

North Marston Parish Council

Clerk to the council: Ms Jan Roffe - Email: northmarston@gmail.com. Telephone 07933 624147

MINUTES OF THE PARISH COUNCIL MEETING Tuesday 10th September 2024

Present: Councillors A Boyt (Vice Chairman and acting Chair), D Hogbin-Mills, K Du-Plessis, B Newman, Jan Roffe, Clerk, Buckinghamshire Councillor Phil Gomm and seven members of the public.

251/24 Apologies: Apologies were received from Councillors Mordue and Hill.

252/24 Members Interests: Councillor Boyt declared an interest in item 256/24 Planning application no. 24/02211/APP, 51 Quainton Road.

Open forum for Parishioners: (under adjournment – 20 minutes. 3 minutes per person speaking) to include 100 Club Draws for August and September 2024.

100 Club draw for August 2024

First Prize £30 No.76 Pete Butler, Second Prize £20 No.37 Rob Symonds, Third Prize £10 No.1 Bob Webb

100 Draw for September 2024

1st Prize £30 No.76 Pete Butler, Second Prize £20 No.17 Pete Butler, Third Prize £60, No.1 Pip Hitchen

(Perhaps this month it is worth reminding everyone that the draw is made by a member of the public at the PC meeting in full view of everyone. And the bag is well shaken before the draw is made!)

- (i) The clerk agreed to report surface water flooding from the drain at 8 Portway, which is flooding the garden at 10 Portway. Councillor Boyt to send the Clerk a video of the flooding.
- (ii) Arch Dancer gave a brief overview of the meeting he had attended in Granborough regarding the revised plans for the Stratera Battery installation which would reduce 880 shipping containers to 500. It will still be the biggest installation in the UK, the current largest being 300 shipping containers.

253/24 Buckinghamshire Council update:

- (i) Councillor Gomm gave a brief update about the Community Board changes and the reduction in the number of Community Boards from 16 down to 8 immediately following the local elections when the number of Buckinghamshire councillors reduces from 147 to 97. The change also reflects the ward boundary changes. Budgets will also be cut.
- (ii) Buckinghamshire Council is inviting residents to take part in a survey to help shape a new model for Buckinghamshire libraries. This will include cutting staff and keeping libraries accessible but unstaffed. He encouraged residents to take part on the following link:
[Help us design a new delivery model for Buckinghamshire Libraries - Your Voice Bucks - Citizen Space](#)
- (iii) North Marston High Street and side roads will be resurfaced between 11th- 16th September and the road will be closed between 9.30am until 3.30pm.
- (iv) Under the government's new plans to deliver 1.5 million homes in the next 5 years, some low-quality green belt land will be freed up to become part of a 'grey belt' to allow new homes to be built. This would mean a 42% increase in housing in Buckinghamshire. Although Planners have a statutory requirement to take Neighbourhood Plans into account, Councillor Gomm warned that under the new plans developers could just come in and build on "grey belt" land.

254/24 Minutes: The Minutes of the Parish Council Meeting held on Tuesday 9th July 2024 were approved and signed.

255/24 Updates received from the Tribunal Office regarding the land to the north of Quinton Road

The Clerk advised that the Parish Council had been asked to provide a Statement of Case to the judiciary by 27 September and that the Respondents then have a further 28 days to respond to the judiciary.

256/24 To consider the following Planning Applications

24/02143/APP - NORTH MARSTON

Dancers Farm St Johns Lane North Marston Buckinghamshire MK18 3PU
Construction of covered yard and extension to existing building

24/02144/APP - NORTH MARSTON

Dancers Farm St Johns Lane North Marston Buckinghamshire MK18 3PU
Construction of covered yard

(Consultee extension granted by the Case Officer to the September meeting)

RESOLVED: The Parish Council had no objections to either of the above applications.

