

## MARCHAM PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of the meeting of Marcham Parish Council held on Monday 13<sup>th</sup> February, 2023 commencing at 7.30 p.m. held in the village hall, Barrow Close Marcham

Present:

Chitvan Amin, Sheena Bigden, Mark Harvie, Michael Hoath (Chairman),  
Sandra Hill, James Plumb

Clerk: Mrs. L. Martin  
4 members of the public

Joined by Ruth Mander (Vice-Chairman) at 7.35 p.m.

The Chairman welcomed everyone to the meeting.

- 2023/24      Apologies for Absence  
Apologies for absence had been received from Suzanne Saunter, and also from Cllr. Richard Webber (County Councillor) and Cllr Catherine Webber (District Councillor).
- 2023/25      Declarations of interest  
There were no declarations of interest declared.
- 2023/26      Minutes of the meeting held on 9<sup>th</sup> January, 2023  
The minutes of the meeting held on 9<sup>th</sup> January 2023 were approved and signed as a correct record.
- 2023/27      Matters arising from the meetings held on the 9<sup>th</sup> January, 2023  
War Memorial Working Party  
The Council's working party, agreed at the last meeting, had been set up. Mark Harvie commented that the first meeting would be held during the first 2 weeks of March.
- Risk Assessment  
A check had been made on the query at the last meeting, of a line entry regarding the risk assessment. There were no missing items. The Chairman asked members to contact the Clerk if they identified items that they wished to include, as the risk assessment was a living document.
- 2023/28      Public Participation  
There were no matters raised by the members of the public attending.
- As some members of the public had attended to hear Council's debate on A338 traffic matters, Council agreed to bring that agenda item forward.
- 2023/29      Ruth Mander joined the meeting.

2023/30

A338 – Traffic Speed

Council discussed correspondence from residents who lived on the A338 regarding, excessive speed, safety issues crossing the road, and lack of footways. A reduction in speed limit had been requested. It was noted that the County Council had reduced the speed on the A415 from 60 mph to 50 mph. It was thought that the same logic could be applied to reduce the speed on the A338 from 50 mph to 40 mph. The residents who attended the meeting, stated that they had sent the correspondence to Frilford parish and Fyfield and Tubney parish as well. Members were made aware that the planning application for alterations to Frilford traffic lights had been approved at planning committee, and it was suggested that perhaps the traffic speed limits in the area could be considered as part of those works.

RESOLVED:

- (i) that the matter be referred to Oxfordshire County Council for further investigation
- (ii) that any correspondence from the Parish Council be sent to other parishes and people involved

2023/31

Planning Matters

a) Decisions on previous applications

P21/V3227/FUL Erection of ball netting around 2 sides of adult football pitch  
Marcham Centre  
Refused 19<sup>th</sup> January, 2023

P22/V0348/FUL Conversion of barn to 3 bed detached dwelling (Bat roost assessment 15<sup>th</sup> June 2022 amended information 26<sup>th</sup> October 2022)  
12 Frilford Road  
Permitted 27<sup>th</sup> January, 2023

P22/V2800/HH Erection of Oak framed garage and home storage and entertainment space  
Manor Farm, Mill Road  
Withdrawn 27<sup>th</sup> January, 2023

b) Planning Committee 25<sup>th</sup> January, 2023 – Frilford Cross Roads  
Michael Hoath had attended this meeting and addressed Planning Committee in regards to an application to change road details at the Frilford cross roads. He gave a report.

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

P22/V2988/LDP Change existing door from timber to UPVC  
4 Mill Road

Comments: Council had no objections provided it was in keeping with the property's adjacent window, and suitable for a conservation area.

d) Applications considered at the meeting

P23/V0233/HH Erection of 4 bay oak framed garage  
Manor Farm, Mill Road

Council noted the amendments to the drawings from the previous application. Queries still remained in regards to an upper room, and residential or agricultural use. Concerns continued to be raised regarding the impact on the area, proximity to the conservation area, the single width access gravel drive, and additional traffic movements, given the fact of no footway at this point in Mill Road.

Comments: that Council raised serious concerns regarding the proposed building as outlined above. That restrictions be imposed on usage, and answers obtained to questions regarding the upper floor.

e) Meeting with Bloor Homes 31<sup>st</sup> January

Council noted that members had met with Bloor Homes on 31<sup>st</sup> January. They had been shown the plan for the site layout and reserved matters application.

2023/32 District Councillor's and County Councillor's Report s- Cllr. Catherine Webber and Cllr. Richard Webber

Owing to the absence of Cllrs. Richard and Catherine Webber, no reports were available.

2023/33 Neighbourhood Plan

Mark Harvie gave a report on a Working Party meeting held in January, 2023. A timeline had been agreed, which he outlined. The next meeting would be held on 27<sup>th</sup> February. It was suggested that a summary of the Neighbourhood Plan progress could be given at the annual meeting of electors.

2023/34 Community Facilities

Sandra Hill gave an update report. A preferred contractor had been selected from 3 proposals. A meeting with the Field Management Committee was required to agree routes to the play area site across sports areas. Consultation was above to commence. Some s. 106 funds were available from the Vale of White Horse District Council.

RESOLVED:

- (i) that the report be noted
- (ii) that Wicksteed Leisure be the preferred Contractor
- (iii) that local consultation as to the draft design commence from 1<sup>st</sup> March for a 12 day period.

