

# Minutes of the North Marston Parish Council Meeting at the Village Hall

Tuesday 12<sup>th</sup> July 2022 at 8pm

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**Present:** Cllr Hogbin-Mills, Cllr Symonds, Cllr Newman, Cllr Martin, Cllr Boyt, Cllr Gomm Clerk: Jan Roffe and four members of the public.

## **Open forum for Parishioners: (under adjournment) to include 100 Club draw**

**100 Club Draw:** 1<sup>st</sup> Prize No.48, Cathy Goldstone; 2<sup>nd</sup> Prize No.24, Katherine Du-Plessis; 3<sup>rd</sup> Prize No. 85, Robert Kemp.

**70/22 Apologies for absence:** Apologies were received from Cllr Mordue, Cllr Du-Plessis and Michael Lane, Chairman of the Neighbourhood Plan Steering Group.

**71/22 Members Interests:** There were no declarations of interest from members.

**72/22 Minutes:** The minutes of the meeting dated 14 June 2022 were approved and signed by Cllr Boyt in the Chairman's absence.

## **73/22 Planning Applications:**

There were no new Planning notifications/applications.

## **74/22 Neighbourhood Plan**

The following update from Michael Lane was read out by the Parish Clerk in his absence:

*Buckinghamshire Council's public consultation on the North Marston Plan ended at midnight on 23 June. With the agreement of the Parish Council, Andrew Ashcroft has been appointed by Buckinghamshire to carry out an independent examination of the Plan and all the representations made about it during both the local and county consultations. The independent examination is expected to take between 6 and 8 weeks to complete.*

It was also noted that although it had not yet been confirmed that Andrew Ashcroft had started the examination, Buckinghamshire Council was aiming to start it on 11 July and that the examiner would almost certainly raise a number of questions during his examination, some of which may well require consultations with the Parish Council.

## **75/22 Consultation on self-build and custom house-building**

After a short discussion the Parish Council agreed that it would like to know more about the advantages of such a register but supported the need for a proven local connection for those wishing to self or custom build a home in a particular area. It was also noted that North Marston has its own Neighbourhood Plan where its housing requirements are registered.

**RESOLUTION:** That the Clerk write to the Chairman of the NBPPC to ask what the advantages of such a register are so that the Parish Council can discuss in more detail in September.

## **76/22 Buckinghamshire Council**

Cllr Gomm gave an update on the following:

- (a) The Community Boards have opened up an easy to apply for small grants scheme with £50k in funding to award to local organisations up to £1K.

**RESOLUTION:** The Clerk to email local organisations to let them know and to publicise on Facebook.

- (b) Parking on pavements/footways and verges is a continuing problem in villages causing accessibility issues. Cllr Gomm advised that this will shortly be monitored by the Police and possible fines issued.

Whilst appreciating that may be a problem in the High Street/central village areas, the Parish Council is concerned that some roads in the village are so narrow that owners have no choice but to park their vehicles on the pavement and that it is accepted practice and has not been a problem. An example is Schorne Lane which is a no through road and too narrow to park cars on either side unless partially parked on the pavement. The Parish Council hopes that there will be leeway in such instances.

**RESOLUTION:** Cllr Gomm agreed to put a post on Facebook warning that the Police will shortly be monitoring parking on footways and verges and possible fines issued.

- (c) A recent raw sewerage leak in a ditch along the back of Franklin's Farm and beyond has not been repaired satisfactorily.

**RESOLUTION:** Cllr Gomm to meet with Cllr Boyt on site to investigate further.

## 77/22 Environment:

### Highway:

1. Proposed diversion of Public Footpath No.18 under Highways Act 1980 - Section 119

**RESOLUTION:** The Parish Council has spoken to those involved and has no objections. Clerk to respond to Highways and Technical Services accordingly.

2. Openreach C48400298 – cracked inspection cover outside of the Old Police House

**RESOLUTION:** Clerk to keep chasing and also report it on Fix My Street.

3. 40180092: poor state of footpath/pavement between 1-7 Church Street – reported as a danger

4. 40180122: 57, Portway drain - reported as a danger

5. 40184085: Drain near kerb of 47, High Street, reported as a danger

6. 49, Portway - drain marked up for further work.

**RESOLUTION:** Progress on the repair of all the above to be monitored by the Parish Council.

### Hedges/Grass Cutting and flower verges:

1. **Blades quotation** for Round-Up spray of play park paths and Village Hall Car Park -£66, £11 VAT.

**RESOLUTION:** Approved and Clerk to liaise with Blades.

2. **Hedge cutting contract**

**RESOLUTION:** It was agreed to ask Blades to quote for cutting the hedges in the village as per the schedule of works.

**RESOLUTION:** In the meantime, it was agreed to allocate up to £300 for Blades to cut the Village Hall hedge, the hedge behind the pond and at the Sportsfield gate as soon as possible as all are overgrown.

**RESOLUTION:** Clerk to ask Blades is aware of any damage to a drainpipe and Gigaclear inspection cover whilst strimming the verge at the side of the Wesley Centre. Also, what may have caused a strip of yellow grass to appear in the play area between the football goal posts.

**RESOLUTION:** For Cllr Hogbin-Mills and the Clerk to meet with Blades to discuss next steps for September/October implementation of the sowing and cultivation of the flower verges.

### Pond:

1. There was a short discussion about the failure of the coir mat rolls in the pond and Habitat Aid's offers by way of compensation. It had been confirmed that they arrived with the expected amount of apparently healthy plant plugs.

**RESOLUTION:** For Cllr Symonds to write to accept Habitat Aid's offer of replacement plant plugs to re-plant into the coir rolls.

