

# Minutes of the Parish Council Meeting held on Tuesday 16<sup>th</sup> July at 7.30pm at Marton Primary School

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## Part 1 Public and press present

### Present

Cllr. John Rylands  
Cllr. Sue Webborn  
Cllr. Lucy Nixon  
Cllr. Barrie Nolan  
Cllr. Phil Cheetham  
Cllr. Alistair Goodwin  
Cllr. David McGowan  
Elizabeth Worrall – Clerk

### Apologies

Cllr. Lesley Smetham – Ward Councillor

## **PART 1 - PUBLIC AND PRESS**

There will be an opportunity for public participation at the start of the meeting at the discretion of the Chairman. This period will last for no longer than 15 minutes.

Two members of the public were in attendance and shared some frustrations regarding communications from Cheshire East and regarding planning issues at their property. They will liaise with the Clerk to confirm their issues in writing and the Clerk will pass on to Councillors.

### **1. To receive and approve apologies for absence**

There were no apologies for absence.

### **2. To receive any declarations of interest**

There were no declarations of interest.

### **3. To receive and resolve to approve the minutes of the Parish Council meeting held on 20th May 2024**

Cllr. McGowan wished to amend the May minutes to emphasise that the Council had stopped donating to the Church several years ago; he felt that the minutes implied that this had stopped recently. The Clerk will amend the minutes to reflect this and the minutes will be approved at the September meeting.

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Minutes of the Parish Council Meeting 16<sup>th</sup> July 2024

Signed

Dated

**4. To receive an update on footpaths**

Cllr. Webborn mentioned that the path from the Church, opposite the field, has now become overgrown. This was noted by the Council.

**5. To receive an update on planning applications**

**a) Marton Meadows Golf Club**

**i) 21/6443 - Extension Including landfill**

This issue is now closely tied to both Barlows and Cherry Barrow Farm. The Clerk has sent an e-mail to Cheshire East planning, and this has been noted by Planning and sent to Planning Enforcement.

John Rylands will e-mail Lesley Smetham to try and arrange a meeting with the Councillor who in charge of planning.

John Rylands showed some pictures to the Council of some waste rubble – the council reviewed these and felt that the rubble was typical builders' rubble.

It was **RESOLVED** that a polite e-mail will be sent to Marton Meadows enquiring as to how long the works will last (drafted by DM and then to be sent by the Clerk).

**ii) 20/4440M - Driving Range**

The nets appear to be working – there have been no reports of stray golf balls received by Councillors.

**iii) 24/2357M – car park**

The carpark is being sought to encourage the growth of the business. The Council **RESOLVED** to submit a response of “no objections.”

**b) Barlows**

See note above under 5ai)

**c) Cherry Barrow Farm**

**i) tipped soil and debris**

See note above under 5ai)

**ii) 22/4221M - Construction of a new stable block**

This is still undecided.

**d) Brookside Cottage 22/4146M.**

This is still undecided.

**e) Sandpit Farm 23/1363M**

This has been completed and will be removed from the agenda ahead.

**f) Marton Church**

This has been reported to planning enforcement by the Clerk and the Council are awaiting a response. Cllr. Nolan fed back that the Parochial Council was in touch with Cheshire East Planning.

Cllr. Nolan also fed back that the Parochial Council were happy to retain the current location of the SID.

**6. To receive an update on Marton Primary School**

There was no update from Marton Primary School. Cllr. Rylands had contacted them asking whether a poo bag bin could be re-sited next to the school's hedge (outside the school grounds) to make this more visible for villagers.

**7. To receive an update on Village Maintenance Projects**

**a) Marton Environmental Plan**

John Percival has been in touch and has asked for a further extension on the Plan. He wishes to extend the scope of the work taking place on Chapel Brook and this is taking some time for him to detail his proposals to increase the habitat for wildlife. Cllr. Nixon shared that there is a bursary in place for organisations seeking to improve waterways – this will be circulated to John Percival, Cllr. Rylands and the Clerk for their review.

**b) Planters**

It was noted that the planters were full and were looking well. The Parish Council noted one incident where cows were loose and some of the plants have been damaged. These plants will need to be replaced. The gate is now being reinforced, to avoid a repeat incident! Cllr. Cheetham will replace the damaged plants at no cost to the Council, Cllr. Nolan presented a cheque to the Council on behalf of the school.

**c) Oak Lane / Oak View Hedges**

The Local Highways officer is now involved and has asked Cheshire East property services to cut the hedge. It was **RESOLVED** to install new white posts at a cost of no more than £250.00.

**d) Village Green**

It was note that Cheshire East Highways had inadvertently cut the wildflower meadow on the Village Green. Cllr. Rylands and Cllr. Goodwin will meet Cheshire East Highways next week to discuss what rectification could be made. Cllr. Rylands shared that he had not heard back regarding the application from TARMAC for the grant – the Clerk shared that, at the recent liaison meeting, TARMAC were making changes for their grant policy.