24/02211/APP - NORTH MARSTON and 24/02212/ALB

51 Quinton Road North Marston Buckinghamshire MK18 3PR

Householder and Listed Building applications:

Repair and restoration of all structural aspects which includes reinstate timber framing, rebuild plinths, rebuild brick infill panels, replace all windows, re-thatch roof, thermalize all interior walls and ceilings, repair and replace first and second storey floorboards, limecrete and flagstone ground floor and construct French drain

RESOLVED: The Parish Council had no objections to this application and commented that it would be good to see the house returned to its former glory.

24/02386/APP - NORTH MARSTON

16 Shepperds Close, North Marston Buckinghamshire MK18 3PB

Householder application for replacement of two storey side and single storey rear extension

RESOLVED: After a short boundary discussion, the Parish Council resolved that it had no objections to the application.

24/02449/APP - NORTH MARSTON

Land Rear Of 49 Portway North Marston Buckinghamshire MK18 3PL

Erection of 3 dwellings with associated dropped kerb.

RESOLVED: The Parish Council expressed some concern that the access to the development is very tight but resolved that it had no objections to the application if it meets Highway's access requirements.

257/24 Parish Action Plan: To receive any relevant updates on/discuss the following:

1. The Parish Barn

Update on the History Club's proposal and Memorandum of Agreement

RESOLVED: After a short discussion, it was agreed that John Spargo would incorporate some additional points put forward by the Parish Council and share the final draft with the Parish Council for agreement. The Memorandum of Agreement to then be ratified at the October meeting.

Village Hall

(i) Update on the purchase and installation of storage shelving for Parish Council use in the back extension.

The shelving has been installed by Councillor Mordue for Parish Council use only.

(ii) Update on the purchase of a PA system for the use of those who hire the hall.

The PA system will be installed by Councillor Mordue over the weekend of the 21 September 2024.

(iii) Extinguishers. Churches 5-year extended service.

RESOLVED: The Clerk to cancel the contract with Churches and that the Parish Council will purchase new extinguishers at the end of their 5-year warranty, which is cheaper than paying Churches to service the old ones or for them to supply new ones. Regular visual inspections will be made by Councillor Mordue of the handles, hoses, tamper seals and pressure as per the legal requirement and records kept.

2. Play Area

(i) Replacement parts under warranty for the climbing tower.

Update: New parts received and thanks to Councillor Newman for installing them.

(ii) Emptying of bin by octagonal shelter.

Update: The bin now appears to be being emptied on a weekly basis by Street Scene as per the contract.

3. Village Pond and Parsnip Pond updates

Thanks to Christina Hutson and other volunteers for clearing the village pond of algae again and for donating barley extract.

RESOLVED: The Parish Council is happy to cover the cost of the barley extract. Clerk to ask Christina to submit receipts for reimbursement in future or ask the Clerk to purchase it in advance from Parish Council funds.

4. Defibrillator updates. Update: These are checked every month by Christina Hutson. All status checks are up to date and all units are in good order.

258/24 To receive any updates and discuss actions on the following matters:

Environment

1. Highways

(i) Any new and resolved road issues

Update: The resurfacing of the High Street and side roads will take place from the 11th- 16th September and the road will be closed from 9.30 – 3.30pm.

(ii) MVAS and Sentinel speed watch – Update: Councillor Gomm is still in discussion with Thames Valley Police about introducing new speed detection measures using Sentinel.

(iii) Church Street Road sign – Update: A new sign has been installed made from recyclable materials. This is in line with Buckinghamshire Council's new policy regarding street signage and all will gradually be replaced by more sustainable signage.

(iv) Streetlights at the bottom of School Hill and top of Church Street/Marston Fields junction

Update: The streetlight at the bottom of School Hill is on all day again, despite it supposedly having been repaired. The door to the smaller junction box under the lamp at the junction with Church Street and Marston Fields Road is missing.

RESOLVED: Clerk to follow up on both with Sparkx.

2. Grass and Hedges

(i) Hedge along path between Portway and Schorne Lane

Update: This has had a first cut, but Fair Hive will return to reduce the height of the hedge.

