

MARCHAM PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of a meeting of Marcham Parish Council held on Monday 11th April, 2022 commencing at 7.30 p.m., held in the village hall, Barrow Close, Marcham.

Present:

Sheena Bigden, Keely Ewart-Brookes, Mark Harvie, Michael Hoath (Chairman), Tony Mackeworth, Ruth Mander, James Plumb
Clerk: Linda Martin
Joined by Cllr. Catherine Webber (District Councillor) and Cllr Richard Webber (County Councillor) (7.35 p.m.)
1 member of the public

- 2022/45 Apologies for Absence
Apologies for absence had been received from Sandra Hill (away) and Suzanne Saunter (family unwell).
- 2022/46 Declarations of Interest
There were no declarations of interest.
- 2022/47 Minutes of the Meeting held on 14th March, 2022
The minutes of the meeting held on 14th March 2022 were approved and signed by the Chairman as a correct record of the meeting.
- 2022/48 Matters Arising from the meeting held on 14th March, 2022

20 mph zones
Council noted that the application for Howard Cornish Road the section of the A415 through the AQMA had been supported by Cllr. Webber and an acknowledgement received from the County Council. A request for evidence of need, had been received from them.
- 2022/49 Cllrs. Richard and Catherine Webber joined the meeting.
- 2022/50 Public Participation
Mr. Warren Brooker, Chairman of The Willows Farm Management Company Ltd addressed the Council in regards to footpath links and planning enforcement action by the District Council at The Willows and Monks Walk.
Mr. Brooker then left the meeting.
- 2022/51 Planning Applications

a) Decisions on previous applications

P20/V2388/0 Erection of 90 houses (Use Class C3) including means of access, but not internal roads, with all other matters reserved.
Permitted 1st April, 2022

P22/V0252/HH Erection of 2 storey front extension and single storey rear extension
29 Kings Avenue
Permitted 29th March, 2022

P22/V0159/LB Repair and restoration works to rear lean to roof, including replacement water goods
Old Rose Cottage 44 North Street
Permitted 29th March, 2022

P21/V3498/HH Single storey, flat roof garden room comprising sauna, changing room and toilet/shower with hot-tub on decking for ancillary use only.
Beechfield House
Permitted 18th March, 2022

P21/V3164/HH Erection of 2m high wooden fence
The Old Bakehouse 4 North Street
Refused 16th March, 2022

b) Applications dealt with under delegated powers prior to the meeting

P21/V3297/FUL Erection of 2 storey detached 4 bedroom dwelling within the garden area of the existing dwelling
8a The Gap (amended plans)
Comments: The amended plans did not take into account the Council's earlier concerns, so the previous comments were still applicable.

c) Applications considered at the meeting

P22/V0770/HH Single storey infill extension linking house to garage
7 Anson Close
Comments: Council had no objection but queried the outbuilding which appeared to be forward of the building line.

d) Planning correspondence

Council noted that a Tree Preservation Order had been placed on White Hart wood, Blackgate Lane. It would be confirmed in due course after the period for comments had expired and they had been reviewed.

RESOLVED:

that this Council had no comments to make on the Tree Preservation Order

e) Planning Enforcement – The Willows / Monks Walk

Council noted the comments from the member of the public. Cllr. Webber summarised the position as far as the District Council was concerned. It was noted that there were 2 paths to link The Willows to Monks Walk shown on the original planning application. The Council's focus had been on interconnected communities. A planning application was expected and that the process of making comments on the application would cause further review. As the planning enforcement issue had been outstanding since 2018, the Council re-confirmed its position and

RESOLVED:

that it supported the principle of 2 paths as per the original outline planning application drawing, in accordance with the principles of an interconnected village.

2022/52

District Councillor's Report – Cllr. Catherine Webber

Ukraine – Humanitarian support

The District Council was operating via the County Council where staff were co-ordinating and finding accommodation to offer. The accommodation was being checked by Vale staff.

“Glitterball” – Electric Bin Lorry trial

An electric bin lorry was being trialled in towns in both the Vale of White Horse District Council and South Oxfordshire District Council areas.

Climate Action Fund - £50,000 was available for grants to support climate change initiatives. Grants available were between £250 and £5,000.

Tree Planting Policy – Vale of White Horse District Council

Cllr. Catherine Webber reminded members of the policy and availability of trees for planting on District Council land within parishes.

Grant funding – Household Support Fund

Government had allocated a further £500m to support those struggling to afford essentials. Further details were awaited.

2022/53

County Councillor's Report – Cllr. Richard Webber

Ukraine crisis

County Council staff were helping with the support for Ukrainian people.

Bridleway 17 bridge repair – Mill Road

Cllr. Webber confirmed that the repair was on track for a mid Summer start date.

Barrow Close – junction with Morland Road

Various options had been considered to improve sight lines for pedestrians crossing the entrance. The County Councillor's priority fund would pay for a mirror to be sited on private land which would enable pedestrians walking southwards along the Morland Road footway, to have a view around the corner into Barrow Close entrance.