- (iv) that an application be lodged for any available s. 106 funding held by the Vale of White Horse District Council
- (v) that CIL monies being held by the Vale Continue to be held by them for the time being.
- (vi) that should a planning application be required, then an application be lodged
- (v) that the Community Shelter idea be revisited once the play area plans had progressed, and items installed. Available space could then be reassessed.

#### Anson Field – Signage

Council had leased the field from The Arthur Anson Memorial Trust, and in turn had sub-let most of it to Marcham Community Group. There was an obligation in both leases for the tenant to erect signage, the wording and locations to be agreed by the Landlord. Council considered the draft wording proposed by the Marcham Community Group. It was thought that rather than state “dogs must be kept under control”, it would be preferable to have the words “dogs must be kept on leads”.

The Clerk reminded members that rights under the Commons Act 2006, and Prescriptions Act 1832 may accrue, if no sign indicating that access was with the express consent of the landowner. It was suggested that the wording should include that access was with such express consent. Members did not accept the Clerk’s recommendation.

#### RESOLVED:

- (i) that the words “dogs must be kept under control”, be changed to “dogs must be kept on leads”
- (ii) that the word “dog” be emphasised.
- (iii) that signage be placed at all the entrances to the site.
- (iv) that the wording be submitted to The Arthur Anson Memorial Trust as Head Landlord.

2023/35

#### Annual Meeting for Electors

Council considered the arrangements for the annual meeting of electors. Owing to the election timetable, it was suggested that the meeting be held on Wednesday 24<sup>th</sup> May. Council considered the possibility of a guest speaker. In order to reduce the length of time taken, it was thought not necessary to have a speaker.

#### RESOLVED:

- (i) that the annual meeting for electors be held on Wednesday 24<sup>th</sup> May, 2023 at 7.30 p.m. in the village hall

- (ii) that no speaker be invited, but retiring and new councillors could attend, and information regarding the Neighbourhood Plan and proposed play area be available.

2023/36 Thames Water – Future of Water Supply in the South East  
General comments were made regarding water supply and the Water Management Resources Plan 2024. Council noted the commencement of local land surveys in connection with the reservoir proposal.

RESOLVED:

that this matter be deferred to the next meeting, as the deadline for commenting was 21<sup>st</sup> March, 2023.

2023/37 The Crown Public House – Asset of Community Value  
Mark Harvie gave a report on a recent meeting of residents that had taken place. It had been agreed to progress the Asset of Community Value application, as a community public house within Marcham was wished for. The local MP was supportive. Discussion took place as to whether the Parish Council, having agreed to be the applicant on behalf of the community group, should also write a letter of support. Support could be indicated in any letter written should the Council lodge the application. Otherwise a separate letter would be written.

2023/38 Parishioner of the Year  
Council considered whether to run the award to be presented in 2023, as the number of applications were minimal.

RESOLVED:

- (i) that the deadline for receipt of applications be extended to the Autumn.
- (ii) that this fact be included in future issues of Marcham and District News.

2023/39 Gigaclear – offer  
Council noted an offer from Gigaclear to provide the sum of £500 towards improving the aesthetics of the corner of Parkside where the fibre cabinet had been installed. Council considered how the funds could be best used.

RESOLVED:

- (i) that the residents close to the cabinet who had previously raised concerns be asked for their views.
- (ii) that the sum of £500 from Gigaclear be accepted

2023/40 Correspondence  
a) Letter – A338 traffic speed limit  
(previously discussed under 2023/30)  
b) Thames Valley Police and Crime Commissioner – newsletter January 2023.

2023/41 Accounts  
Council received a report from the working party on the review of the effectiveness of internal audit in regards to the Parish Council and Marcham and Frilford Joint Burial Committee.

RESOLVED:

that the report be noted and recommendations accepted.

The list of payments had been circulated to Members, and Council noted the cheques numbered 3596 to 3605 and authorised payments in the sum of £3178.35 in respect of administration costs, play area checks, bus shelter cleaning, and new bench seat.

2023/42 Matters Raised by Members

Erection of 90 dwellings – land south of A415

A comment was made that the archaeological survey for Bloor Homes had commenced.

Access through Lion Close to North Street, from the footpath which runs between North St and Abingdon Road

A query was raised regarding pedestrian access through Lion Close which had originally been agreed in regards to the redevelopment of the Institute site. Whilst this had been planned and included as part of the original development plans, it had been removed from the most recent planning approval. The developer had indicated that he would give the access code to anyone who really needed to use that route in preference to using the steps at the end. Comments were made regarding the steps which were difficult to use in frosty, icy weather.

Pill Box – west of Denman College on public footpath 293/14/10

It was reported that possible plant based drugs had been found in the pill box. Mark Harvie agreed to let the landowner know. Ruth Mander agreed to contact PCSO Rich Osborn, and Robert Finch youth worker.

Cow Lane Allotment

A query was raised that a very large shed had been erected on one of the allotment plots. This would be checked.

2023/43 Items for Marcham and District News

The Clerk would prepare an article for MAD News.

2023/44 Date of Next Meeting

The next meeting would be held on Monday 13<sup>th</sup> March, 2023 at 7.30 pm. in the village hall.

The meeting closed at 9.10 p.m.

Signed ..... Date .....