The paths need to be cleaned, the bench needs to be repainted, the hedge needs to be cut on the Spinney and other maintenance work needs to be completed. Cllr. Cheetham suggested that this was best tackled over two Saturdays – tackling the Village Green on one Saturday and the Spinney the week after. It was **RESOLVED** that any volunteers should meet on the Village Green at 10.30am on the 3<sup>rd</sup> August and the 10<sup>th</sup> August. The Clerk will send an e-mail asking for volunteers. Cllr. Rylands, Nolan and Cheetham will arrange to collect the paint from last year for this to be re-used again.

**e) Wildflowers**

See note above.

**f) Litter pick**

There was nothing to report.

**g) Litter signs**

These litter signs will be purchased alongside the dog waste signs, for a similar budget. Please see Item 7h) below.

**h) Dog mess**

See note above in Item 6. It was noted that there has been an increase in dog fouling. The Council **RESOLVED** to spend c. £250.00 on dog waste signs and litter signs.

**8. To receive an update on Village Matters**

**a) Coffee Mornings / Davenport Arms**

Cllr. Rylands proposed that a series of coffee mornings was to be held over the autumn. These will take place at the Davenport at dates to be confirmed. These will not be held on the second Wednesday of the month as this will clash with Eaton Church's dates.

**b) Marton Wakes**

Cllr. Nolan said preparations were well under way and hoped that it would be a well-attended event. Cllr. Webborn asked whether the total raised by the fete would be made available – Cllr. Nolan confirmed that it would be. Cllr. Rylands wished to extend the Parish Council's goodwill towards the event.

**9. To receive an update on Highway and road safety matters**

Cllr. Rylands will ask Andy Simpson regarding the cleaning of road signs at their meeting next week, repairs to the damaged sign on Cocksmiss Lane and a replacement road sign for the village on the Corner of Hodgehill Lane. These will not be repaired in the immediate future.

Cllr. Goodwin had reported a damaged sign. Cllr. Rylands and Cllr. McGowan will visit the damaged sign on Cocksmoss Lane to assess repairs that are needed. The Clerk will circulate the details of the ward budget PowerPoint shared by Lesley Smetham.

Cllr. Goodwin noted that some of the potholes on Oak Lane have been repaired.

**10. To receive an update on the Parish Council website**

**11. To receive and resolve to approve the accounts for payment:**

BALANCE OF ACCOUNT = £5,009.15 as of the end of May 2024

**PAYMENTS MADE**

None – June bank statement was not available at the time of meeting

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#### PAYMENTS RECEIVED

£60.00 Planters Contribution from school

#### PAYMENTS TO BE APPROVED

£20.00 Cheshire Community Action Membership

£250.00 Budget figure for dog waste and litter signs

£60.00 DM Payroll

£142.40 HMRC (Quarter 1)

£14.40 The Best Garden Services (Spruce Tree)

£96.24 Plants (Ashley Waller – to be reimbursed to Cllr. Cheetham)

£5.60 Compost (Ashley Waller – to be reimbursed to Cllr. Cheetham)

£250.00 Maximum budget to be spent on white posts – Cllr. Goodwin to review and confirm

£51.07 Perspex and nuts/bolts – to be reimbursed to Cllr. Rylands

Bank Reconciliation to be reviewed and signed by the Chair

It was **RESOLVED** to approve the above payments. The Clerk noted that she has completed a VAT return and is hoping that funds will be released.

#### **12. To discuss current processes for online payments and suggested amendments**

Cllr. Rylands shared that he feels that the system is working well and efficiently. As the number of signatories is increasing, it was **RESOLVED** that all payment requests must come from to the Clerk.

#### **13. To review the Council's asset register**

The Clerk will combine the two asset registers (compiling her list and the list from the previous Clerk). This will be circulated to Councillors. All items that have not been reported to PKF will be included on the asset register at a zero value.

#### **14. To receive updates from any members attending external meetings**

No members had attended external meetings. There was no correspondence of note.

The Clerk confirmed that Melusine Velde, from Cheshire Wildlife Trust, has been engaged to speak at the next Village Meeting in March 2025.

#### **15. To note any other correspondence, including a report from the Cheshire East Ward Councillor (if present) and the PCSO**

Cllr. Smetham had sent her apologies. There was no update from Cheshire Police.

**16. Any other business**

There was no other business.

**17. To note the date of the next meeting 17th September 2024**

### **Action Points**

- The Clerk will amend the minutes of May 2024 and will present these for approval at the September meeting.
- JR to contact Lesley Smetham to follow up on arranging a meeting with the Councillor in charge of the planning committee
- The Clerk will submit a comment of no objections to 24/2357M.
- DM to draft, and the Clerk to send, an e-mail to Marton Meadows, enquiring to the progress of their construction.
- The Clerk to share a reminder to the Village, asking for assistance at the working parties.
- JR, PC and BN to arrange for the paint to be available for the working party.
- AG to arrange for the purchase of white posts with a maximum budget of £250.00.
- JR and DM to arrange for the purchase of dog waste and litter signs (budget figure of £250.00 including wooden posts).
- JR and DM to visit the sign on Cocks Moss Lane and see if any rectification work is needed.
- The Clerk to circulate details of the ward budget with all Councillors.
- The Clerk will combine the two asset registers and will circulate this to all Councillors for their review.
- JR and AG to review the land registry to check on the Council pond.