

Marston Sicca Parish Council

DRAFT MINUTES OF OCTOBER 21ST 2019 PARISH MEETING

The meeting was held on Monday August 19th 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. Hillier Cllr. Davis.
Cllr. Clarke
Parish Clerk – DM Woodliffe

In attendance: Cllr Barnes plus 10 members of the public

Meeting opened at 7.30pm

1. TO RECEIVE APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Cllr. Hodges and Cllr. Tempest advised they were not able to attend, the council accepted their reasons

Cllr. Brain advised he was not able to attend the meeting.

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 Member of the public raised the question of allotments confirming Cllr. Brain had attended a recent meeting at Meon Vale where allotment status and funding was raised. The council confirmed the matter was being addressed later as an agenda point.

3.2 A query was raised over the Parish Boundary, **the council confirmed a map clarifying the boundary would be placed on the notice board.**

3.3. The status of Open Space transfer was raised, the council confirmed a full update would be given during the course of the meeting.

3.4. Member of the public suggested the Council issue a 'Sponsor a Tree' initiative for the village once open space negotiations have been concluded.

3.5. Residents enquired as to why the Sports Pavilion on Meon Vale remains closed. The council confirmed this matter has been raised and confirmed it would be given greater attention once the matter of the allotments had been resolved.

3.6 The state of pavements throughout the village was raised. The council confirmed remedial work would be assessed once the road resurfacing had been concluded.

4. COUNCILLOR BARNES

4.1 Cllr Barnes suggested photos be taken of any offending public walkways for his to pursue.

4.2 Cllr. Barnes Cllr advised due to Government grant cuts to the Council there may be charges implemented for green bins, this needs to be clarified. The problem of parking by the Greenway on Station Road was discussed with cars parking on the footpath, **Councillors confirmed they would investigate.**

5. COUNCILLOR BRAIN.

Cllr Brain was unable to attend the meeting but provided a short report confirming various topics of discussion held during a recent meeting at Meon Vale (state of unadopted roads, speeding, lack of youth centres etc.) and details of road closures within Long Marston. **The council are looking to support various initiatives being considered for Meon Vale.**

6. APPROVE MINUTES FROM PREVIOUS PARISH COUNCIL MEETING.

6.1 Minutes from September 16th meeting were approved.

7. CLERKS REPORT / OUTSTANDING ACTIONS FROM PREVIOUS MEETING

7.1 The clerk reported monies had been received in accordance with S106 agreement with Bloor Homes Development. Ladders had confirmed the searches had been concluded and that Bloor Homes solicitors had been contacted to provide a suggested target date for final completion/open space transfer.

7.2 The ongoing problems with Lagan Homes was again raised noting chaser emails had been sent to SDC and David Cole at WCC. This was to ensure all matters discussed at the site visit were finally addressed and to check status on the Biodiversity Offsetting.

7.3 Highways had been contacted with regards to testing the street lamps and was advised the works would not be done until the next financial year.

7.4 The clerk confirmed a grant had been applied for to WCC with regards to the Meon Vale allotment costs.

7.5 The question of tenders was raised with the clerk providing a full review on the spend to date with Thomas Fox – this would be addressed more fully under finance.

8. MEON VALE

8.1 The council confirmed the need to receive a grant application from either a residents association or 'allotment group' to allow the application to be processed. The complexities of the allotment contracts were discussed and it was agreed to defer the matter until after a meeting is held with Rev. Goy and residents from Meon Vale on October 22nd. **Clerk to report back to the council.**

9. SPEED CALMING MEASURES

9.1 Cllr. Hillier had the plan available for viewing during the meeting. He also confirmed the plan in its detail was made available for residents scrutiny during the recent Neighbourhood Plan open day at the village hall. As street lighting is a condition of the methods noted, a brief yes/no questionnaire was provided at the open day to enable residents to see how the plan would work whilst encompassing lighting. The council would look to limit the intrusion of lighting as much as possible which was noted when gauging residents response. The questionnaire saw ALL signatures agreeing to the policy. Cllr. Hillier confirmed the plan would again be made available for residents perusal once Highways have concluded their costings for the project.

10. FOUR YEAR PLAN

10.1 With S106 monies and various matters relating to SDC, funding and other considerations, it is important for the Parish Council to adopt a vision for the village and to establish a well-considered 4 year plan. This should include open space (locations and use), potential new community building, projects and other initiatives. The council agreed to initiate the Open Space/Community Building committee and to explore a range of options that would benefit the community. An framework for the plan is being studied by the council.

