



**MINUTES OF THE PARISH COUNCIL MEETING HELD ON TUESDAY 13<sup>TH</sup>  
AUGUST 2024 AT THE ALLENS, ALBION ROAD, MARDEN COMMENCING AT  
7.30PM**

**029/24 PRESENT**

Cllrs Besant, Newton, Tippen and Turner were present. The Clerk and one member of the public were in attendance. Cllr Summersgill arrived late to the meeting due to attending a MBC meeting.

**030/24 APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE**

Apologies were received from Cllrs Adam, Boswell, Gibson and Rabot. Borough Cllr Russell also gave her apologies.

**031/24 COUNCILLOR INFORMATION**

**Declaration of Pecuniary and Non-Pecuniary Interests**

There were no declarations of interest.

**Changes to Register of Interest**

There were no changes to Cllrs Registers of Interest.

**Granting of Dispensation**

There were no requests for dispensation.

**032/24 MINUTES OF THE PREVIOUS MEETING**

Cllrs received and accepted as a true record the Minutes of the Parish Council meeting held on 9<sup>th</sup> July 2024 and were duly signed by the Chairman.

**033/24 IDENTIFICATION OF ITEMS INVOLVING PUBLIC SPEAKING**

Member of the public was in attendance for item 034/24 (Co-option).

The meeting was adjourned for the following items:

**PUBLIC FORUM**

Member of the public did not wish to raise anything on any of the items.

**EXTERNAL REPORTS**

**County Councillor Report**

Not in attendance.

**Borough Councillors Report**

*(Given once Cllr Summersgill arrived at the meeting)*

Borough Cllr Summersgill reported that the strategy is still being put together with Cllrs and Officers. It was hoped that a report would be available for the next meeting.

MBC are still awaiting the outcome of a judicial review appeal on the Lidsing element of the recently adopted Local Plan, the Heathlands objection has been rejected and that process has ended. Any new Local Plan would take at least three years to put together and new housing numbers will need to be factored in to future development.

**Police Report**

Not in attendance.

The meeting was reconvened to discuss item 034/24 onwards.

**034/24 CO-OPTION OF COUNCILLOR**

Following the uncontested Parish Council election on 2<sup>nd</sup> May 2024 two vacancies had arisen on Marden Parish Council. One application had been received to fill one of these vacancies and the candidate was in attendance.

The Chairman asked Cllrs to vote to fill one vacancy via co-option and all in attendance voted to elect Cllr Dobinson onto the Parish Council.

Cllr Dobinson was duly elected as a Cllr and signed the Declaration of Office, witnessed by the Clerk, before taking part in the rest of the meeting.

**035/24 CLERK'S REPORT**

Cllrs received and noted the Clerk's report which included details of the Local Council Award Scheme, updated on Play Scheme and the monthly correspondence log.

**036/24 PARISH MATTERS****Reports from MBC and KCC**

MBC report given above.

No report received from KCC.

**Police Update/Report from Police Forum**Crime Figures

Crime Figures can be found at: [Marden and Yalding | Your area | Kent Police | Kent Police](#)

Other Police Issues

Local Police Officers are looking to hold some public sessions and had access to the Parish Office if required.

**Communication**Newsletter

At the Communications Sub-Group meeting it was agreed that Autumn/Winter edition date for organisation reports would be moved back one week due to staff holidays to allow editing of the newsletter ready for printing.

**Marden Flooding**

*(Given once Cllr Summersgill arrived at the meeting)*

Cllr Tippen had a virtual meeting with Southern Water and the slides from this meeting had been circulated. Cllr Tippen gave an update on the meeting which discussed Phase 1 which is the relining of the sewers and Phase 2 would deal with the raising mains. Southern Water were asked to provide promotional information for MPC social media and newsletters.

**Cemetery**Exclusive Right of Burial Certificates

Unfortunately, the Clerk had been unable to print out the three Exclusive Rights of Burial certificates ready to be signed by Cllrs and asked that Cllrs agree that these be signed between meetings. Cllrs in agreement and the Clerk would notify via email when the certificates had been printed.

**MPC Policies**

The Amenities Committee had deferred making a decision following a request for metal detecting on parish land as Cllrs had requested a draft Metal Detecting Policy be drawn up. The Deputy Clerk had drafted a document and circulated prior to the meeting. Cllrs agreed the content and the resident would be provided with agreement and a copy of the policy.

**MPC Draft Byelaws**

Cllrs Adam and Newton, together with the Clerk, had reviewed/.updated the Open Space Byelaws which had been submitted to Amenities Committee for bringing to Full Council. These were ratified and the paperwork would be amalgamated to send to the relevant body.