2. Pond habitat education board:

**RESOLUTION:** After a short discussion about the costs involved no decision was made and it was decided to do some more research and revisit at the next meeting.

### Village Green:

Installation/replacement of wooden posts on Village Green

**RESOLUTION:** After a short discussion it was agreed to ask Roy Randles to replace the missing posts as per his original quotation for £85.00 and to revisit the replacement of all the posts around the Village Green at a later date.

### **Church Street Kerbing:**

Having spoken to Transport for Bucks and the Community Board Co-ordinator, the Clerk advised that Transport for Bucks are not taking on any extra work over and above that already agreed and costed. Although the School Hill kerbing is part of the schedule of works to complete before the end of the year, the Church Street kerbing is not. The co-ordinator has promised to keep the Clerk updated on developments once a new contractor is appointed. It is hoped that the Parish Council can then apply for funding for Church Street. However, Cllr Gomm advised that it is very unlikely that Community Boards will have any funding to distribute for Highways projects so funding may well have to be sourced from elsewhere.

### **78/22 Parish Action Plan/Projects:**

#### **Village Hall:**

1. Ian Carnell Electrical quotation for the installation of three hand dryers.  
**RESOLUTION:** To approve the quotation for £690. Clerk to arrange installation with Ian Carnell.
2. Change of electricity meters at Village Hall to Smart meters to match Sportsfield  
**RESOLUTION:** Change to smart meters approved on the understanding that this is at no cost to the Parish Council.
3. Provision of a sanitary bin in lavatory on east side of hall.  
**RESOLUTION:** Clerk to write to the person responsible for cleaning the Village Hall to ask if they would be prepared to empty two sanitary bins to be purchased by the Parish Council as hygiene services quotation costs are high.

#### **Aylesbury Wild Vale Project:**

There were no updates.

#### **Sportsfield**

In Cllr Mordue's absence there were no updates on Sportsfield matters.

### **79/22 Finance:**

1. In the absence of the financial figures it was agreed to postpone agreement on the amount to be transferred to the Business Account until the next meeting.
2. TSB bank issuing a debit card/or credit card for Clerk/Parish Council business use.  
**RESOLUTION:** Agreed in principle. Clerk to investigate the possibilities once full financial authority has been granted by TSB.
3. Dedicated mobile and number for the Clerk/Parish Council  
**RESOLUTION:** It was agreed that it should be minuted retrospectively that the Parish Council had given authority in May, outside of a Parish Council meeting, for the Clerk to purchase a mobile telephone specifically for Parish work and to provide a dedicated Parish Council number at a cost of £89.99 and £10 Pay As you Go per month.
4. The Clerk wished it to be minuted that she had received the sum of £52.50 in cash from Cllr Mordue as donations collected at the Jubilee Party for the Village Hall and that she subsequently transferred £52.50 into the Village Hall account as shown in Receipts and Payments, below.

### **Receipts and Payments of Accounts**

#### **Village Hall**

#### **Payments made on behalf of the Village Hall**

E-on Next (1 May-31 May'22 Schorne Room), £20.55 no VAT included (Direct Debit)

Buckinghamshire Council £70, Premises Licence

#### **Payments received on behalf of the Village Hall**

Schorne Pre-School £2,073.36 for hire of Village Hall Summer Term '22

Buckinghamshire Council £200 Ref LA01

Post Office Counters £63.00, no VAT, cheque from Winslow Ramblers for hire of Village Hall

Jan Roffe, Clerk, Jubilee Donations £52.50, no VAT

Ivor Pordage £100, no VAT - Village Hall hire for wedding reception

#### **The following will be paid on behalf of the Village Hall**

Village hall deposit refund to Winslow Ramblers £50, no VAT

Village Hall deposit refund to Ashley Lamb £50, no VAT

Emma Lynch (6/6 to 26/6 '22) £100, no VAT included. (This invoice was received after the agenda had been prepared and agreed that the Clerk could make payment as the Parish Council is in recess in August)

### **Sports Field**

#### **Payments received on behalf of the Sportsfield**

1<sup>st</sup> Granborough Scouts £120, no VAT - hire of Pavilion for April '22-end March '23

#### **The following will be paid on behalf of the Sportsfield**

000741 100 Club 1<sup>st</sup> Prize £30, no VAT included

000742 100 Club 2<sup>nd</sup> Prize £20, no VAT included

000743 100 Club 3<sup>rd</sup> Prize £10, no VAT included

### **Parish Council**

#### **Payments made on behalf of the Parish Council**

RoSPA Play Safety £126, £21 VAT - Annual Inspection and Report

#### **Payments to be made on behalf of the Parish Council**

Clerk June salary £\*\*.\*\* no VAT included

Clerk's expenses for June/July £208.51, no VAT included

Previous Clerk's salary for preparing VAT Return £\*\*.\*\*, no VAT included

nPower (1 May to 31 May '22) £147.82, £7.04 VAT included

nPower ((1 June to 30 June'22) £132,77, £6.32 VAT (This invoice was received after the agenda had been prepared and it was agreed that the Clerk could make payment as the Parish Council is in recess in August)

### **80/22 Meeting Dates:**

- The next meeting of the Parish Council will be held on **Tuesday 13 September 2022 at 8pm in the Village Hall**. Please note that the Parish Council will NOT meet in August.
- Notice that the Buckingham and Winslow Community Board will hold its next meeting on **Thursday 28 July at 6.30pm-8pm** in the St Laurence Room, Winslow Square.

***Jan Roffe, Clerk to North Marston Parish Council***