2022/54

It was proposed by the Chairman and agreed by Council that the agenda item relating to Climate Action Fund grants be taken as the next item whilst the District Councillor was present.

2022/55

Vale of White Horse District Council – Climate Action Fund grants
Council noted that the Church was considering an application to the District Council’s fund, for nature recovery work in the Churchyard. Full details were awaited but included a Forest Churchyard, increasing the nature value with sensory spaces and seating,

RESOLVED:

- (i) that this Council supports in principle, the application by the Parochial Church Council to the District Council for funding from the Climate Action Fund towards its Churchyard project.,
- (ii) that delegated power be given to the Clerk in consultation with the “green” working party to deal with any other issues in regards to the application without reference back to full Council

2022/57

Cllrs. Richard and Catherine Webber left the meeting at 8.40 p.m.

2022/58

Community Facilities

Council considered a queries from the Anson Trust in regards to the formal opening of the facilities, and signage at entry points to the field. It was understood that Marcham Community Group were dealing with these issues.

RESOLVED:

that a letter be sent to Marcham Community Group by way of reminder and to enquire what arrangements had been made,

2022/59

Neighbourhood Plan

Tony Mackelworth provided an update on the steering group’s discussions on a Neighbourhood Plan versus Placemaking plan. It was noted that the adjacent parish of Frilford was not undertaking a Neighbourhood Plan, and it would be appropriate for representatives from Frilford to participate in the working groups to ensure overlapping and connectivity. The steering group was asked to consider what information was needed for the annual meeting of electors.

RESOLVED:

- (i) that the Council proceed with a Neighbourhood Plan rather than a Placemaking Plan.
- (ii) that the terms of reference for the steering group and supporting statement be adopted
- (iii) that the Steering Group proceed to lodge with the Vale of White Horse District Council, the plan of the proposed designated area based on the parish boundary.

- 2022/60 Annual Meeting for Electors
Council discussed the arrangements for the annual parish meeting, including means of advertising (Marcham and District News, village facebook page and leaflet drop) and refreshments. The guest speaker was Ricardo Rios Neighbourhood Planning officer from the Vale of White Horse District Council who would give a presentation about Neighbourhood planning.
- 2022/61 Environmental Issues
James Plumb gave a report on environmental/climate change issues. One target could be the Neighbourhood Plan which could include policies on many items. General discussion followed.
- 2022/62 Decisions made under delegated powers since the last meeting
Council noted that ADM Trees had been instructed to deal with arboretum trees.
- 2022/63 Correspondence
a) Oxfordshire County Council – Challow Road Wantage – closed 13th 15th June 2022.
b) Vale of White Horse District Council – Notification of increased fees in car parking and reduction of the free 2 hours to 1 hour with effect from 4th April 2022.
c) Oxfordshire County Council – Hitchcose Footpath has been formally included in a Modification Order.
d) Oxfordshire Association of Local Councils – Circular March
e) Harding Way – Request from the Church to use the public open space in Harding way for a Good Friday event. It was agreed that no objections be raised provided the site was assessed for its suitability, and proof of insurance and a risk assessment was provided.
- 2022/64 Accounts
The list of payments had been circulated to members, and Council noted the cheques numbered 3498 to 3505, plus cemetery grass cutting costs, and authorised payments in the sum of £6671.13 in respect of administration costs, play area checks, litter picking, grass cutting, allotment fence repairs and tree work.

Council reviewed signatories for the bank accounts following the resignation of Tanya Rosenfeld.

It was

RESOLVED:

that the following be signatories be appointed and bank mandates updated again

- (i) Cambridge Building Society: Ruth Mander and Sandra Hill
- (ii) Nationwide Building Society: Sheena Bigden and James Plumb
- (iii) Newbury Building Society: Ruth Mander and James Plumb

- (iv) Nat West Bank: Ruth Mander, Sandra Hill, Sheena Bigden, James Plumb and Suzanne Saunter
- (v) that the Clerk also be added, where required to all accounts for administrative purposes if required by the financial institution.

2022/65 Matters Raised by Members

Resignation Keely Ewart-Brookes

Keely Ewart-Brookes advised that she was going to have to resign from the Council as her husband was going to work abroad and she was leaving the country. Advice was offered on the process for resignation.

Parishioner of the Year

The working group was considering possible certificates which could be presented at a future date.

Sewage Pump – Barrow Close

A question was asked as to how Thirsty Café disposed of oil remaining after cooking in the village hall kitchen, as the sewage pump which served the houses and the hall in Barrow Close had experienced difficulties owing to a fat build up. The Clerk was asked to raise this with Marcham Community Group.

2022/66 Items for Marcham and District News

The Clerk would prepare an article for MAD News. Items suggested were the annual meeting for electors and the vacancy on the Parish Council following the resignation of Tanya Rosenfeld, and likely vacant seat should Keely Ewart-Brookes resign.

2022/67 Date of Next Meeting

The next meeting would be held on Monday 9th May, 2022 at 7.30 p.m. in the village hall.

The meeting closed at 9.15 p.m.

Signed Date