20:00 *Cllr Summersgill arrived at the meeting (Borough Cllr report and Marden Flooding was discussed at this point)*

**MPC Financial Regulations**

The Finance Committee had re-drafted the new revised Financial Regulations provided by NALC and put before Full Council. Cllrs received and adopted the new Financial Regulations, and a copy would be uploaded to the website.

**Parish Council Award Scheme**

Cllrs noted the resubmission of application whereby the Clerk had received a preliminary report from the Panel in regard to MPC's application which had raised a couple of queries. The Clerk had responded.

**037/24 COMMITTEE REPORTS****Amenities Committee**

Cllrs noted the draft Minutes of Amenities Committee meeting held on 23<sup>rd</sup> July 2024 had been previously circulated and available on the Parish Council website.

**Planning Committee**

Cllrs noted the Minutes of Planning Committee meeting held on 6<sup>th</sup> August 2024 would be available following the Planning meeting and available on the Parish Council website.

**Finance Committee**

Cllrs noted the Minutes of Finance Committee meeting held on 30<sup>th</sup> July 2024 had been previously circulated and available on the Parish Council website. Cllr Turner was elected Chairman and Cllr Adam elected Vice-Chairman.

**Conferences/Meetings/Webinars attended**

Those in attendance updated the meeting, where relevant, on the following:

Byelaws Sub-Group – 13<sup>th</sup> July: see item 036/24 above

Play Scheme – 22<sup>nd</sup> July to 2<sup>nd</sup> August: the manager had sent a report to Cllrs which would be submitted to Amenities Committee meeting in September.

KALC Area Committee Meeting – 29<sup>th</sup> July: minutes circulated and Cllr Summersgill updated the meeting.

Southern Water – 2<sup>nd</sup> August: Cllr Tippen provided a report at item 036/24 (Marden Flooding).

Communications Sub-Group – 6<sup>th</sup> August: The notes of this meeting had been circulated to Cllrs.

Speedwatch – Cllrs Summersgill and Tippen had undertaken a speed watch in Goudhurst Road and would look to do further ones in other areas. Cllr Dobinson would undertake the training and let Cllr Summersgill know once completed.

**Conferences/Meetings/Webinars/Events forthcoming**

Events Sub-Group – 29<sup>th</sup> August

Community Forum – 12<sup>th</sup> September

**KALC Training Events**

Cllrs received a list of KALC Training events and the Clerk asked that anyone interested in training to let her know so that Cllrs could be booked in.

**038/24 CORRESPONDENCE****MPC Correspondence Log**

Cllrs received the office correspondence log for July.

**Other Correspondence:**

Cllrs to receive the following correspondence:

Marden Parish Church Magazine

August edition for information

KALC Newsletter

August edition – previously circulated to Cllrs

The Clerk

July edition for information

KCC Road Safety & Active Travel Newsletter

Issue 1 for information

KCC Consultation – Local Transport Plan

It was proposed to defer this to the September Full Council meeting as closing date was not until 8<sup>th</sup> October 2024.

**Kent Surrey and Sussex Air Ambulance**

Cllrs received the letter of thanks for recent donation.

**039/24 FINANCE****(A) Bank Statements:**Revenue Accounts:

Unity: £113,072.27

Nat West: £21,575.20

Capital Account

Santander: £72,582.55

The Clerk informed the meeting that the CCLA application had been completed but was due to attend a solicitors on Thursday for authorisation to be given on some documentation. Once signed the paperwork would be sent to CCLA.

**(B) Voltalia Community Grant**

The Full Council had agreed, at a previous meeting, to apply for grant funding. Following this Cllr Tippen and the Clerk had met earlier today to complete the application for solar panels at the public toilets. Unfortunately, MPC was not in a position to complete an application form for the changing rooms as no quotes/planning permission had been obtained.

**(C) Payments for Approval**

There were no invoices for payment.

**040/24 HIGHWAYS AND PUBLIC TRANSPORT****Highways**Highways Improvement Plan

Cllrs considered an email received from resident regarding speeding vehicles. Cllrs discussed the content of the email and agreed to add to the Parish Council's HIP. Cllrs requested the Clerk contact the resident to raise the concerns with County Cllr Parfitt-Reid and KCC

Highways.

Other Highways Issues

No other highways issues raised

**Public Transport**

No issues raised.

There being no further business the meeting was closed at 8.55pm

Cllr Kate Tippen, Chairman

Date: 10<sup>th</sup> September 2024

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