

# Marton Parish Council

Clerk: Catherine Clowes

14 Downesway

Alderley Edge

SK9 7XB

Email: marton.clerk@gmail.com

Meeting of the Parish Council held at 7.30pm on  
Monday 10<sup>th</sup> February 2014 at the Village School, Marton

## MINUTES

**Present:** Mr J Rylands (JR), Mr B Nolan (BN), Mr T Darbyshire (TD), Mr D Schwendener (DS), Mrs W Basnett (WB), Mr D McGowan (DM), Mrs C Clowes (Clerk), Cllr Lesley Smetham (LS), Rev Ian Arch

1. **Apologies for absence:** Mrs L Nixon **14/01**

2. **Parishioners attendance: Introduction and opportunity for attendees to share points of Parish interest: 14/02**

Rev Arch and BN advised of the planned restoration and renovation work to Marton Parish Church. This work is estimated to cost around £500,000 and will be carried out in 2 phases which will include restoration of the building itself as well as replacement of heating and rewiring. It is also hoped to add in a toilet and small kitchen so that the building will be more useful to the community as a whole. Alongside this work it is intended to provide historical information for viewing by the public because the church is one of only two half timbered churches to be found in the UK and is possibly the finest example of it's kind in the world. It is hoped that a large proportion of the money required will be provided in the form of grants, the biggest provider is hoped to be the Heritage lottery scheme. There will also be opportunity for voluntary activities to raise funds both corporately and individually and Capesthorpe has offered use of it's grounds for fundraising events. JR questioned how Marton Parish Council could be of assistance to this project and it was agreed that Rev Arch would give a 15 minute presentation at the Annual Village Meeting in March.

3. **Minutes of meeting on 9<sup>th</sup> December 2013 :** agreed and signed as a correct record **14/03**

4. **Cheshire East Council Pre-Submission Core Strategy 14/04**

LS advised that a further consultation would be taking place in March 2014 when parishes would be expected to put forward any sites that they have identified as possibilities for housing development. JR advised that the only sites the Parish Council is aware of being put forward at present are the 3 areas identified by Capesthorpe. WB advised that she has put forward an acre of land adjacent to her property as a potential development site and therefore due to a conflict of interest Mrs Basnett left the meeting at this point. It was agreed that following meetings with residents the general consensus of the village is that no development is wanted in Marton and therefore it would be foolish to suggest possible sites at this point. It was agreed that JR would write to Cllr David Brown lobbying for the designation of a green space area to the north of the Congleton ring road in order to protect green field sites and in so doing protect the character of Marton Village. If, in the future, any development was forced upon Marton then they would seek to identify brown field sites. LS agreed that she would support MPC in this course of action and advised that it is most likely that if there is to be any housing development in Marton it will be small scale with just a few houses being built. **JR**

5. **Congleton Relief Road 14/05**

DM advised that his report had been circulated to all councillors and he was open to their feedback. It was generally felt that it would not be known if the link road is needed until it has been decided how much new housing is to be built and where exactly this will be will influence the preferred route. JR outlined that it had been previously agreed that MPC would support Eton in whatever their decision is on this matter because they will be directly affected however at a recent meeting it was clear that Eton were undecided what to do. LS advised that Eton are holding a ballot for villagers to indicate which route for the link road they would prefer and it was agreed that MPC would support the final decision. It was agreed that MPC should focus their efforts on protecting Marton from further development that may come as a result of the link road by continuing it's pursuit of getting the land around the village designated as a green space area and JR will submit a response to the link road consultation by 28<sup>th</sup> February with words to that effect. **JR**

## 6. Village maintenance 14/06

- a) Road flooding:
  - Near Church – email was sent from Andy Simpson of highways to Simon Wain (Marton Parish Church PCC Secretary) asking for him to contact highways and advising that the threshold at the church entrance is too low and this would need to be raised in order to raise the kerbs and get rid of the flooding. This is now awaiting a response to highways from Marton Parish Church. Clerk to resend email to TD and Simon Wain. **Clerk**
- b) Village Boundary Sign – DM has inspected the sign and he and BN will repair it. **DM, BN**
- c) Potholes:
  - Marton Hall Lane – work done but to an unsatisfactory standard.
  - Depression in road by water valve box junction A34/ School Lane – 09/05/13 Log Ref: 4764360, update Log Ref: 3203182(given when chased up with Highways) - Andy Simpson of Highways has visited the site and emailed advising that the problem is not something Highways would fix but he has reported it to United Utilities as a Section 81 defect but DM advised this is still outstanding and is causing considerable noise and vibration to residents living by the site.
- d) Other:
  - Water leak on School Lane – LN to report and chase up. **LN**
  - HGV sign down on A34 – WB to log on Cheshire East Website. **WB**

