

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

Meeting of the Parish Council held at  
7.30 Tuesday 8<sup>th</sup> February in the School Hall.

1. Attendance:
  - a. Present: John Ryland (Chair)(JR), Barrie Nolan (BN), Sue Webborn (SW), Lucy Nixon (LN), David McGowan (DM), Sue Platt (SP).
  - b. In Attendance: Andrew Simpson (Clerk)(AS), Cllr Lesley Smetham (LS), Julia Short (PCSO)(JS)
  - c. Parishioners: None
2. Minutes and Matters Arising:
  - a. The minutes as previously presented were approved.
  - b. It was noted that the prior meeting (13<sup>th</sup> December) having been via Zoom, for the avoidance of doubt all decisions taken at that meeting are hereby ratified.
3. Matters arising:
  - a. The Chair noted with sadness the passing of Darren Cooke, a valuable member of the community who had participated generously in Parish matters.
  - b. The matter of an alternative Councillor remains unresolved, for further discussion.
4. Footpaths:
  - a. There are no reports of issues that have arisen since the last report.
  - b. It is noted that the footpath from Davenport Arms through to Rigby's has been cleared of excessive growth, is now nice and tidy.
  - c. Thanks to J Potts who has removed the haylage spill.
5. PCSO:
  - a. JS reported that there were concerns about possible Hare Coursing activities in the local area, including on Davenport Lane and Messuage Lane , details of a vehicle and its occupants have been taken but residents are urged to report suspicious activity either on 101 (slow to respond at times) or via the Cheshire Police web, which has a better response time. [Home | Cheshire Constabulary](#)
  - b. A new form of bank fraud is causing concern; this involves the caller suggesting that an App be downloaded on to the victims phone to prevent activity on a victims web accounts, such as Amazon. Do not respond.
  - c. Any discussion about speed control on the A34 Monks Heath – Congleton has not reached the PCSO yet.
  - d. It was noted with sadness that Julia Short is due to retire shortly and that there are no current plans to replace her. Gary, our beat officer, remains in post for now although he too is due for retirement within the next year or so.
6. Planning Applications:
  - a. 20/4440M and 21/6443; these appear to be linked, the former being a joint application that the council responded to, the later being a new application. There was considerable concern about the scale of the new application which involved a huge land reclamation scheme that was projected to last up to 36 months and involved considerable vehicle movements. Some of the concerns centred around the possible damage to the fragile Church structure from the movements, and any

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contamination of the stream over which the vehicles would pass. There was also a concern that infilling appeared to have started before the Environment Agency Licence and planning had been obtained. The Parish Council were concerned enough to suggest that an approach to the Church (Ian Arch has been advised) and John Percival, who has an interest in environmental issue, would be appropriate. Other interested parties may be CPRE and English Waterways.

- b. Marlon Meadows Golf Club also have the following applications still in progress awaiting decisions:
    - i. 21/3478M, conversion of barn to hotel.
    - ii. 21/3873M Extension of existing club house.
    - iii. 21/5311M construction of two new houses.
  - c. 21/5778M , The Shippon Moss bank farm, not decided.
  - d. 21/1233M Brickyard farm, Approved.
  - e. 21/2017M Church Farm Barns, not decided.
  - f. 21/4824 Cherry Barrow garage height extension, not decided.
  - g. Barlows Agri enforcement action, LS will enquire as to possible progress.
  - h. Cherry Barrow farm hedge damage, CPRE were being consulted about longer term damage.
  - i. Eaton Quarry Liaison; JR confirmed he has been listed as a member. The recent test bore results to extend the quarry have not been released.
  - j. Jodrell Bank Consultation; DM reported that this was a complicated and technical document but appeared to give Jodrell Bank power to block development that may harm their research within the catchment area.
  - k. 22/0403M Mere Barns small extensions; the councillors had no objections and the Clerk was asked to record this on the application.
  - l. 22/0391M Mere House extension; the councillors had no objections and the Clerk was asked to record this on the application.
  - m. 21/6471M Greenacres; LN being an interested party withdrew from the discussion. There were no objections and JR commended this initiative and agreed with LN on here return that her husband may be prepared to discuss this project with any interested parish members. There were no objections and the Clerk was asked to record this on the application.
  - n. A discussion took place about the recent transfer of ownership of the land on the west side of the A34 opposite the Church, a plot of approximately 4 acres. This is now being offered for sale at auction with a suggested opportunity for further development. Concern was expressed that the cost of dealing with these kinds of applications, which had a low prospect of success for the applicant, were expensive and time consuming for both CE and the local Parish Council.
7. Environmental;
- a. The hawthorn whips have been purchased and planted.
  - b. Trees on Holly lane were due for pruning.
8. School Liaison;
- a. The mirrors on School Lane were ready for installation, waiting for an improvement of the weather.
  - b. Footprints Nursery; no update.

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9. Village Maintenance;
  - a. One sign remains to be erected.
  - b. Circle on the green; no update.
  - c. Telephone Box; this opportunity has now passed.
  - d. Asset List, members suggested some update to the list.
10. Welcome Pack;
  - a. SP confirmed she was now in a position to dedicate some time to this.
11. Highways and Road safety;
  - a. JR was in touch with Siddington PC and any updates would be reported back by him.
  - b. There was a discussion on speed limits through the village.
  - c. The Grit Buckets have not been refilled, but the winter has so far proved mild.
  - d. JR will write to LS to ask about the rationale behind the new crash barrier along the A34 close to Cocks Moss Lane.
12. Website;
  - a. Nothing to report although LN will review it and refresh as appropriate.
13. Finance:
  - a. The accounts and budget were available but had not changed since the last meeting.
  - b. The members were invited to consider how some of the current surplus could be spent to the benefit of the Parish.
14. Community Governance;
  - a. LS now has a proposed timetable for this project which she will share with JR
15. Chair;
  - a. A discussion took place about possible events centred around the Queens Jubilee weekend and some ideas were put forward, to be discussed at the village meeting in March.
16. Correspondence: none
17. Any Other Business; LS commented on the title of this section.
18. Cheshire East update;
  - a. LS reported on the current main issues facing CE, including Budgets, Road maintenance and other matters.
19. Other Matters:
  - a. DM reported that he would be unable to respond to planning issues for a while and asked that others should keep an eye out for any matters that arise.
  - b. The advert for the Parish Clerk was approved in principal subject to some minor changes; This could be circulated via CHALC, the Parish Magazine and the Parish mailing list. The draft Contract of employment was noted. The hours were noted as being an increase on those currently charged, reflected in the 2022/23 budget.
20. Dates of next meetings: Please note that I have suggested Tuesday dates going forward.
  - a. Tuesday 22<sup>nd</sup> March 2022 (Village Meeting)
  - b. Tuesday 17<sup>th</sup> May 2022
  - c. Tuesday 19<sup>th</sup> July 2022
  - d. Tuesday 13<sup>th</sup> September 2022
  - e. Tuesday 29<sup>th</sup> November 2022
  - f. Tuesday 7<sup>th</sup> February 2023

Meeting closed at 21:25