**MARLDON PARISH COUNCIL**

Minutes of the Council Meeting of Marldon Parish Council held on

Monday 12th February 2018 at 7.30pm

**PRESENT:** Cllr J T Pennington – Chairman, Cllr S Veasey – Vice-Chairman, Cllr J A Clarke , Cllr R Joinson, Cllr M Oliphant, Cllr G Page, Cllr F Palk,

Cllr D Sutton, Cllr R Thorp, and Cllr D G Webber.

**ALSO PRESENT:** 12 members of the public, Mr Mark Evans (planning consultant) and Mr Jon Capel (agent) for application **0029/18/FUL** and Clerk to the Parish Council, Mrs T J T Rowe.

Before the meeting started members of the public had the opportunity to air any concerns and ask questions, which would be noted by members and if necessary raised during the meeting.

Mr Evans and Mr Capel explained that during discussions with South Hams District Council planning officer Lucy Hall queries had been raised concerning access and landscaping at the Kiln Road proposed development and they had met with Lucy Hall and Alex Whish the District Council’s landscaping officer at the site. The additional planting of a copse of trees had met with the approval of both officers and Devon County Council Highways officers had raised no objections to the new application.

Mr Capel and Mr Evans showed the meeting drawings of the new application indicating a reduction in the glazing to the top of the property and the removal of the glass balustrade. The drawings also indicated the massing of the new property against the current stable buildings and a raised bank in front of the property.

Drawings demonstrating the views of the proposed property from public viewpoints were also displayed.

Cllr Page told the meeting that access from Kiln Road was appalling and Cllr Sutton agreed that access for emergency vehicles would not be possible.

Cllr Pennington told the meeting that the track was owned by 2 properties with others having right of access along the track. Mr Evans and Mr Capel believed that the owners of the track had been served with notice but the owners of Marcom (present at the meeting) had not received a letter.

Mr Ward from Greensleeves in Kiln Road told the meeting that he was unhappy with the proposed development and access was not adequate. A previous plan had been refused in May 2017 and nothing had changed to the objections raised at that time. Cllr Veasey reminded members that another application in Marldon had been refused because of the narrow access, which was wider than that at Kiln Road.

Julie Haynes from the Parent Teacher Association at Marldon Church of England Primary School asked the Parish Council if they would consider making a grant of £500 towards the cost of a new external Public Address system and the renovation of the ecological garden at the school, the total cost of which would be £5000 and the PTA would fund raise for the balance.

Cllr Pennington suggested that Mrs Haynes contact Cllr Hawkins to request a grant from his community fund and also suggested that the PTA could apply to Cllr Pennington’s District Council Community Fund which would start again on 1st April 2018. Cllr Veasey suggested that the school may need planning permission for an external PA system which would mean additional costs.

Mr Martin of 44 Marldon Cross Hill asked the Parish Council who owned Peter’s Field which his property adjoined. Cllr Pennington explained that the field had been given to the Parish Council by the developers following the development of Peters Crescent. Mr Martin told the meeting that the large oak tree on the right hand side needed maintenance; Cllr Page agreed to look at this the following week.

**1. (02.18) APOLOGIES**.

County Cllr J Hawkins .

**2. (02.18) DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST**.

There were none.

**3. (02.18) APPROVAL OF MINUTES** – 8th January 2018 meeting.

The minutes of the Parish Council meeting held on 8th January 2018 were proposed by Cllr Sutton and seconded by Cllr Joinson and signed by the Chairman as a true record.

*Item 9 of the agenda – Planning applications- was taken at this point in the meeting.*

**4. (02.18) PLANNING.**

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**4012/17/LBC** – Listed building consent for installation of a lightning protection system – **Compton Castle, Compton Pool Cross to Compton.**

**Recommend Approval.**

**0029/18/FUL –** Demolition of existing stabling buildings and erection of new dwelling house (resubmission of 1192/17/FUL) – **The Bramblings, Kiln Road, Marldon.**

Cllr Pennington had visited the site that day and reminded the meeting that following a District Council Planning Committee site visit in May the previous application had been refused on access grounds, isolated development in the countryside and that the proposed development was not in a sustainable location.

