



**MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF THE MARDEN PARISH COUNCIL AMENITIES COMMITTEE ON TUESDAY 29<sup>TH</sup> JANUARY 2019 HELD IN THE PARISH OFFICE MEETING ROOM, MEMORIAL HALL, MARDEN COMMENCING AT 7pm**

**060/19 PRESENT**

Cllrs Adam, Boswell, Jones, Newton, Robertson (in the Chair) and Turner. The Clerk and one member of the public were also in attendance.

**061/19 APOLOGIES**

Apologies were received from Cllrs Harvey and Tippen.

**062/19 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST**

Cllr Jones declared an interest to item 066/19(Playing Field) as a neighbour to Marden Playing Field; Cllr Boswell declared an interest on item 066/19(Southons Field) as a neighbour to Southons Field and Chairman of Marden in Bloom and item 073/19(Marden Information Sign) as Chairman of Marden in Bloom; Cllr Newton declared an interest in item 070/19(Marden Memorial Hall) as Trustees of Marden Memorial Hall. The Clerk is also a Trustee of Marden Memorial Hall.

**063/19 GRANTING OF DISPENSATION**

There were no requests for dispensation.

**064/19 APPROVAL OF PREVIOUS AMENITIES COMMITTEE MINUTES**

The minutes of the meeting held on 27<sup>th</sup> November 2018 were agreed and signed as a true record.

**065/19 IDENTIFICATION OF ITEMS INVOLVING PUBLIC SPEAKING**

The member of the public wished to speak regarding (item 066/19(Playing Field) hire of Marden Playing Field.

The MoP addressed the meeting stating that he was a physical trainer having recently moved to the village and was interested in setting up a boot camp. He was fully insured and DBS checked. Looking at 1 to 1½ hours on a Saturday morning of weekday evening for adults (16+ with adult permission or 18 and over). He was also interested in starting a junior boot camp if there was enough interest to include activities such as 5-a-side football and pad boxing. Cllrs were especially interested in this aspect and the Clerk would provide the details of the youth club contacts for him to discuss further. Cllrs agreed for the usage but also suggested that he look at Southons Field as another location. There would be a charge of £15 per hour which he was in agreement to pay.

*Member of public left the meeting*

**066/19 SUB-COMMITTEE REPORTS**

**Open Space**

**Playing Field**

Play Inspection Reports

Reports had been received from MBC and the village caretaker. No new issues had arisen. The annual play inspection reports for both play areas had been received and the Clerk had provided a breakdown of the issues raised which had been circulated prior to the meeting.

Majority of the issues could be addressed by the caretaker and the Clerk would speak to him regarding these.

The Assistant Clerk was still investigating companies to replace the buddy swing ropes with chains and had passed the details to the Clerk. Alternatively there was tape on the market which could be used to protect the frayed edges of the rope around the wire underneath.

The Clerk was arranging for the litter bins and benches to be removed now that the new bins had been delivered. The issue of the rocking horse was raised and Cllrs wondered whether it could be installed on the grassed area at the library and used as a flower planter. The Clerk would investigate.

#### Update from Site Meeting

It was suggested that the adult gym be situated nearer to the play area rather than located around the boundary of the field. Concern was raised that the residents of Rookery Court had been informed that this would not be installed near to their properties and Cllrs agreed to meet at the field to look at the best locations.

#### Changing Rooms

No issues raised however Cllr Adam informed the meeting that pitch had been churned up during the game at the weekend. The caretaker had also mentioned this to the Clerk and she was due to have a look and inform MMFC that they would not be able to play on the pitch this coming weekend especially if it freezes.

#### Request for hire of Playing Field

Discussed at 065/19 above.

#### Other Playing Field Issues

The sports wall had now been installed and the panels erected. Cllr Turner asked if the Council held photographs of the play equipment and other parish assets. The Clerk said this was something that she wished to do and Cllr Newton was happy to assist.

#### **Southons Field**

##### Play Trail Inspection Report

Received from the village caretaker – no issues reported. The annual play inspection report had also not reported any concerns.

##### Update from Site Meeting

The two caretakers had undertaken tree work and the Clerk was obtaining quotes for the work that they were unable to complete including the cost of removing one of the trunks from the Eucalyptus tree.

##### Use of field for Marden in Bloom

Marden in Bloom were planning to hold a “Scarecrow Safari” on Saturday 28<sup>th</sup> September and would like to use Southons Field to meet at the end for presentation of prizes etc. Cllrs agreed for this to be held on the field. Cllrs also agreed to take part.

##### Other Southons Field issues

Marden Motor Club had planned an event on the field on Saturday 25<sup>th</sup> May.

#### **Other Open Space**

##### Open Space Action Plan

This had been circulated to Cllrs prior to the meeting with the only update of the sports wall being completed and the litter bins delivered.

##### Open Space Meeting

The Clerk had had a walk around the village with Borough Councillor David Burton and Mike Evans, Leisure Manager at MBC, looking at open spaces within the village as details of what was available was required for the review of the Local Plan/Strategic Plan.

