



**MINUTES OF THE PARISH COUNCIL MEETING HELD ON TUESDAY 12TH
FEBRUARY 2019 AT THE ALLENS, ALBION ROAD, MARDEN COMMENCING AT
7.30PM**

122/19 PRESENT

Cllrs Adam, Boswell, Harvey, Jones, Mannington, Newton, Robertson and Stevens. The Clerk was also in attendance

123/19 APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Cllrs Brown, Tippen and Turner gave their apologies. Apologies were also received from PCSO Nicola Morris.

In the Chairman's absence Cllr Adam took the chair for this meeting.

124/19 COUNCILLOR INFORMATION

Changes to Register of Interests

No changes to registers of interest

Declaration of Interests

Cllr Jones declared an interest in item 129/19(Marden Playing Field) as a neighbour to Marden Playing Field. Cllrs Adam, Newton and Robertson declared a pecuniary interest in item 131/19 as members of Marden History Group and would leave the meeting when this item was discussed.

Granting of Dispensation

No granting of dispensation

125/19 MINUTES OF THE PREVIOUS MEETING

Minutes of the Parish Council meeting held on 8th January and the Extraordinary Full Council Meeting held on 22nd January were agreed and signed as true records.

126/19 MATTERS ARISING FROM PREVIOUS MINUTES (for information only)

Update from Parish To Do List

Cllr Adam went through the actions and reported on what had been dealt with so far. An updated copy would be sent following this meeting.

127/19 IDENTIFICATION OF ITEMS INVOLVING PUBLIC SPEAKING

There were no members of the public in attendance.

The meeting was adjourned for the following items:

PUBLIC FORUM

There were no members of the public in attendance.

EXTERNAL VERBAL REPORTS (if in attendance)

County & Borough Councillors

A letter had received from County Councillor Hotson in regard to his annual grant which is being reduced in the next financial year. Parish Councils have been asked for any requests for funding and the Clerk was asked to place this on March's Full Council agenda. Borough Councillors are also providing a grant of £1,500 for youth provision and the Clerk had contacted the KCC Youth Worker regarding this.

Police

Crimes reported since the last meeting – 4: 2 burglaries; 1 attempted theft and 1 theft of conveyance. 7 reports of anti-social behaviour had been received and Cllrs wished to Clerk to ask why some of these were not reported as crimes. A Police surgery had been held earlier this month and several residents of the village had attended. Further Police and Parish surgeries were being planned over the next few months.

It was noted from the recent edition of the Downs Mail that Helen Grant had met with Police Commissioner and Marden was mentioned in the report. The Clerk was asked to contact Helen Grant for an update of this meeting.

Community Warden

Not in attendance.

The meeting was reconvened for the rest of the agenda.

128/19 PARISH MATTERS**Reports from MBC and KCC**

Discussed above.

Police Update/Report from Police Forum

The crimes had been reported above. The Clerk was asked to contact the Police Inspector to enquire what the plans are for further Police Forum meetings in 2019.

CommunicationNewsletter

Cllr Boswell had drafted and circulated the newsletter. Cllrs were asked to comment and send to the Clerk before the weekend.

Social Media & Website

Nothing to report

CemeteryExclusive Right of Burial Certificates

2 certificates were signed.

Update regarding Flooding/Water issues

The Chairman gave a brief report of what was included and the Clerk was asked to put the information on the website with a link in the newsletter directing people.

Annual Parish Meeting

This had been arranged for 9th April with speakers arranged of Simon Jones of Kent Highways and Emma Poole & Mark Dopson of Involve. The Clerk was asked to review the list of issues from the last meeting with Highways and ask Mr Jones to include these in his talk if possible.

Burial Request

A request had been received verbally by the Clerk for an interment however no written request had been received therefore Cllrs did not discuss this item.

129/19 COMMITTEE REPORTS**Amenities Committee**

Draft Minutes of the Amenities Meeting held on 29th January had been previously circulated and were available on the Parish Council website.

Although the date for Marden at Christmas 2019 had been discussed at the Amenities Committee Cllrs agreed collectively that the best date for everyone concerned would be 7th December. This would be advertised so that the relevant people could be booked and stall holders could save the date.

A meeting would be arranged to discuss the adult gym location in more detail and would be opened up for consultation again if the proposals amended.

Planning Committee

Draft Minutes of Planning Meetings held on 15th January and 5th February had been previously circulated and were available on the Parish Council website.

The Planning Committee Meeting on 19th February would be held in the Old School Room as several residents were expected to attend.

Finance Committee

There was no Finance Committee meeting held in January.

HR Sub-Committee

There was no HR Sub-Committee meeting held in January.