*Standing Orders were suspended for comments from members of the public present.*

Mr Fleming of Marcom, Kiln Road told the meeting that the access had originally been 5ft 6ins wide but had been widened to 7ft by a previous owner and although this had been used for access to the stables, it was completely unsuitable for the proposed development.

Mrs Albutt of Plane Torr, Ipplepen Road raised several issues with the application including:-

1. solar panels listed on the application for the roof of the garage which was not shown on the plan.
2. A 3m sq “shack” being called a barn and being replaced by a 5m sq building with a 2.8m pitched roof
3. Provision had been made for moving bats but no mitigation had been made for the barn owls at the site.

It was proposed by Cllr Veasey and seconded by Cllr Palk that this application **be refused** on the grounds:-

1. Access was unsuitable both for emergency vehicles, lorries to empty the septic tank and building lorries, being only 7ft wide in parts.
2. The proposed dwelling was too large for the site and represented isolated overdevelopment on a green field site - particularly given that the existing stables did not have planning permission.
3. The development would have an unsocial and structural effect on the property known as Marcom, Kiln Road which immediately adjoined the track to the property.
4. The development represented unsustainable development because of its distance from local amenities.

Cllr Pennington told the meeting that he would not vote on this application and reserved the right to vote at the District Council Planning Committee as he would ask that this application was considered by the Full Development Control Committee and that a site visit be arranged, which members of the public could also attend.

**3947/17/TPO** – Oak T11: lopping of branches that are over hanging 10 Meadow Park – **44 Peters Crescent, Marldon.**

**Recommend Approval.**

**5. (02.18) MATTERS ARISING**.

a) **Dangerous trees at Compton narrows.**

No further action to be taken – remove from matters arising.

b) **Village Hall Council joint meeting re room booking**.

The meeting noted that no correspondence had been received as the Village Hall Committee was to discuss a meeting with the Parish Council and charges for the Neighbourhood Plan meetings at their next meeting. Cllr Clarke told the meeting that she was hoping for a positive outcome and would accompany Cllr Sutton to the next Village Hall meeting if desired. Cllr Sutton reported that she was still not receiving copies of the Village Hall Committee minutes or notice of their meetings.

c) **Dog Bin Compton**

Cllr Pennington asked Cllr Oliphant to chase this with South Hams District Council; Cllr Oliphant reported that the National Trust might be about to install a bin at the site.

**6. (02.18) POLICE MATTERS**.

There was no police report but Cllr Oliphant told the meeting that she was still trying to start a speed reduction group but was experiencing difficulties with contacting the correct person at Citizens in Policing. She had attempted to contact Elaine Hartley at the police in Plymouth but had received no response. The Clerk would write to the office of the Police and Crime Commissioner.

**7. (02.18) FINANCE.**

The following payments were approved:-

**Payments- Main a/c:**  £ Clerk – Mrs T Rowe net salary January 2018 296.75 Expenses – Mrs T Rowe - December - Postage 12.28 309.03

Clerk PAYE to HMRC 74.00

South West Water Business – Allotments July 2017 – January 2018 203.79

Robin Cox – P3 Account 79.56

- M.E.G. 19.51

Gordon Page - P3 Account 60.00

- M.E.G. 31.60

**BANK ACCOUNTS as at 31st January 2018**

Main Account: £24,313.80

P3 Account: £703.68

Environment Account : £601.41

NS&I Investment Account Balance at 31.12.2016: £20,920.14

(gross interest p.a.=£124.94)

**8. (02.18)**  **REPORTS:**

**District Council.**

Cllr Pennington reported that the District Council were going through their budget for 2018/2019 and this would go to a Full Council meeting on 22nd February 2018. An increase of £5 per Band D property had been proposed which represented a 3.2% increase.

Cllr Pennington told the meeting that he and Cllr Bramble had been reprimanded because they had gone against the Conservative group on the District Council and had voted against the decision to merge with West Devon Borough Council.

