

# Marston Sicca Parish Council

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Email: [clerk@marstonsicca-pc.gov.uk](mailto:clerk@marstonsicca-pc.gov.uk)

Reg. Office:

The Forge House, 6 School Street, Honeybourne, Evesham, WR11 7PJ

## **Draft Minutes of Ordinary Parish Council meeting held Long Marston Village Hall November 20th, 2023, 7.30pm**

Members Present: Cllr. Ian Johnsey (Chair), Cllr. Bill Tempest, Cllr. Noel Davis, Cllr. Steve Barker, Cllr. Colin Parrott,

Clerk: Debbie Woodliffe

District Councillor. Stuart Keighley

Also present: Three members of the public present

### **1. Apologies**

Apologies received from Council members Richard Whittaker and Claire Craige

### **2. Declaration of Interest**

None declared.

### **3. Public open Session**

3.1 Member of Meon Vale Residents Assoc. reminded council members of a floor cleaning trial undertaken at Meon Vale Community Centre. With the large floor area in question, a robust cleaning machine would be required. A grant of £1000 had been awarded to the Residents Assoc. but there was a shortfall of approx. £700 to acquire the correct machine. The parish council were asked to grant the funding shortfall. Members felt the request was reasonable as the PC will own the community centre, and the machine would be placed on the PC asset register. It was resolved to provide a grant of £700.

3.2 Resident mentioned the problem with graffiti on the skate park. Members advised CCTV by the Pavilion will be organised early in the new year.

3.3. Council members were advised the streetlights to Bailey Avenue are not working. Clerk to discuss with St Modwen.

3.4 Resident noted the problems relating to the footpaths within Long Marston. Members advised a site visit with Highways is being arranged.

### **4. County & District Councillor Reports**

4.1 County Councillor Darren Pemberton not present and no report was received.

4.2 District Councillor Stuart Keighley read from a report submitted to council members.

District Councillor Stuart Keighley gave council members an update on traffic studies noting three reports have been commissioned by WCC to which SDC made a financial contribution.

The first two by Vectos Transport Consulting were intended to identify ways of serving the developments south of Stratford without the need for new road building. Ideas on active travel options, public transport and new rail or tram links appear to have been identified. It is not clear why there are two reports dealing with this.

The third report by Jacobs is a classic transport study modelling the road requirements to serve the new developments and considering the transport impacts of the post pandemic years.

The first two reports from Vectos are published but are not available for distribution. It is not clear why, but they have been 'withdrawn' (not signed off) by WCC.

The third report has been circulated in draft and SDC Officers are reviewing it. This is the report identified to me as a sensible alternative to the Vectos reports. We expect a full composite report (whatever that is) will be available in the New Year.

Cllr Keighley also advised the Sherbourne facility is up and running. It is a state-of-the-art recycling facility with Artificial Intelligence technology supporting the ongoing improvement in sorting waste materials.

#### **5. Minutes of the previous meeting**

Members considered Minutes of the meeting held on October 16th, 2023, to be an accurate account. Minutes were approved and signed.

#### **6. Chairmans comments**

6.1. Chair highlighted the increasing frustration over Marston Meadow. It was resolved to bring SDC enforcement back into the picture and to inform our solicitor of our intentions.

#### **7. Clerks comments**

7.1. Members had seen the annual maintenance report to Barley Fields play area in advance of the meeting. The detailed appraisal of the area whilst revealing no urgent issues, did make a comprehensive list of items that require attention. It was resolved that Cllr. Johnsey and the Clerk would prepare a priority action plan and cost the remedial work.

7.2 Clerk advised members quotes had been requested for a bus shelter to Meon Vale. Members debated the type of shelter they felt would be most appropriate and size. The clerk will organise some options for council perusal with appropriate costs and timelines.

7.3 Clerk is preparing a report for SDC enforcement regarding the ongoing issues with the final transfer of Marston Meadow

#### **8. Correspondence**

8.1 The Clerk informed members of recent communication with Gloucester Diocese regarding properties encroaching on their land. It was confirmed a site visit was being planned. The clerk also confirmed the council had been advised of how property boundaries had encroached on public footpath SD41.

8.2 Members received a communication from LM Village Hall Committee thanking the Parish Council for the financial support towards the building survey costs.

8.3. Members considered a grant application from the Masons Arms requesting £450 towards the Christmas lights. It was resolved to grant £300.

### 9. Public Footpaths, Long Marston

Members had previously noted the poor condition of some footpath through the village including the impact of overgrown hedges and verges. The Chair confirmed specific areas had been identified that revealed narrow, but also poor surfaces with cracks on areas visible. It was confirmed the Clerk has approached Highways to attend a site visit.

### 10. Meon Vale Assets

10.1 The Clerk confirmed a temporary license was being organised to enable the Community Centre/Hall to be opened for Christmas event.

10.2 The Transfer documents have been amended to remove the attenuation ponds and greenway from the asset transfer.

10.3 Both Ladders (St Modwen) and Robert, Lunn & Lowth (PC solicitors) are working on the contracts for both Marston Sicca and Quinton PCs to sign.