#### **Trees**

##### Tree work update

Quotes were being obtained.

#### **Cemetery**

##### ICCM Journal

Latest edition received – noted

Update from Site Meeting

There was a build-up of soil from burial plots. The Clerk would arrange for this to be removed. A sign would be obtained regarding use of the parking layby for cemetery visitors only.

Other Cemetery Issues

There were no other cemetery issues.

**067/19 PUBLIC CONVENIENCES & CAR PARK****Public Convenience issues**

No issues raised.

Cleaning Contract

The contract had been awarded to RJP Cleaning and a deep clean was due to take place later this week. It was hoped that the toilets would be reopened at the beginning of February.

Update from Site Meeting

No issues raised.

**Car Park Issues**

Cllr Newton had witnessed several cars parking on the grass verge by the disabled bays. Consideration be given as to what could be installed here to prevent this reoccurring.

**068/19 CORRESPONDENCE**

No correspondence had been received since the last meeting.

**069/19 ACTION GROUP REPORTS****Stilebridge**

No information had been received since the last meeting.

**Christmas**

The Christmas meeting would be held on 5<sup>th</sup> March at 6.30pm prior to the Planning Committee meeting. It was agreed that Marden at Christmas would be held on either 7<sup>th</sup> or 14<sup>th</sup> December following the Clerk checking if this clashed with the Primary School or Yalding events.

**Litter Pick**

It was agreed that the litter pick would take place on 16<sup>th</sup> March.

**070/19 OUTSIDE BODIES REPORTS****Memorial Hall**

A Trustees meeting was held on 21<sup>st</sup> January. It was reported to Cllrs that CCTV cameras were due to be installed externally to the building later this week and the Fire Alarm system installed during half term week.

**Youth**

The Youth Club would re-open on 20<sup>th</sup> February and currently the Youth Workers are holding outreach session around the village. The Youth Worker has contacted the Clerk to say that Junior Youth Club was due to start in March from 3.30pm to 5.30pm for 8 to 11 year olds. Cllrs agreed to fund the hall hire. Several parents had booked the John Banks Hall to hold a separate youth club and this was due to start shortly on a Friday evening for two hours once all had received DBS checks. Cllrs agreed to pay the cost of the hall hire.

The Clerk had provided a breakdown of the S106 contributions for youth provision – noted

**071/19 OUTSTANDING ISSUES****Update from To Do list**

Cllr Boswell asked the meeting if the fingerpost signs could be refurbished. It was agreed that the one at the Plain Road junction and Post Office could be done without any issues however Cllr Newton and the Clerk would view the one at Bunches Lake to see what could be achieved or whether some signage was required.

**072/19 FURTHER ISSUES FOR DECISION****Street Trading Renewal**

19/00167/STRCON – Trailer Burger Van at Wheelbarrow Industrial Estate, Pattenden Lane. This was a renewal of the Street Trading Consent and Cllrs wished their previous comments to be reiterated: “Cllrs had no objection in principle to the application but were concerned over the inconsiderate parking of vehicles on the road when visiting this establishing. They would encourage the landowner and operator to work together to try and find a better solution to the location”.

**073/19 FURTHER ISSUES FOR DISCUSSION/INFORMATION****Police Drop In Surgery**

Following residents concerns of anti-social behaviour a drop in surgery had been arranged for Saturday 2<sup>nd</sup> February in the John Banks Hall from 2pm to 4pm. Marden’s PCSO and Community Warden would be in attendance along with representatives of Kent Police, the Clerk and Cllr Boswell.

**Village Information Sign**

Marden History Group and Marden in Bloom were looking to install a sign to provide details of items of interest around the parish outside Marden Library – Cllrs noted.

**Other**

Marden Society had published six new walks around Marden which were available to purchase.

**074/19 INVOICES FOR PAYMENT****Electronic Payments**

Invoices submitted for payment

Office Depot – Office stationery £48.41

Postage by Phone – Newsletter postage £100.00

Pitney Bowes – Franking Machine Rental £15.54

Business Stream – Waste Water – Public Conveniences £600.89

KALC – Training Planning Conference x 2 £144.00

Total: £908.84

Cllrs wished the invoice for Business Stream to be held back whilst the Clerk checks why this is high. All other invoices agreed and electronic banking authorisation would be made by Cllrs Newton and Boswell.

**Other Items Raised by Cllrs:**

Cllr Adam wished Cllrs to note that the new Marden Library sign that had been erected with the new opening times no longer had “& Marden Heritage Centre” printed on it – The History Group would report this to KCC.

Cllr Boswell had received an email from Cllr Stevens who was now the Chairman of the Marden Branch of Royal British Legion. This year commemorates the 75<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the D-Day landings on 6<sup>th</sup> June. Cllrs asked that Cllr Boswell responds asking what events are being planned for Marden.

There being no further business the meeting closed at 21.25pm

Date: 26<sup>th</sup> March 2019

Signed:

Cllr Jean Robertson

Chairman, Amenities Committee

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