**M.E.G.**

Work carried out: January 2018

10th January – three members went to Strainey Tor, Footpath 5, to repair steps damaged by a loose bullock and a dangerous section highlighted in the P3 survey. Two steps had new risers fitted. One step had some treads re-laid and a section had dangerous tree roots removed. New gravel was applied to the new steps and several other slippery areas.

11th January – Steve Holley completed rebuilding the wall at the entrance to Footpath 18 in Moorview and cleared a blocked drain in Compton.

17th January – Three members went to Broomhill to move several tons of gravel, kindly donated by Cllr Frank Palk and laid to the inside entrance of the pedestrian gate, which was very muddy and dangerous and to the roadside verge by the phone mast, also a very muddy area. One member cut back overgrown bushes round the top gate to Broomhill and one member litter picked round the village.

Steve Holley cleared more roadside down Moorview.

22nd January – Steve Holley had almost completed the clearance of mud and leaves down the roadside bank in Moorview.

24th January – The annual thank you for MEG volunteers and helpers was held at the Smokey Inn. Sandwiches, chips and a drink were provided. A good time was had by all who attended.

31st January – Three members went to Tor Field and cut up and removed a fallen tree and cleared the cutting line on the side of the lower field. One member removed a lot of mud to expose a drainage grid on Village Road which was blocked. Two members went out to survey some of the green lanes. One member cut back some trees and bushes back to the fence line in Broomhill Meadow. Two members went out to do litter picking around the village.

7th February – Five members went to the Bridleway at Broomhill to remove tree branches growing over the footpath which hindered Dave Berlyn’s tractor when cutting the grass and which shaded the footpath making it slippery with moss when wet. The path sides were also cut back and widened and a donated Wisteria was planted. One member worked further along the fence line in Broomhill meadow. Two members went out to litter pick around the village.

Steve Holley completed his work in Moorview cleaning the road back to the wall/bank line.

This month 48 hours of voluntary work was completed.

**9. (02.18)**  **NEIGHBOURHOOD PLANNING.**

Cllr Sutton apologised to the meeting that a Neighbourhood Plan meeting had not been held in January but a meeting would be held the next day. Cllr Sutton had received a letter from a young resident requesting that the Parish Council consider repairs to the basketball hoop and backboard at Tor Field and to also consider extension of the tarmac court; this would be discussed at the Neighbourhood Plan Committee the next day.

Cllr Clarke reported that she had received an email from Rob Sekula at South Hams District Council concerning money for active villages which the District Council held. Mr Sekula appeared to suggest that that the Parish Council would have to match fund this Section 106 money; Cllr Pennington would ask Rob Sekula about this.

Cllr Sutton told the meeting that the Neighbourhood Plan group were to present their project funding to the Parish Council in 2 month’s time.

**10. (02.18) CORRESPONDENCE** – None.

**11. (02.18) LEISURE AND PUBLIC GROUNDS.**

Cllr Clarke reported on the Public Grounds Committee meeting held on 24th January 2018. Present were Cllr Clarke as Chairman and Cllrs Veasey and Pennington; apologies were received from Mrs Fiona Bailey.

The cutting on the Marldon Parish Council grounds by Thulborns was discussed and Cllr Veasey had organised and extra cut to be carried out in order to keep the grass shorter and enable responsible dog owners to more easily pick up after their pets. This to provide clean excrement free recreation fields for children to play on.

Cllrs Clarke, Veasey and Pennington had all attended the Village Hall meeting on 18th January and discussed the fact that the Parish Council was now waiting for the next meeting of the Village Hall Committee where they had promised to discuss a meeting with the Parish Council and the availability of the Village Hall to the people of the village. At the Village Hall meeting it was stated that our Youth worker Kerry McCabe had been offered a Tuesday or Friday night for the Youth Club. This had been a statement which Cllr Clarke had been unable to comment on until she checked with Kerry after the meeting; she had been offered a Sunday night which was not suitable but had not been offered a Tuesday or a Friday or would have “jumped at the chance”. It was also reported that the reason that the Marldon Youth Club had folded was due to lack of attendance; this was incorrect. The Youth Club had been so popular that Fiona Bailey had needed more help from parents. This had not been forthcoming and this was why the Youth Club had closed. The Village Hall Committee had also stated that after the Youth Club closed the Village Hall Council had kept the room available for 4 years. Fiona Bailey had been contacted and she advised that she had never been advised that the room was being kept for the Club.