### 11. Community engagement / residents survey

11.1 Cllr. Parrott had proposed a survey be conducted within LM to assess public opinion on idea for the village including the village hall and Marston Meadow. Members resolved to defer any decision until the new year but agreed early preparation of a survey would be beneficial. It was resolved that Cllr. Parrott would steer the preparations.

### 12. Finance

Clerk/RFO produced bank reconciliation and payments requiring approval. Summary as follows:

BANK REC DATA as at 20/11/2023

Total Bank Balance = £146,522

Total Reserves = £114,796

12.2 Council members approved the following:

Payments made.

Date	Payee	Cheque No	£	Details
06/11/2023	C.Watson	BP	70.38	Wifi Pavilion
06/11/2023	G. Lungley	BP	40.00	Training
09/11/2023	HMRC	BP	78.40	PAYE Tax
10/11.2023	G.Lungley	BP	120.00	Training (legalities)

12.3 Online Payments for Approval:

Date	Payee	Cheque No	£	Details
16/11/2023	HP Instant Ink	DC	22.49	Printer Ink
19/11/2023	HSBC	CHG	21.43	Bank Charges
20/11/2023	Thomas Fox	BP	613.20	Grnd. Maintenance
20/11/2023	LM Village Hall	BP	48.00	Hall Hire
20/11/2023	Uberdoodledesign	BP	437.50	Newsletter/W.Site
20/11/2023	WALC	BP	24.00	Training
20/11/2023	Parish Clerk	BP	***	PAYE
20/11/2023	Thos. Fox	BP	325.20	Grnd. Maintenance
20/11/2023	I.Johnsey & Co	BP	295.00	Planters & Maintenance

#### 12.4 Community Centre Payments Made

Date	Payee	Cheque No	£	Details
03/10/2023	Water Plus	BP	51.02	Water supply
03/10/2023	Mrs H Leedham	BP	438.25	Pavilion Stock
03/10/2023	Scottish Power	BP	686.04	Electricity supply
04/10/2023	S. Hillier (Philip Denis)	BP	219.72	Pavilion Stock
06.10/2023	British Gas	DD	16.06	Gas supply
09/10/2023	NEST	DD	134.23	Pension Payment
14/10/2023	S Hillier (Philip Denis)	BP	466.96	Pavilion Stock

#### 12.5 Community Centre Payments for Approval

Date	Payee	Cheque No	£	Details
01/11/2023	Co-op	DC	11.20	Stock pavilion
02/11/2023	British Gas	DD	53.47	Gas Supply
06/11/2023	Water Plus	BP	50.49	Water Supply
06/11/2023	H Leedham	BP	425.00	Stock Pavilion
06/11/2023	Scottish Power	BP	1185.47	Electricity Pavilion
06/11/2023	Yorke Electrical	BP	90.00	CIL Pavilion
07/11/2023	Philip Dennis Food	BP	163.02	Stock Pavilion
09/11/2023	NEST	DD	134.23	Pension
09/11/2023	S. Hillier	BP	178.33	Stock Pavilion
09/11/2023	HMRC	BP	379.14	Tax and NI
20/11/2023	M&S	DC	38.40	Stock Pavilion
20/11/2023	Smarty	DC	12.00	Card reader Pavilion
20/11/2023	S. Hillier	BP	923.60	Stock Pavilion
20/11/2023	Nisbets	BP	403.45	CIL Pavilion
20/11/2023	H.Leedham	BP	438.90	Stock Pavilion
20/11/2023	Bentens	BP	120.00	Payroll
20/11/2023	Biffa	DD	120.86	Waste collection
30/11/2023	Jodi Cotton	BP	***	PAYE
30/11/2023	S. Hillier	BP	***	Stock Pavilion
09/12/2023	Biffa	DD	54.26	Waste collection

#### 13. Planning matters discussed:

23/02600/FUL Pear Tree Close. Outcome: Permission Granted

21/02405/REM, Phase 4C, 109 dwellings, Meon Vale. Cllr. Tempest advised improved layout to council members.

23/01223/VARY, LMA. Cllr. Tempest gave members an update on the application.

-5-/November 2023

### **13. Council member reports**

13.1 Cllr. Davis confirmed the NP was now finished and is now with Stratford upon to ensure all required amendments have been actioned. The next stage will be the referendum. Council members thanked Cllr. Davis and his team for their hard work in getting the NP to this stage.

13.2 Cllr. Barker confirmed 400 tree saplings had been planted on Marston Meadow. The Parish Council thanked Cllr. Barker and the volunteers

13.3. Cllr. Parrott confirmed his involvement in the Coopers Foundation has been deferred until 2024.

13.4. Cllr. Parrott informed council members of the workshop undertaken at the recent WALC conference relating to cybercrime. Cllr. Parrott proposed a check be made on PC data to identify any potential risks. The checks would be carried out by Gallagher (insurers) at a cost of £72.00. Council members resolved to organise the test.

### **14. Date of next meetings:**

18<sup>th</sup> December 2023. Venue to be confirmed.

Meeting closed 21.45

Debbie Woodliffe, Parish Clerk/RFO