RESOLVED: Clerk to ask Fair Hive to cut the hedge further back when they return as it is still encroaching too far onto the path.

3. Bus shelters: Update: All have been maintained, cleared of vegetation and painted with Sadolin by Roy Randles.

4. CCTV To discuss progress since the last meeting regarding CCTV (Councillor Du-Plessis) No updates.

5. Tree enclosed within the Church Street Spinney encroaching upon telephone wires.

RESOLVED: Clerk to get quotes for coppicing the tree.

259/24 Projects: To discuss or to receive updates on the following:

- (i) Church Street kerbing - grant funding

RESOLVED: The Parish Council resolved that the cost of the project and the contribution it would have to find if funding could be found is too expensive and that the erosion is now unlikely to progress any further. The new road resurfacing has also alleviated the problem. The item therefore to be taken off the agenda.

- (ii) Streetlight at Sportsfield – Update: Councillors Mordue, Hall and Boyt are still looking at options.

- (iii) Website upgrade

RESOLVED: The Clerk to liaise with the Webmaster to arrange for a page to be included with active consultations taking place in the area and links to the relevant information.

- (iv) Encouraging Wildlife/Aylesbury Vale Wild Project – **Update:** Councillor Hogbin-Mills agreed to look at how best to maintain the wildflower borders, which are looking very untidy.

260/24 Sportsfield: The Sportsfield Committee is planning a fundraiser Race Night on Saturday 19th October in the Village Hall (tbc). Following the success of the dog show in the summer, the committee is also hoping to hold another dog show and music event in collaboration with the school PTA in 2025

261/24 (i) To discuss the revised Stratera Battery installation revised plans and the proposal for a 500MW BESS on land immediately to the north of the National Grid sub-station and southwest of Winslow. (Please note that North Marston Parish Council has not (yet) been approached as a consultee in this matter).

- (iii) Acknowledgement of notification of Rosefield revised plans consultation and public exhibition.

RESOLVED: The Parish Council resolved that it objects to the revised plans for the Stratera battery installation. Councillor Hogbin-Mills agreed to prepare and submit the Parish Council's objections. Councillor Hogbin-Mills also agreed to attend the Rosefield Solar Farm preview session to be held on Thursday 3 October from 1pm-2pm at Calvert Green Village Hall, MK18 2FJ.

262/24 Local Cycling and Walking Infrastructure Plan (LCWIP)

Buckinghamshire Council has launched a public consultation on its proposed Buckinghamshire Local Cycling and Walking Infrastructure Plan (LCWIP) which aims to enhance and expand cycling, walking and wheeling networks across Buckinghamshire. Residents are encouraged to take part in a consultation which runs from Monday 2nd September until Sunday 13th October by following the link below:

[Tell us your views on our draft Buckinghamshire Local Cycling and Walking Infrastructure Plan \(LCWIP\) - Your Voice Bucks - Citizen Space](#)

263/24 Finance:

1. **RESOLVED:** The Parish Council is pleased to acknowledge the conclusion of external audit by PKF Littlejohn. There were no issues.

2. **Receipts and Payments of Accounts**

RESOLVED: The Parish Council approved the payments and receipts below. The Clerk and Councillor Mordue to continue to seek recourse on the Village Hall electricity bills.

Payments made on behalf of the Parish Council

Blades – July grass cutting - £846.40, £141.07 VAT

Blades – August grass cutting - £882.40, £147.07 VAT (includes additional cut of the village pond)

Defibstore – battery for VH defibrillator - £342.00, £57.00 VAT

SSE Energy – streetlighting 01/06 – 31/06 - £18.80, £2.06 VAT

SSE Energy – streetlighting 01/07 – 31/07 - £18.80, £2.06 VAT

HP Instant Ink – Printer ink contract - £5.49, £0.92 VAT

HP Instant Ink – Printer ink contract - £8.49, £1.42 VAT

Clerks Salary for July - £***.**, no VAT

Office reimbursement for July - £26.00, no VAT

Tesco Mobile – August 24 - £8.09, no VAT

More Solutions – Website hosting 1st July 24 to 30th June 25 - £86.40, £14.40 VAT