It was hoped that the Parish Council would be able to reconcile any differences with the Village Hall Council, in the meantime Marldon’s Youth Club lagged behind the other Village Youth groups because the others were able to offer ample space and availability in their halls to their young people. Kerry McCabe continued to battle on with just a small room in the Village Hall once a month. Children were taken on activity nights when the hall was not available but these activities were costly for parents and attendance would increase if there was a large room available on a weekly basis at the Village Hall.

Cllr Clarke had received assurances from Cllr Pennington concerning the availability of Section 106 monies and was assured that it was held safely by South Hams District Council. The Parish Council was working on what Parishioners wanted in the way of recreational facilities at the Neighbourhood Plan meetings and hoped to soon be at the stage to put words into actions and provide the best recreational facilities with the proper use of this money.

The Clerk reported that the contractor to carry out the repairs to the slide at Tor Field was waiting for better weather before the repair would be carried out.

Cllr Veasey told the meeting that he had asked Thulborns for a new quotation for the grounds maintenance.

Cllr Veasey reported that a section of wall had been pulled down by ivy in Tor Field above School House; the wall needed cleaning and repair and a temporary fence was required. Cllr Page agreed to look at this through the MEG group.

Cllr Joinson asked that the Clerk contact Torbay Council concerning the rubbish on the ring road.

Cllr Veasey reported that the fir trees on the ring road side of Broomhill Meadow were leaning Cllr Page would check this and would liaise with Devon County Council Highways through Cllr Hawkins.

**12. (02.18) HIGHWAYS AND MAINTENANCE.**

Cllr Thorp told the meeting that the safety enhancements promised for the area around Cox’s garage on Churscombe Road had been started but the lengths of white line and double yellow lines had yet to be painted; the Clerk would ask Devon County Highways for a timescale for the works.

Cllr Veasey reported that the pothole by the horse mounting block in Kiln Road had still not been repaired. The hedge in Five Lanes Road at Manyflowers had not been cut although the Clerk had written to the owner. Cllr Veasey asked that Devon County Council Highways be asked to write to the owner.

No repairs had taken place at Slip Lane in the Ipplepen Road or at the cross over on the pavement at the entrance to the Bowling Green in Furzegood; the Clerk would report these issues again.

Cllr Palk reported large potholes in Widdicombe Lane and a large quantity of stones on the road in Widdicombe Lane.

Cllr Oliphant reported that the drains by Compton Castle were full of mud and needed cleaning. There was also a large quantity of mud on the road at Windthorn Lane which needed cleaning. Cllr Webber told the meeting that Westerland Lane still needed cleaning.

**13. (02.18) MATTERS UNDER REVIEW –** None.

**14. (02.18) BUSINESS AT DISCRETION OF THE CHAIR –** None.

Cllr Pennington reported that he had been contacted by a resident of Furzegood concerning the changes to collections of the yellow bags of clinical waste by South Hams District Council, from each week to every two weeks. The Clerk would contact Helen Dobby at South Hams District Council requesting that this waste should continue to be collected on a weekly basis. Cllr Pennington would table a question on this matter at the next Full meeting of South Hams District Council.

**15. (02.18) DATE OF NEXT MEETING.**

Monday 12th March 2018.

**16. (02.18) CONFIDENTIAL MATTERS**.

A draft contract of employment for the Clerk to the Parish Council had been circulated to members. This was agreed by the meeting at a pay scale of LC2 SCP31 £14.38 per hour for 6 hours per week and signed by the Clerk and the Chairman.

The meeting closed at 9.10 p.m.