

## MARCHAM PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of a meeting of Marcham Parish Council held on Monday 11th March, 2024 commencing at 7.15 p.m. held in the village hall, Barrow Close Marcham

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Present:

Sheena Bigden, Mark Harvie, (Chairman), Sandra Hill, Michael Hoath, Ruth Mander, Joe Withers  
Clerk: Mrs. L. Martin  
Abigail Brown, arts officer, Vale of White Horse District Council.  
One member of the public

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Prior to the commencement of formal business, Abigail Brown, Arts officer from the Vale of White Horse District Council gave a presentation about art projects using s. 106 planning obligation funding. She provided suggestions and ideas for the Council to consider and explained the process for, and regulations regarding application for funding, and the restrictions involved.

The Chairman thanked her for her presentation and she left the meeting at 7.55 p.m.

2024/54

Apologies for Absence

Apologies had been received from James Plumb.

2024/55

Resignation – Chitvan Amin

Council noted that the Chairman had just received a letter of resignation from Chitvan Amin. The Clerk would take steps to advise the Vale of White Horse District Council and post the formal notice of Casual Vacancy required.

2024/56

Declarations of Interest

There were no declarations of interest.

2024/57

Public Participation

The member of the public introduced herself.

2024/58

District Councillor's Report (Cllr. Robert Clegg)

A written report submitted by Cllr. Clegg in advance of the meeting, had been circulated and read by members.

Willow Farm / Monks Walk footpath link – Cllr. Clegg continued to speak with the Vale of White Horse District Council regarding this planning enforcement matter.

Highway Verge – Grass Cutting

Vale of White Horse District Council had completed the update to the GIS mapping. A plan showing the area to be maintained by the Vale of White Horse District Council would be provided.

Howard Cornish Road – Caravan

The layby where the caravan was parked was in the ownership of the Vale of White Horse District Council, but had been dedicated to the

County Council as part of the highway. The County Council was therefore responsible for the area. However, the caravan had been removed, and was no longer in the layby. The situation would be monitored.

Parkside

The access road off Parkside to the flats at the rear of the eastern allotments had been raised with the property section as repairs were needed. Cllr. Clegg was waiting for a detailed response.

Kings Avenue / The Farthings – Tree Debris

Following high winds, debris from trees had appeared in the open public space areas, and along the verge to the rear of 1-4 The Farthings. The parks department at the Vale of White Horse District Council was dealing with the area for which they were responsible. James Plumb had reported the debris at The Farthings.

Interest on CIL Funds -

This was not passed to the parish, but used within the District Council to support Council services.

Garden Waste Collection Services - Instead of a direct debit payment, residents who used the garden waste collection service, would pay annually via credit/visa card and not by direct debit. A permit specific to the year in question would be issued which would need to be displayed on the bin.

Boundary Review - The District ward boundary review was taking place. Cllr. Clegg was proposing one larger Marcham and Wotton ward, with 2 members, which could take into account future development at Dalton Barracks.

2024/59

County Councillor's Report (Cllr. Richard Webber)

No report was available.

2024/60

Minutes of the meeting held on 12<sup>th</sup> February, 2024

The minutes of the meeting held on 12<sup>th</sup> February, 2024 were agreed and signed as a correct record of the meeting.

2024/61

s. 106 Town and Country Planning Act 1990 art funds

Members discussed the presentation by Abigail Brown and listed possible art projects, such as the war memorial site, path lighting, arboretum noticeboard, village trail, village noticeboard, bench seat. It was suggested that information about the village be included on the art project.

RESOLVED:

- (i) that an article be placed in Marcham and District News inviting suggestions for art projects.
- (ii) that an explanation be given that the funds are returned to the developer if they remain unused.

a) Decisions on previous applications

There had been no decisions on new planning applications since the last meeting.

b) Applications dealt with prior to the meeting

P24/NV0301/N6C Application to determine whether a formal planning application was required for mobile food trade vans at a listed building at The Crown, Packhorse Lane

Comments: Should comments be required from the Parish Council on the application, it confirmed that it did not object to the Licensing applications, and its position remained the same.