## 6. Trees & Hedges 14/07

- a) Village Orchard – DM advised that additional trees have been planted by John Percival and the work is now finished.
- b) Bramble Clearing on Village Green – two thirds of the area that required clearing has been successfully cleared. Another working party will be required at the end of May once the bulbs have all finished. Clerk to include on agenda for May meeting. **Clerk**

## 7. Christmas Tree 2013 14/08

Thanks were expressed to WB and TD for all the work they had put into getting this project off the ground. It was agreed that the end result was good and thanks were also expressed for the help and contribution of Ron Dalton from the Davenport Arms. JR will write a letter of thanks to all those involved. TD advised that he would like to donate a Christmas Tree off his land to be permanently planted for use by the village. John Percival has agreed to pick the best tree and arrange for it's planting. This was unanimously agreed by MPC as a good idea and thanks were expressed to TD. Lighting would be discussed at a future meeting.

## 8. Community Pride Competition 14/09

Application form was passed to BN to advise what is required at the next meeting. BN advised that the Little Gem certificate has been given to the Café and DM will place a certificate on the notice board. **DM**

## 9. Highway and road safety matters 14/10

- a) Speeding & accidents on A34 – DS advised that a response from the studies carried out on the A34 was imminent. Thanks were expressed to DM and DS for all their hard work in this area.
- b) Community Speed Watch Scheme – DM advised that he had fitted brackets to the pole outside his house ready for the SID and after consultation with PC Charles Taylor it has been confirmed that Marton will now have it's turn with the SID 16 times a year and there will be a speed awareness day at the Davenport Arms during February.

## 10. Marton School 14/11

- a) School Transport and Parking – DS advised that he is still trying to arrange a meeting with Marton School to discuss the a number of options available and other issues which include: Parking on school grounds, parking on grass verge, Park and Stride (local car parks such as the pub and church are used and then parents and pupils walk from there to school), following advise from the Health and Safety Inspectorate the school has to take responsibility for associated problems taking place outside of the school grounds.

DS advised that work to reduce the amount of public transport to the school was still ongoing.

DM advised that he had contacted highways to try and get School Lane added to the gritting route but had been told this could not be done. DM has contacted the school who has agreed to advise all parents to take care on the road in cold icy weather after turning off the gritted A34.

11. **Planning 14/12**  
a) Weekly planning lists – circulated by email
12. **Chairs remarks & reports from members attending external meetings 14/13**  
JR brought two meetings/issues to the attention of MPC:  
  - Invitation to join the Stakeholder Panel – this group is aimed at looking after the welfare of elderly residents but at present MPC has not put themselves forward to join.
  - PCC John Dwyer is coming up for re-election therefore this would be a good time to raise any issues we have or points we would like to. This should be done by emailing JR, LS or John Dwyer.
13. **Correspondence 14/14**  
a) All correspondence has been circulated by email or was available to view at meeting.
14. **Finance 14/15**  
a) Cash Book and bank reconciliation – circulated, agreed and signed.  
b) Cheques totalling £461.47 - agreed and signed.
15. **Any other business 14/16**  
a) Village Meeting 2014:  
  - Clerk to invite PCSO Cash. **Clerk**
  - 15 min presentation by Rev Ian Arch
  - LS to invite Cllr David Brown to speak on CEC's vision for Marton and Cheshire in light of the local core strategy. **LS**
  - It was agreed that the third speaker should be something of a lighter more entertaining nature. All suggestions to be sent to JR who will organise. **JR**  
b) Cheshire East Leisure Centres – LS advised that from April these will be run by trusts that are accountable to CEC and will hopefully provide a better service.  
c) ChALC AGM Feedback – DM advised that an email had been received asking for feedback from those who had attended. He said he felt it would be worth a representative from MPC attending local ChALC meetings and it was agreed that JR will try to attend this year and that this may be shared between parish council members.  
d) Irrelevant Emails – DM advised that there seem to be a large number of emails forwarded to Parish Councillors that are not relevant. It was agreed that the Clerk would try to do more filtering on messages forwarded but would not be held responsible if a message not forwarded was later deemed to be relevant. **Clerk**
16. **Dates of next meetings: 14/17**  
10<sup>th</sup> February 2014  
10<sup>th</sup> March 2014(Annual Village Meeting)  
12<sup>th</sup> May 2014 (AGM)  
7<sup>th</sup> July 2014  
8<sup>th</sup> September 2014  
8<sup>th</sup> December 2014

**Meeting Closed at 9.45pm**