PRA Randles – bus shelter maintenance - £565.00, no VAT

Majestic Wine – wine for internal auditor in lieu of payment as requested by auditor – £110.00 inc. delivery and VAT

Payments to be made on behalf of the Parish Council

Clerks Salary - £***.**, no VAT

Office Reimbursement - £26.00, no VAT for August

PKF Littlejohn External Auditor fee - £378.00, £63.00 VAT

Payments received on behalf of the Parish Council

From Sports Field account - £16,500, No VAT (temporary loan to the SF for the drainage work before grant funding received into the SF account).

Village Hall

Payments made on behalf of the Village Hall

From Parish Council account - £248.00, no VAT (VAT portion returned from HMRC)

Buckinghamshire Council - £300.00, no VAT (for hire of VH for the General Election)

Katherine Wetherell – VH cleaning June - £112.50, no VAT

Katherine Wetherell – VH cleaning July - £135.00, no VAT (includes deep clean whilst Preschool in recess)

Katherine Wetherell – VH cleaning August - £97.50, no VAT

Alicia Peasley – VH hire refund - £50.00, no VAT

E-on Next - Electricity SR - 4th to 30th June 2024 - £27.45, £1.31 VAT

E-on Next Electricity SR - 1st-31st July 2023 - £3.98, £0.19 VAT

E-on Electricity SR – 1st - 31st August 2024 - £34.82, £1.66 VAT

E-on Next – Electricity VH – 1st May – 30th June - £2,690.70, £37.45 VAT

E-on Next - Electricity VH – 1st June to 21st August - £269.43, £50.48 VAT

E-on Next Electricity VH - 1st-31st July 2024 - £68.58, £3.27 VAT

Wave Anglian Water – 9th May to 8th August 2024 - £73.28, no VAT

Payments received on behalf of the Village Hall

Schorne Preschool – VH hire Summer Term - £2,548.00, no VAT

Emma Ehren – Zumba VH hire Summer Term - £168.00, no VAT

Thomas Griffin – Deposit VH hire - £50.00 no VAT

A King – Balance for VH Hire - £55.00, no VAT

Sportsfield

Payments made on behalf of the Sportsfield

To North Marston Parish Council account - £16,500, no VAT (drainage ground works loan reimbursement)

Rebecca Parker – Marvellous Marigolds July cleaning - £67.50, no VAT

Rebecca Parker – Marvellous Margolds August cleaning - £76.50, no VAT

James Radcliffe – mower fuel July - £70.03, £11.34 VAT

James Radcliffe – mower fuel August - £67.12, £11.52 VAT

E-on Next – Electricity – £53.54,

E-on Next – Electricity - 1st July-31st July 2024 - £73.32, £3.49 VAT

Payments received on behalf of the Sportsfield

Buckinghamshire Council (Community Board grant for drainage works) £10,395.00, no VAT

From North Marston Parish Council Account – portion of VAT return from HMRC - £2.301.79

1st Granborough Scouts, use of facilities 2024-25 - £1,000.00, no VAT

Payments to be made on behalf of the Sportsfield

August 100 Club Prizes

000821 100 Club 1st prize £30.00, no VAT

000822 100 Club 2nd prize £20.00, no VAT

000823 100 Club 3rd prize £10.00, no VAT

September 100 Club Prizes

000824 100 Club 1st prize £30.00, no VAT

000825 100 Club 2nd prize £20.00, no VAT

000826 100 Club 3rd prize £10.00, no VAT

264/24 Date of the next meeting: The next meeting of the Parish Council will be held on Tuesday 8th October 2024 at 8pm in the Village Hall.

Jan Roffe, Clerk to North Marston Parish Council

16th September 2024