

**Marton Parish Council**  
**Clerk: Andrew Simpson**  
**The Spinney, School Lane**  
**Email: [marton.clerk@gmail.com](mailto:marton.clerk@gmail.com)**

Meeting of the Parish Council held at  
7.30 Monday 13 December 2021 via Zoom.

1. Attendance: Present: John Ryland (Chair)(JR), Barrie Nolan (BN), Sue Webborn (SW), Lucy Nixon (LN), David McGowan (DM).  
Apologies: Sue Platt (SP), Julia Short (PCSO)(JS)  
In Attendance: Andrew Simpson (Clerk)(AS), Cllr Lesley Smetham (LS).
2. Minutes and Matters Arising:
  - a. It was noted that although not officially approved this meeting was via Zoom in response to member concerns over Covid at a sensitive time approaching Christmas. All members were in agreement.
  - b. The minutes as previously presented were approved.
3. Matters arising:
  - a. A discussion took place regarding a co-opted member to replace Dick Schwendener and a name was put forward to approach. JR to approach the name suggested.
4. Footpaths:
  - a. Cherry Barrow farm footpath is in poor condition following recent building work but no action yet, monitor and report back at the next meeting.
  - b. Carry forward of previous issues:
    - i. Robert Sims has offered to try and move the haylage spill on the A34.
    - ii. Weedkilling will not take place before the spring 2022 emergence, Peter Davis has offered.
5. PCSO:
  - a. November report already circulated.
  - b. LS gave a report on the recent proposed Police boundary review.
  - c. JR expressed concern that control of the local PCSO's could be relocated to the Knutsford area. LS would enquire about this suggestion and how it might affect the Parish.
6. Planning Applications:
  - a. Marton Meadows Golf club; a number of applications were still outstanding:
    - i. 20/4440M Driving range.
    - ii. 21/3874M Change of Use to Hotel.
    - iii. 21/3873M Extension to Club House.
    - iv. 21/5311M Two new houses; a question about Jodrell Bank notified or responded.
  - b. 21/5778M 'The Shippon' Moss bank farm: Extension, Not Decided, due 22/01/2022.
  - c. 21/1233M Brickyard Farm; No decision but very overdue, owners expressing frustration.
  - d. 21/2290M Church House Farm House; Rear extension, Approved.
  - e. 21/2017M Church Farm Barns; change of use to Hotel, not decided.
  - f. 20/4217M Cherry Barrow Farm detached garage; Allowed at appeal.
  - g. 21/4824M Cherry Barrow farm garage height increase; No decision.

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- h. Cherry Barrow farm hedgerow issue; although the council had visited and concluded no problem existed JR would ask CPRE for comment about longer term damage.
  - i. Barlows Agri; there has been no response from Enforcement Team and LS will make enquiries.
  - j. Eaton Bank Quarry Liaison: LS will check with dorothey at Eaton PC who co-ordinates the meetings to ensure JR is included.
  - k. Jodrell Bank consultation paper: DM is working through this long and complicated paper on the Parish behalf.
  - l. LS commented that we were not alone in expressing concern that many applications were now very overdue; this was due to a shortage of staff and Covid issues, but CE were trying to address the issue by recruiting more Planning Officers.
7. Environmental Plan:
- a. John Percival has asked for £150 toward replacement hawthorn whips, most of the free donated plants have failed to take. This was approved.
  - b. John Percival was proposing to thin/prune trees along School Lane.
  - c. JR has approached CE re Pond rejuvenation but so far no response.
8. School Liaison:
- a. Mirror at the end of Oak lane/School Lane is still pending, JR to progress.
  - b. Nothing else to report.
9. Village Maintenance:
- a. Most of the signs have now been replaced, DM is waiting for repair to verge on the North A34, due this spring.
  - b. The existing sign will be re-used on Mill Lane.
  - c. All the signs (including the pond warning signs) have been actioned within budget.
  - d. Wilding of the Green; extra plugs have been planted to encourage more activity. Although little showed through apart from Yellow Rattle last year BN reported that it may take more than one year for the existing seeding to establish, although John Percival is suggesting re-seeding again.
  - e. JR suggested more side roads could be planted but comments concluded this would have to be done in areas not affected by traffic damage and also with CE approval.
  - f. Circle Renovation on The Green; Phil Sims is quoting £3500 for the work to re-lay a stone circle, plus the cost of the stone estimated at about £2500 JR will obtain formal quotes to allow applications to MIA and Tarmac regeneration funds, the Council may need to match fund this.; there may be some extra costs (New noticeboard) on top of this.
  - g. Telephone Box; No progress but JR is still making enquiries.
  - h. Village Asset List; AS is to complete for comment.
  - i. Planters: One was damaged and repaired with strapping, others are now showing signs of age and may need similar support; BN and JR to co-ordinate on any action required. The planters have been emptied for the winter and BN will propose a planting scheme for the Spring.
10. Welcome Pack:
- a. SP is still keen to progress this project.
  - b. How do the Parish 'discover' new residents and notify Clerk or SP.

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11. Highways:

- a. Speed cameras; JR reported that it is unlikely any action will happen in the short term.
- b. LS reported that CHALC have put forward a number of speed restriction schemes although she did not think A34 was amongst them but no action is pending. JR asked LS for contact details for those at CHALC handling this issue.
- c. JR has had no response from Andy Simpson at CE re replenishing Grit Buckets; LS reported that it may be possible to make the request online.

12. Website(s);

- a. Nothing to report, websites are up to date.

13. Finance:

- a. Before approving the Precept application (due January 2022) AS will distribute current finance and forecast figures.
- b. Payment list was to be distributed.
- c. AS to prepare more regular Finance and Forecast figures.

14. Community Governance:

- a. The survey response to the leaflet drop was that 23 out of 130 households responded with many reporting that 'all members of the household' had responded objecting to the proposed boundary changes.
- b. CE will consider the responses and submit their recommendation to the Boundary Commission in May 2022.
- c. LS has a list of other bodies that the Parish could lobby on this issue; JR will speak to LS about an appropriate response.

15. Chair:

- a. The Queens Jubilee Celebration proposed beacons and bonfires; JR will explore further.

16. Correspondence:

- a. None received.

17. Clerk:

- a. The clerk has indicated that he does not wish to continue beyond march/April 2022 and will start the process of looking for a replacement.
  - i. CHALC have adverts for Clerks in the local area.
  - ii. AS will prepare a Job Description, Rate Card and draft Contract of Employment.
- b. DM reminded members that the clerk was often given very little notice of members responses to planning applications; please can they respond to DM so he can draft a response in good time that all can see before sending.

18. Meetings:

- a. It was noted that for the time being SP would have an issue with meetings on Monday's as she worked that night; proposed date below would mostly be the nearest Tuesday.
- b. It was proposed that the Annual Village Meeting might be a more informal 'social' meeting in view of possible Covid restrictions so no formal speakers or themes are being put forward. LS suggested that some councils are preparing 'story boards' to show the activities of the Parish Council including current and historical photos.

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- c. Members are encouraged to look out suitable local photos.
- d. The village New Year walk may take place over the weekend of 31 Dec/1 Jan, JR to notify regular walkers.

Proposed dates of next Meetings:

- a) Tuesday 8<sup>th</sup> February 2022
- b) Tuesday 22 March 2022 (possible Village meeting, see above)
- c) Tuesday 17<sup>th</sup> May 2022
- d) Tuesday 19<sup>th</sup> July 2022