

MARLDON PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes from the Parish Council meeting held on 9th January 2024 at 7pm
Present; Cllrs Bailey , Balster (Chair), Claridge , Clarke , Cooke, Cotton , Hore ,
Morris-Rabbitts and Sharland. C Cllr Hawkins ,
Clerk - Karen Gilbert, and 16 members of the Public (plus children)

24/01/01 Apologies for Absence - District Cllr Penfold

24/01/02 Declarations of Interest Cllr Bailey in 14(b)

24/01/03 Dispensation request - NONE

24/01/04 - Approval of Minutes

The minutes of the Full Council meeting held on 14th November 2023 were presented for agreement and signature

Cllrs Balster and Clarke requested an amendment -which was read out to the meeting

The vote to accept such amendment was rejected by Cllr Balster and Clarke - insisting that the amendment should be made without a required vote

The Clerk reminded the Councillors of the correct procedure but this advice was rejected by Cllr Balster and Clarke

It was **AGREED** to defer the signing and agreement of the 11/23 minutes until February 2024

STANDING ORDERS WERE SUSPENDED

The meeting was joined by Kerry McCabe , Youth Leader and Manager from TRAYE along with Adele Marshall - Youth Leader who explained how the Youth Club works and the services provided to Marldon . (Full Report available from Clerk)

Kerry also responded to various questions from Councillors . The Clerk asked whether the Insurance arrangements and limits were sufficient for purpose

Cllr Clarke gave a report on the advantages and special qualities of TRAYE (Full report available from the Clerk) . It was **NOTED** that Cllr Clarke remains a Trustee of TRAYE

24/01/05 - Public participation

Several parents and a local Police Inspector spoke in praise of the Youth Club - both from the Children's perspective and the benefit to families of its being a free service

Concern was raised over the recent closure of other youth facilities in the Village

A Parishioner commented on a local property renovated with Grant funding from SHDC

24/01/06 Councillor reports

District Cllr Penfold - report circulated , Full report available from Clerk upon request

Waste and Recycling – You should have noticed by now that all residents have been moved onto the same waste and recycling service across the entire district. Food waste and glass will be recycled at the curbside: If you are unsure of your day please check the website out:

www.southams.gov.uk/collection-day

Note: If your recycling or waste has not been picked up, please first report it on the SHDC website.

If you do not get a resolution in a timely manner then contact me. District councillors have been given additional information and access to officers.

The SHDC website for complaints is:

<https://www.southams.gov.uk/waste-and-recycling>

Next Meet and Chat Surgery with Local Police

Following a successful surgery Monday 27th November the next one will be scheduled in the later part of January.

I will post the date on the Marldon webpages and on my councillor Facebook page.

Officers Zoe Carter and Jason Vasey will be attending. If you have any concerns or questions please do either attend or email me.

Devon County Cllr Jonathan Hawkins

Cllr Hawkins advised that Devon County was asking Parishes to put forward bids to extend 20 mile Zones in their communities . He encouraged the Council to try again this year - the application having been unsuccessful last year

He also commented on the Speedwatch project which might well benefit the problems encountered in areas of the Parish - especially in Westerland where residents continued to identified a problem This was dependent on Volunteers being recruited from the Parish - and recommended a Public Meeting

He also asked that we reconsider the moveable variable speed signs

Cllr Hore produced a speed monitor still held by a previous Cllr and handed out leaflets and information on setting up such a scheme

STANDING ORDERS WERE RE-INSTATED

24/01/07 - Admin

The Clerk advised that the Annual subscription for DALC was to increase from £474 to £618 - 30%

She also advised that she had just heard from South Hams DC that there was no petition to request that the vacant seat be filled by election . She was now able to advertise for applicants to fill the seat by co-option

24/01/08 To consider a service level agreement from TRAYE in which the annual donation (£2000 in 23/24) is increased to £3500 + hall rental with added contribution from any locality Grants (DCC / SHDC) currently used for Parish causes

Cllr Sharland commented that some mixed and some incorrect messages must be circulating both the Parish and TRAYE . He wished to have minuted that on NO occasion had the Council indicated a desire to stop using TRAYE

The Clerk explained that this service level agreement had the day before (8/1/24) been replaced by TRAYE with a Memorandum of understanding . AS there was insufficient time to read / understand and seek advice from DALC , the matter should be deferred until 02/24

She also advised that there were some Parish Council governance issues which required clarification from DALC

ACTION ; CLERK TO COLLATE ADVICE AND DOCUMENTS FOR 02/24

24/01/09 - Clerk's report

The Clerk advised that one of the allotments had received no attention or cultivation for some considerable time despite a letter having been written last summer requesting the plot be improved . This was confirmed by a Councillor .

In view of the considerable number on the waiting list (9) t was AGREED that the Clerk write to the potholder , to withdraw the facility.

Cllr Clarke reminded the Council that all ploholders must be from Marldon Parish

ACTION ; CLERK TO WRITE TO ALLOTMENT HOLDER

The Clerk advised that she had received no reply to two emails requesting the return of Parish Council property from an ex Councillor

ACTION ; COUNCILLORS TO VISIT TO ARRANGE COLLECTION

24/01/10 - Cheques for payment - Approved

12/12/23	K GILBERT. (REIMBURSE)	31.13	31.13	REIMBURSE JUBILEE ELECT
9/1/24	K Gilbert	118.00	118.00	Expenses Nov/Dec
9/1/24	K Gilbert	75.00	75.00	Vet filing as agreed
9/1/24	K Gilbert	65.00	65.00	Backpay 12/23
9/1/24	SLCC	100.00	100.00	Part of total of183 subs

24/01/11 Councillor reports

MEG REPORT

MEG spent their last but one Wednesday morning of 2023 working on FP13 to try and alleviate the bad flooding which occurs both at the top of Meadow Park on the Compton Road, and also at the main footpath entrance. New channels were dug and the two paving slab footbridges lifted and cleared of silt and debris. They also added a substantial amount of large grade gravel to the main footpath which helps keep some of the mud at bay when trodden in. This work has made a huge difference during the spells of heavy rain, leading to the old Village Pond rapidly filling up and flooding across the road. SHDC do come and clear the overflow drain from time to time, but the pipe leading down to the stream cannot cope. All the surface water from Chittlebury field is to blame for this flooding, hence the muddy red appearance!

