

Marton Parish Council Meeting

Chair: Cllr Mark Hardy

Minutes Taken by: Sarah Robson - Parish Clerk

Draft Minutes of Marton Parish Council (MPC) held on Tuesday, 13th September 2022 at 19.30 Marton Memorial Hall.

Meeting Commenced at 19:40 following a minutes silence in mark of respect to the passing of Queen Elizabeth.

1. ATTENDANCE	
Cllr Mike Taylor, Cllr David Fry, Cllr Mark Hardy, Cllr Rob Lummis, Faye Chambers, Clerk Sarah Robson.	
2. APOLOGIES	
None.	
3. MINUTES OF PREVIOUS PARISH COUNCIL MEETING	
The minutes of the Parish Council meeting held on 12th July 2022 are to be signed off at the next planned meeting.	
4. DECLARATION OF INTEREST	
Cllr Fry 7.2. Cllr Taylor 7.8.	
5. POLICE ISSUES	
5.1 Crime Report – No reports received 5.2 Community Speed Watch - 2 new Speedwatch locations have been approved in addition to the current location on Oxford Road outside the Black Horse. Oxford Road opposite North Street and Birdingbury Road. 2 new members have joined Speedwatch and more members of the group are planned to be trained to use the gun going forward. There is still approximately £200 of funding to be spent. Cllr Hardy suggested trees and flowers on entry areas to the village are good ways to gain drivers' attention as they are entering a village and slow down.	Noted
6. PLANNING MATTERS	
Council reviewed planning matters listed below. 6.1 R22/0543 - 3, LOUISA WARD CLOSE. Reconfigure front porch. Erection of single storey wrap around flat roof porch to existing side/rear of dwelling. Erection of extension to garage.	No Objections
7. VILLAGE ISSUES	
7.1 Covid-19 Community Network – It was proposed the Network is used going forward for support with the cost of living increases. Cllr Lummis proposed another Network meeting to draft a plan. 7.2 Storage - There is no funding available from WCC. Warwickshire Green Shoots Grants have been considered, however the deadline is 19th September and as it is a Climate Change focused grant, may not be viable. National Lottery has a community fund for partnerships. Cllr Fry will look into this further.	Cllr Lummis Cllr Fry

7.3 Re-Visiting the use of Solar Panels - WCC have a combined bulk buy scheme which could be an option. All councillors will look at the information a company has provided within Fusion for Business.

7.4 New path in The Orchard - RBC have received a quote of circa £2000 and have asked if the council will make a contribution to this. A vote in principle to offer £500 was made with a Majority Vote.

7.5 Neighbourhood watch update - Report from Miranda was read out and understood.

7.6 Village vision survey progress update - The MPFA section has been split from the main questionnaire. Clerk and Cllr Fry to review survey packages and proceed accordingly.

7.7 A423 (Oxford Road) Road Safety - Noted. Police are being contacted to discuss speed checks along that road. A resident from Long Itchington has organised a petition for a speed camera on the A423 and in his representations to WCC will add Marton Parish Council's plea for more road safety measures.

7.8 Helicopters - Several complaints have been received about the low flying helicopters over the village. Cllr Hardy to seek advice from RBC planning department and Cllr Chambers to raise with RBC's Cllr Crane.

All Cllr's

Clerk & Cllr Fry

Cllr's Hardy & Chambers

8. VILLAGE UPDATES AND MAINTENANCE

8.1 Marton Playing Field Association - Cllr Fry to work with the MPFA to get the memorial benches located.
 Congratulations to the MPFA for the organisation of the Marton Get Together - it was an excellent event.

8.2 Defibrillators - A note has been issued to say some defibrillators are to be recalled. The Clerk will follow this up, along with the issued replacement batteries being the incorrect ones for the machines.

8.3 Roads and Footpaths - The Severn Trent manhole cover on Oxford Road is being escalated by WCC to Severn Trent to be fixed.

8.4 Marton Practical Ecology Group (MPEG) - Thanks given to Sarah and David for organising the cutting and harvesting of the wild flower areas. It is requested the verges are to be cut once - Clerk to contact the contractor.

8.4.1 Biodiversity management - wildflower management as above, noted further trees would be beneficial to replace those lost during the summer drought.

8.4.2 Recycling Project - No update - Cllr Chambers to instigate getting this moving forward.

Cllr Fry

Clerk

Cllr Chambers

9. FINANCE

To ratify that the following bills were paid between meetings:

9.1 As of Bank Reconciliation 31st June 2022 **£16,089.94**

Date	Description	Amount
11/04/22	RBC	5754.02
19/04/22	NPOWER	484.04
20/04/22	WATER PLUS	73.89
21/04/22	E.ON NEXT	14.55
11/05/22	ICO	35.00
12/05/22	WATER PLUS	46.71
17/05/22	WATER PLUS	25.79
24/05/22	E.ON NEXT	14.55
27/05/22	CLERK EXPENSES	465.60
27/05/22	PAYROLL	362.10
17/06/22	WATER PLUS	26.65
21/06/22	E.ON NEXT	15.61
30/06/22	BANK FEE	18.00

TOTAL MARCH EXPENSES	£1,582.49
MARCH INCOME	£5,754.02
ENDING MARCH BALANCE	£16,089.94

10. CLERK BUSINESS

- 10.1 Clerks Employment Contract - Covered by the offer letter sent under T's & C's of Employment)
- 10.2 Following Clerking Essentials training - Request to purchase MPC Clerk computer & phone - As the clerk has a separate profile set up on her computer for MPC and all files are held online, it was agreed there is no need to purchase a computer.
As the clerk phone is already used for other business and the volume of MPC related calls is very low, there is no need to purchase a phone.
- 10.3 Request to purchase an up to date copy of Arnold Baker Local Council Administration book. (We have edition 9, edition 13 is about to be released.) - Not approved at this time.
- 10.4 Preparation for;
- Appointment of Independent internal Auditor - Clerk to find out more info about this.
 - Set Budget - Clerk to draft new budget and send it to Cllrs for review.
 - Set Precept - Noted.
- 10.5 Finance system instead of Excel - Cllrs agreed this was not necessary for such a small number of transactions. Instead the Clerk has been approved to spend time tidying up and simplifying the existing excel format.
- 10.6 Outsource Payroll - Discussed but not deemed necessary.
- 10.7 Website Update request - A request was received from Gocompare to update the Marton website with a guide to preparing for a flood and protecting your property. Cllrs deemed this could be advertising and declined the request.

Noted

12. PUBLIC OPEN FORUM / A.O.B

- 12.1 A note from Sustrans -
Now that the Lias Line Greenway is open, we are really pleased to see everyone enjoying and sharing the path. However we have received a few reports of people taking dead wood and felled logs from the Greenway.
The Greenway is now a designated habitat site for protected species such as great crested newts.
Whilst it may seem inconsequential to take any fallen vegetation or felled logs from the disused railway line, there is a significant risk of disturbing newts that rest in them.
Moving or taking any vegetation from the area is a breach of wildlife legislation and an offence. Please leave them undisturbed.
If you spot such activity on the Greenway, I would be grateful if you would report it to Sustrans immediately at Birmingham@sustrans.org.uk with any details you can provide (time and location).
- 12.2 Road signage for the Orchard and Shepherd Street - Cllrs will request Emma Crane from RBC to attend the next meeting to discuss road and street signage.

Noted

13. CHAIR ELECTION

Cllr David Fry - Nominated by Cllr Chambers, Seconded by Cllr Lummis.

12. DATE OF NEXT ORDINARY MEETING

Tuesday 8th of November at 19.30pm, Marton Memorial Hall.	
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