree

A request was made for discussion of a Christmas Tree to be located on the village green, to be an agenda item for the next meeting. The Chairman asked Ruth Mander, who had been involved in 2020 to produce a report for the next meeting.

Hyde Copse – fallen tree

It was reported that there was a fallen tree from the Copse. This had been taped. It was assumed the landowner knew. The Clerk would make enquiries.

Broken street nameplates

It was reported that the street nameplate at the junction of Howard Cornish Road and North Street was damaged and had been taped. In addition the street nameplate on the south side of Abingdon Road was also damaged.

2021/158 Items for Marcham and District News
The Clerk would prepare an article for MAD News.

2021/159 Date of Next Meeting
The next meeting would be on Monday 11th October, 2021 at 7.30 p.m. in the village hall, Barrow Close.

The meeting closed at 9.30 p.m.

Signed Date