Other Conferences/Meetings attended

Police Bike Marking – 12th January – John Banks Hall only 10 bikes were marked – PCSO may look to hold another session in the Spring/Summer

Operation London Bridge – 17th January – Parish Office - notes previously circulated to Cllrs, Marden Church and History Group

Memorial Hall Meeting – 21st January – Memorial Hall update given at Amenities meeting
KALC Charity Trust and Law – 23rd January – Lenham Community Centre The Clerk attended on behalf of Marden Memorial Hall

KALC Safeguarding – 29th January – Lenham Community Centre The Clerk attended for information regarding play scheme

Children's Centres Annual Conversation – 1st February – Wallis Avenue, Maidstone The Clerk attended. It was interesting to hear about the wide range of services available via the Children's Centres.

Marden Neighbourhood Plan Workshop – 2nd February – Parish Office. The final draft was being prepared for submission to Regulation 16.

Police Surgery – 2nd February – John Banks Hall – reported above

KALC – Maidstone Area Committee – 11th February – Cllr Mannington attended and gave a brief report: Principal Solicitor spoke about bullying. Parish Liaison Group spoke about ASB. MBC Local Plan Review meetings were planned in Yalding and Lenham.

Conferences/Meetings for the coming months

MBC – CIL Training – 20th February – Maidstone Town Hall Cllr Tippen to attend

Interim Internal Auditor Visit – 21st February – Parish Office

KALC Planning Conference – 15th March – Lenham Community Centre Cllr Robertson and the Clerk to attend

Parish Councils Liaison Group Meeting – Local Plan meetings: Lenham 13th March and Yalding 21st March – Cllr Mannington to attend

130/19 CORRESPONDENCE

KALC – Lord Lieutenant's Civic Service 2019 Invitation

12th March 2019 – invite to the Chairman, or representative, and one guest – noted and Cllr Tippen would be asked on her return if she would like to attend.

Application for Street Trading Licence

19/00359/STRCON – Selling of Wood Fired Pizzas from van in Marden High Street – Wednesdays 3pm to 9pm : Cllrs raised concern over the parking of residents who live along this stretch of road and for those buying pizzas. They felt this was an unsuitable location as the area was very busy during the day with a large amount of HGVs travelling along this road and from residents parking during the day and evening.

Marden Parish Church magazine

February edition for information – noted

NALC

Media Release on Ethical Standards in Local Government document previously circulated to Cllrs – noted

131/19 FINANCE

Bank Statements:

Revenue Accounts:

Nat West Business Reserve Account (as at 1st February) : £10,144.16

Nat West Current Account (as at 5th February) : £0.00

Unity Account (as at 12th February) : £63,827.79 (£18,083.28 to be transferred to Santander)

Capital Accounts:

Santander Account (as at 21st January) : £33,391.74

NS&I Account (as at 31st January 2019) : closed

Payments for Approval:

Cheque Payment

Marden PCC – annual subscription for Parish Magazine - £10.00

Electronic Payment

Alison Hooker – travel and purchase of light bulbs - £71.40

Payments were agreed and Cllrs Mannington and Stevens would authorise the bank transfer.

Precept 2019/20

The Extraordinary Full Council meeting was held on 22nd January when the budget and precept was discussed and agreed. The Precept for 2019/20 would be £136,500.00 and the paperwork had been signed and sent to Maidstone Borough Council.

Donation Requests

For the following item Cllr Mannington took the chair:

20:44 – Cllrs Adam, Newton and Robertson left the meeting

Marden Heritage Centre

MHC had requested a donation towards the cost of the defibrillator. After discussion Cllrs agreed to grant £200 to the History Group and Heritage Centre from 2019/20 budget.

20:48 – Cllrs Adam, Newton and Robertson returned to the meeting

Paddock Wood Community Advice Centre

A discussion took place regarding PWCA and Cllr Stevens gave Cllrs some background information. It was proposed that £125.00 be granted from this year's budget but the Clerk was asked to write to PWCA stating that unfortunately the 2019/20 budget had been set so any future requests would be reviewed at the time it is received and dependant on other requests for donations. Cllrs proposed to discuss this further at the budget meeting in November 2019.

132/19 HIGHWAYS AND PUBLIC TRANSPORT

Highways

Speed Indicator Device (SID)

Location responses – Cllrs to agree to defer discussion until March meeting as further information required for the location in Thorn Road. The Clerk would contact Kent Highways to see if there was a possibility of moving the pole slightly and would report back once a response had been received.

Other

It was reported that the leaves on Church Hill needed to be cleared from the footway as had become slippery underfoot.

Public Transport

Meetings

The Clerk was waiting for confirmation from South Eastern regarding meeting. An email had been sent in January chasing this and a further email would be sent following this meeting.

Response to South Eastern

Cllr Adam had drafted a response following the receipt of an email in regard to the “missing train” but no answer had been received back from South Eastern.

Other

Cllr Adam reported that several lights were out on the platform and car park of the station.

There being no further business the meeting closed at 9.06pm

Date: 12th March 2019

Signed:
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