

Marston Sicca Parish Council

DRAFT MINUTES OF FEBRUARY 17TH, 2020 PARISH MEETING

The meeting was held on Monday February 17th 2020 at 7.30pm in Long Marston Village Hall.

Copies of minutes and reports will be posted on the parish website.

Present: Cllr. Johnsey (Chairman) Cllr. Davis.
Cllr. Clarke Cllr. Tempest
Parish Clerk – DM Woodliffe

In attendance: 4 members of the public

Meeting opened at 7.30pm

1. TO RECEIVE APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Apologies were given by Cllr. Hillier and Cllr. Hodges the council accepted their reasons.

2. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

2.1 Cllr. Johnsey declared a non-pecuniary interest in Lagan Homes/Perry Orchard Development.

3. PUBLIC OPEN SESSION FOR AGENDA

3.1 Mr Neil Appleton attended the meeting introducing himself as Independent candidate for district councillor (Welford on Avon By-Election).

3.2 Resident from Barley Fields asked the council if they could provide accurate map detailing the area that would be transferred to the Parish Council. Cllr. Tempest confirmed a map would be sent.

3.3. With recent weather conditions in mind, a resident asked the council if they felt we were adequately prepared for potential floods or were there any concerns. Cllr. Johnsey advised due to past clearing of ditches there had been no recent issues. As a precautionary measure however, he went on to say that ditches would be checked for potential blockages.

4. COUNCILLOR REPORTS

Cllr Brain was unable to attend but did send a brief report which was noted by the chairman.

5. APPROVE MINUTES FROM PREVIOUS PARISH COUNCIL MEETING.

6.1 Minutes from January 20th 2020 meeting were confirmed as being true and accurate and were approved.

6. CLERKS REPORT / OUTSTANDING ACTIONS FROM PREVIOUS MEETING

6.1 The clerk advised pricing had been received following the tender of the Parish Newsletter and was preparing to meet with the incumbent provider to discuss current job function (specific duties) and the price disparity between existing costs and tender prices received. Full details would enable the council to make a well-judged decision at the next parish council meeting.

6.2 The council were advised that any warranties pertaining to the children's play area equipment in Barley Fields were now expired. The contractor had been contacted to repair the roundabout which had been actioned just prior to the meeting.

6.3. Following councillors' concerns, the clerk had approached SDC regarding potential risk of having travellers occupy the Open Space at Perry Orchard. It would be something the Parish Council may need to address once the transfer of the land has been concluded.

6.4. With transfer of land imminent the new responsibilities this brings to the Parish Council, the clerk was requested by councillors to investigate signage. Elizabeth Taylor has been contacted in SDC to check any legal considerations for posting signs and costs for doing so should they be the best source of supply.

6.5. The clerk confirmed a meeting had been held with a Meon Vale resident regarding potential councillor position to cover items and issues relating to Meon Vale. It was agreed to provide details relating to the role of Parish Councillor for greater understanding.

7. MEON VALE

7.1. St Modwen confirmed they had finally received a revised contract from their solicitors with regards to Marston Sicca Parish Council being the tenant for the allotments. Clerk to chase to receive copy for council perusal.

7.2 Revd. Goy had confirmed confidentially that talks had started (very much in its infancy) been Gloucestershire Diocese and St Modwen regarding the church acquiring the three main buildings on Meon Vale, to include the leisure centre, village hall and community building. The clerk will advise the council of progress.

7.3 The residents of Meon Vale asked if it would be possible to have a notice board for village notices (separate to Parish Council news). It was agreed for the clerk to check with Quinton Parish Council as to whether they would be prepared to go 50/50 on the costs. **Clerk to action**

8. FINANCE

8.1 The RFO informed the Parish Council having reviewed a second bank to mitigate risk for monies on account, the Nationwide were considered to be the best option transfer of monies from HSBC into the savings account.

8.2. The RFO provided the councillors with full financial details on Bank Summary and income/expenditure summary. With the high figure noted in the current account, the RFO requested agreement to transfer £4k into the HSBC savings account. The council unanimously agreed.

-3-/Feb 2020

8.3. The RFO confirmed remittance from SDC relating to S106 monies - £2979 from Cameron Homes had been received.

8.4. RFO confirmed remittance advice had been received for £1200 pertaining to grant for Neighbourhood Plan.

8.5 ITEMS APPROVED FOR PAYMENT

DATE	PAYEE	CHEQUE NO	AMOUNT	DETAILS
17/02/2020	T Johnson	101693	435.00	Newsletter

9. PLANNING MATTERS

9.1. 19/03469/VARY – Phase 4a Meon Vale – Decision was to object. Application has been withdrawn.

9.2 Bloor Homes – Current Status. Cllr. Tempest advised councillors that transfer documents had been received by our solicitors and will be forwarded to the Parish Council for final perusal before the transfer is concluded.

9.3. Lagan Homes - Cllr. Tempest advised following meeting at SDC and the proactive comments made by the enforcement officer, some traction to resolving outstanding issues seem to be taking shape. The Parish Council confirmed earlier comment – to reject the revised plans in terms of the biodiversity aspect and would be meeting with WCC in due course to discuss this specific condition.

9.4. Council were advised on current status on Long Marston Airfield and that developers must include all infrastructure for the entire site at first phase of 400 houses. The LMA, additional housing at Meon Vale including Redrow Homes, will see significant development taking place simultaneously.

10. COUNCILLOR REPORTS

10.1. Cllr. Johnsey advised the tender from Thomas Fox had the adjusted costs and for main ground maintenance. **Council unanimously agreed to award tender to Thos. fox for the specified work.** For additional work including front hedges to Barley Fields, Cllr. Johnsey noted the quoted price and the council felt the cost was too high. Cllr. Johnsey confirmed he would be able to undertake the work at a more competitive price but to first ask Thomas Fox if they would be prepared to lower their price level. If this proved to be negative, the council agreed to have I. Johnsey undertake the work pending his quotation.

10.2 Cllr. Johnsey noted that some hedges through the village were significantly overgrown and the matter is being discussed with WCC with regards to our legal position. This would be to potentially undertake the hedge cutting directly if property owners are unwilling or cannot action.

10.3 Cllr. Davies explained the procedures with regards to grant funding and new grant money has been applied for based on authorised expenditure. He further advised the procedure is lengthy (some years to complete) but is gaining momentum.

-4-/Feb 2020

10.4 Cllr. Clarke confirmed the next meeting for Open Space Steering Committee would be held February 19th. This would endeavour to secure a framework of options for the open space given the diversity of age and interests of residents.

10.5 Cllr. Clarke confirmed VE Day Tickets were being printed to be offered for free. Cllr. Clarke felt having tickets with a winning number would encourage participation and enable some idea of numbers likely to attend the event. More details relating to the day would be placed in the next Parish Newsletter.

11. DATE OF NEXT MEETING

Meeting closed 9.30pm. Next meeting to be March 16th at 7.30pm

Signed.....

Chairman