P24/V0326/HH Erection of conservatory to the rear  
5 Longfields

Comments: Council had no objections

P24/V0319/HH Loft conversion to provide new bedroom, dressing room and bathroom. 3 roof lights on the front, and 2 on the side.  
17 Davies Edge

Comments: Council raised concerns regarding the new windows which were either overlooking the allotments or the gardens of neighbours. As a result there could be loss of amenity for both. Council asked that if the application were approved, then the eill heights be a minimum of 1.7 m or more, so that the potential for overlooking be removed, or that fixed windows and frosted glass be used.

c) Applications for consideration at the meeting

P24/V0351/FUL Single storey front extension and two storey side extension to the existing dwelling following demolition of the existing outbuildings and existing side extension, and the construction of a new dwelling in the rear garden together with alterations to the existing vehicular access and new boundary treatments.

10 The Gap

Council discussed the proposal and expressed concerns regarding access and issues during construction. Parking could potentially cause problems.

RESOLVED:

That this Council

- (i) requests a construction Management Plan

- (ii) raises concerns regarding access into the site, and vehicles potentially on the road which was narrow and without a footway on the southern side.

P24/V0444/LB Proposal to (1) strengthen (2) stitch and (3) carry out traditional masonry local repairs such as stonework repairs and repointing following the defects observed and the assessment of the Structure.

Noah's Ark Bridge A338

Comments: Council had no objections

2024/63

Vale of White Horse District Council - Offer of Table Tennis Table

Council considered the offer of an outdoor table tennis table and the service level agreement. Locations for siting the table were considered. Whilst the table would be free of cost, the installation, insurance and maintenance would be for the Parish Council to undertake. There was a deadline of the financial year end.

RESOLVED:

- (i) that the Council not accept the offer
- (ii) that the district Council be thanked, and an enquiry made as to whether it would be feasible to site it in the school

2024/64

Annual Meeting of Electors – 15<sup>th</sup> May, 2024

Council considered the arrangements and format for the Annual Meeting of Electors. The Parish Council's section would be divided into presentations as projects underway, volunteers needed, topics about which the Council wanted to hear from electors, plus questions and answers. In addition there could be reports from County and District Councillors as well as the Headteacher of the primary school.

2024/65

Finance/Accounts

The list of payments had been circulated to Members, and Council noted the cheques numbered 3725 to 3736 and authorised payments in the sum of £10747.47 in respect of administration costs, play area checks, survey costs and works to trees.

Members noted the high invoice from Castle Water in regards to allotment water. Previous readings had been based on estimated readings and there had been 2 leaks which had been repaired. Discussion took place on how to better control the water supply, and to split the water used by the paddock from the allotment plot area.

2024/66

Matters raised by Members

Aerial Photos – flooding

Photos and drone footage of recent flooding, and high ground water levels in the village, had been taken.

87 houses South of A415 – Bloor Homes

Questions were asked about the presence of Thames Water on the Bloor Homes site south of the A415. The Clerk would raise the matter with Bloor Homes.

Allotments

Sheena Bigden gave an update report from a meeting of the working party. A list of jobs that needed doing had been prepared. The working party continued to plan what was needed by way of improvements at the Cow Lane site. Any clearance on Parkside allotments could be considered at a future date.

Thames Water - Reservoir

Mark Harvie had attended a meeting hosted by Thames Water. The focus had been on community engagement. Should the reservoir progress, then 2040 was the targeted completed date. If this were to be achieved, the application would need to be before the Secretary of State within 18 months.

2024/67

Items for MAD News

The Clerk would prepare an article for MAD News. This would include reference to the Annual Meeting of Electors.

2024/68

The Chairman moved that in accordance with s. 1(2) Public Bodies (Admissions to Meetings) Act 1960 that the public and press be excluded from the meeting during consideration of the following item on the grounds that publicity would be prejudicial to the public’s interest by reason of the confidential nature of the business to be transacted

RESOLVED:

that the public and press be excluded during consideration of the following item which related to exempt information

Item discussed – Access across Parish Council land. Council considered correspondence.

RESOLVED:

- (i) that the Council’s solicitor responds to the correspondence.
- (ii) that a letter be written to the District Council’s planning officer to request that planning conditions not be released

2024/69

Date of Next Meeting

The next meeting, would take place on Monday 8<sup>th</sup> April 2024 at 7.30 p.m. in the village hall, Barrow Close.

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