11. OPEN SPACE.

11.1 With the 4 year plan in mind and residents comments re open space use and location, the council are reviewing all options including the possibility of creating an open space/community location at the centre of the village. Various investigations, enquiries and appraisals would be organised to evaluate all opportunities.

11.2 With these objectives in mind, the council confirmed they had approached Heineken to determine what plans they may have to enhance the village public house (a community Asset) following their acquisition of Punch Taverns and whether this might create a broader opportunity for the centre of the village.

11.3 The council advised they are also reviewing the potential use of the open space by Lagan Homes but this can only be concluded once the transfer has been finalised.

12. FINANCE

12.1 The RFO/Clerk confirmed a new mandate was required to provide new councillor signatures to the bank. **Clerk to action.**

12.2 The clerk/RFO reported on the spend and income from the village newsletter. As there was no obvious /consistent tariff the council unanimously agreed for the clerk to write to the newsletter operatives to organise a tariff and to confirm the need for better reporting lines/approvals should any deviation from the tariff be required. **Clerk and Cllr. Clarke to action.**

12.3 The clerk gave monthly full bank reconciliation which confirmed receipt of the Bloor Homes S106 monies.

12.4 With greater funds now in the account, the clerk/RFO gave details of better interest-bearing accounts within HSBC (0.74% - 3 month fixed period vs. the current 0.2%). It was unanimously agreed to transfer £70k into a money markets account, with remaining to be in savings/current account for working capital. With risk factor in mind, the Clerk to then report to the council on recommended second bank to place funds in excess of the £85k to be retained in HSBC. **Clerk to action.**

12.5 The clerk gave a spend appraisal of the Thomas Fox contract. With some tasks yet to be concluded the spend to date was under budget but needed to be finalised once remaining work had been finalised. It was agreed to organise a new tender asap and to give residents the opportunity to bid for all/part of the contract. **Clerk and Cllr. Johnsey to action.**

12.6 With the precept in mind, the clerk/RFO reminded councillors of the budget for 2020 and we should start to plan our financial reports in the coming weeks. Councillors asked the clerk to confirm with SDC number of housing now within Marston Sicca Parish Council with Meon Vale development in mind. **Clerk to provide answers and budget framework to the councillors by next meeting.**

12.7 ITEMS APPROVED FOR PAYMENT:

DATE	PAYEE	CHEQUE NO	AMOUNT	DETAILS
21/10/2019	T. Johnson	101669	£462.00	Newsletter
21/10/2019	Thos. Fox	101670	£399.24	G. Maintenance
21/10/2019	SDC	101671	£2,220.00	NP survey
21/10/2019	Parish Clerk	101672	£768.76	Qtr. PAYE
21/10/2019	Parish Clerk	101673	£86.99	A. Office 365
21/10/2019	M. Hillier	101674	£200.30	2xBenches
21/10/2019	Quinton PC	101675	£104.50	Meon NB

12.8 PAYMENTS MADE

14/10/2019	HMRC	101667	£192.20	PAYE Tax
14/10/2019	E.ON	101668	£183.51	Electricity

13. RESERVE SITES

The council confirmed it has communicated with SDC re the concern over reserve sites with developers comments in mind. **Clerk to chase for response.**

14. PLANNING MATTERS

14.1 Cllr. Hillier advised after discussions with the WCC ranger responsible for the Greenway, the area had been tidied and had secured agreement to erect a second picnic table to potentially be positioned by Wyre Lane/Greenway junction – the ranger will walk the site to confirm best position. The existing table will remain in situ.

14.2 Cllr. Hillier confirmed the successful receipt of a grant from NFU (towards village benches) would enable two new benches to be procured.

14.3 The situation of Wyre Lane and Severn Trent was raised by Cllr, Hillier who confirmed we would again chase them for the contribution they agreed to pay.

14.4 Cllr. Hillier and Cllr. Johnsey agreed to walk the village to review the condition of footpaths.

14.5 Cllr Davis gave an update on the Neighbourhood Plan questionnaires with some preliminary results. The data being analysed and once finalised, will be used as part of the evidence underpinning the neighbourhood plan. It was agreed to note in the parish newsletter a thank you message from the Parish Council to all residents who had completed the questionnaire. Clerk to action.

15. VILLAGE CLEAN

As part of the CPRE initiative to help improve our villages and rural landscape the council confirmed the summer village clean day would be September 14th @ 10.30am. Clerk to include in the newsletter.

16. ANY URGENT ITEMS OF BUSINESS

None discussed

-5-/August 2019

17. DATE OF NEXT MEETING

Monday, September 16th @ 7.30pm

Meeting closed – 9.23pm

Parish Clerk

Signed.....

Chairman