Their final morning before a well-earned Christmas break was spent clearing the slipway between Village Road and Love Lane Close, along with the one between Vicarage Hill and Nether Meadow. The latter has a large hedge which has grown way too far out over the path and before the bird nesting season starts this needs to be attended to by the Resident. This also applies to a front hedge at the top of Meadow Park. Both slipways were treated with a light sprinkling of road salt from the nearest bin to kill off the surface moss.

MEG are currently on their Seasonal break and looking forward to the 'Thank-You' buffet yet to be arranged at the Smokey pub.

WAM Report

Following on from all the activity creating the Memorial Garden we are pleased to see the area beginning to green up and even some bulbs beginning to peep through.

Plans for the first quarter of this year are to cut back the long areas in the wild corner of Jubilee Meadow; to sow more wildflower seeds there and to keep a close eye on the Memorial Garden, planting and cutting back as needed.

COMPTON REPORT

1) Every time there is heavy rain, a huge volume of water comes washing down Widdicombe Lane, bringing with it mud and gravel which is piling up on the road surface near and opposite the Parish Council notice board. This debris is washing down from the double bend at the top near to the Widdicombe Farm camping site

NOTE - THIS HAS NOW BEEN REMEDIED

2) The National Trust completed dredging part of the stream around the Castle access bridge area before Christmas which has helped considerably, but the section from Castle Lane to the Farm barns still needs doing, as it is continuing to flood along there.

We know there is a wheel, a toilet and a large potholder buried in that section!

Westerland report - DEFERRED TO 02/24

Police Advocate Meeting - Linda Balster

Inspector Ben Shardlow advises 'advocates' in the Totnes, Kingsbridge, Ivybridge and Dartmouth areas of crimes via zoom meetings. A lot of the information we receive is privileged so cannot be divulged to the general public. Most of the crimes affected the other areas.

A crime summary revealed that for the first two weeks of December there was an increase of crimes (123 assaulting police officers, domestic abuse, drunken violence) and shoplifting, which then dropped in the second two weeks. There has been two student deaths in Totnes, and a process of help for students and staff affected by this has been operated by a charity.

Apart from a 'trolley dasher' in Morrisons (who was caught and arrested) all other crimes reported related to other areas.

23/11/12 - Open Spaces

a) To discuss future use of Broomhill Meadow

The Clerk explained that she had found new papers whilst vetting the Filing cabinet contents but that she had not had time to collate - **DEFER TO 02/24**

b) In view of vastly increased running costs for socket in Jubilee Meadow , to consider cutting off the supply or handing it over to the Apple Pie Fair Committee

The Apple Pie Fair had indicated that it agreed that a generator would be a cheaper option . It was **RESOLVED** that the supply be disconnected

ACTION: CLERK TO WRITE TO OPUS ENERGY - COPYING IN APPLE PIE FAIR

c) To receive a report on the land originally purchased for a Graveyard extension

The Clerk had delivered the file to Cllr Cotton who had looked into the history . He had approached Planning regarding the permission obtained in 1988 and awaited a reply before further reporting

ACTION; AGENDA ITEM 02/24 FOR UPDATE

24/01/13- Playground

Cllr Cotton had inspected the Playground on a weekly basis - no faults found . It was **NOTED** that the litter problem had reduced

24/01/14 HIGHWAYS - To discuss the state of West Lane

Every attempt had been made to locate an owner and various meetings had taken place with Parish Councillors , Devon County and SHDC . The National Trust had also been contacted was nearby landowners

ACTION ; MONITOR FOR ANY FURTHER DAMAGE

24/01/15- Planning

APPEAL - Town and Country Planning Act 1990 by CK Hutchison Networks (UK) Ltd
Site Address: Area of Grass Verge, Vicarage Road Street Works, Vicarage Road, Marldon,

REFUSAL OF PRIOR APPROVAL ON APPLICATION BELOW. NOTED

4151/23/CLE

Lawful Development Certificate for Existing Use for use of field for grazing of horses, two timber field shelters on skids and hard core on the existing access track.

Field at SX 867 626, Marldon, Devon.

New application received after Agenda production - Deadline for comment before Feb meeting . It was **AGREED** that this field had been used to graze horses with associated infrastructure in excess of 10 years .

24/01/16- DATE OF NEXT MEETING. 13th February 2024

24/01/17 Exclusion of Press and Public

The Council **RESOLVED** that in accordance with Paragraph 1 (2) of The Public Bodies (Admission to Meetings) Act 1960, the press and public be excluded from the meeting during consideration of the agenda items 18 owing to the confidential nature of the business to transacted and the public interest would not be served in disclosing that information.

PART TWO -

24/01/18 - To discuss a further email received from a Member of the Public and decide on a response if so required

The email had been circulated and the contents noted by all Councillors .

It was **AGREED** that no further action was required

Suggestions were made with regard to the form of Memorial for Trevor Pennington.

There being no further business , the Meeting was **CLOSED** at 8.50pm

