**MARLDON PARISH COUNCIL**

Minutes of the Meeting of Marldon Parish Council held on

Monday 10th September 2018 at 7.30pm

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

Cllr D Sutton and Cllr D Webber.

**ALSO PRESENT:** County Councillor J Hawkins, 6 members of the public,

3 members of the National Trust staff 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.

A member of the public spoke concerning the planning application at 2 Meadow Park. Although there were revised plans and the log burner had been moved, he still had concerns regarding the height of the pitched roof on the new garage which would overshadow his garden. The District Council Planning Officer had visited his property and understood his concerns but had explained that it would be difficult to refuse the application on planning grounds.

**1. (09.18) APOLOGIES**.

Apologies were received from Cllr R Thorp.

**2. (09.18) DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST**.

There were none.

**3. (09.18) APPROVAL OF MINUTES** – 13th August 2018 meeting.

The minutes of the Parish Council meeting held on 13th August 2018 were proposed by Cllr Veasey and seconded by Cllr Oliphant, agreed by the meeting and signed by the Chairman as a true record.

**4. (09.18) NATIONAL TRUST PARKING IN COMPTON.**

The members of the National Trust staff attended the meeting, Mr Gary Calland the General Manager, Belinda Smith and Tim Bumby, to discuss the car parking at Compton Castle.

Mr Calland explained that they were attending in response to the Parish Council’s letter of 25th June 2018 which had raised concerns about car parking at Compton by visitors to the Castle and they hoped to find a solution.

Belinda Smith was in charge of the visitor experience and Mr Bumby dealt with the wider landscape.

Mr Calland told the meeting that the National Trust was pleased that the Parish Council had suggested options for a solution to the parking problem and they were aware how congested the road could get at peak times. The National Trust had now arranged for a parking attendant on the gate at Compton Castle and this was working well. The attendant would also be in place when the Castle opened again on 2nd April 2019.

The National Trust had spoken to the County Council concerning coning the road for events but had been informed that the County Council could not take action as there had been no incidents.

Mr Calland explained that the National Trust were not trying to grow visitors numbers at Compton Castle, these had remained at approximately 19,000 for the last 4 years and added that they could park about 60 cars at the site using the Castle car park and Castle Barton. Belinda Smith added that the car parking attendant had helped to ensure more efficient parking. She continued that they were trying to put on events to spread the visitor numbers over the year, to ease the peaks and troughs and they had invested in matting for the car park for wet weather.

Cllr Sutton commented that the National Trust app did not tell visitors that there was limited parking at Compton Castle and she asked if a path could be put through from the National Trust land at Butterlake to create a walkway from the village to Compton Castle.

Mr Bumby reminded the Parish Council that it would not be possible to build a new car park without planning permission. Belinda Smith agreed that a lot of sites had satellite car parks and Mr Calland added that a long term plan could include a new car park.

Cllr Page told the meeting that path ways from Castle Lane and West Lane at the rear of Compton Castle came through to Marldon at the side of the Church House Inn. Mr Calland agreed that this could definitely be explored and suggested that it would be useful to arrange a meeting with Councillors to investigate the possibility of a new route to the Castle.

Cllr Hawkins suggested that it would be possible for the National Trust to cone the road if they paid for a temporary traffic order for any events held at Compton Castle or for pre- booked parking to be considered as at Greenway. Belinda Smith agreed that the whole of the National Trust was looking at this option for the future.

Mr Calland and his colleagues suggested that they attend another Parish Council meeting in the spring to inform the Parish Council what measures had been taken.

The meeting noted that the 1888 map showing a footpath through from the village to Compton Castle had not been legally recognised as a right of way. Mr Bumby would arrange a date to walk the pathways with Cllrs Oliphant and Page.

The Chairman thanked the National Trust staff for attending the meeting and

Mr Bumby in particular for his work in keeping Compton so tidy.

**5. (09.18) MATTERS ARISING**.

a) **Dog Bin Compton**

Cllr Oliphant was continuing to litter pick in Compton and would continue to keep a litter diary to prove the need for a bin. Cllr Pennington reiterated his previous comments that the District Council had promised a bin at this site 2 or 3 years before.

**b) Snow Warden Scheme**

Cllr Page had compiled a comprehensive map of the grit bins in the Parish, had noted their condition and would be getting in touch with Devon County Council. Cllr Page needed to find out about the training provided by the County Council and the Clerk informed the meeting that there were details in the latest “Devon Roadmap” newsletter which had been circulated to Councillors.

Cllr Page told the meeting that one or two of the bins needed repair in addition to the three new ones requested.

**c) Extension of the Churchyard**

Cllr Veasey had spoken to the Reverend Jones and although the diocese was not keen to take on the extra land, Reverend Jones did not want to lose the chance of extending the current burial area. Cllr Veasey suggested that the land be leased to the diocese at a peppercorn rent with the Parish Council continuing to carry out the grounds maintenance.

It was proposed by Cllr Pennington and seconded by Cllr Sutton and agreed by the meeting that representatives from the Parochial Church Council be invited to the next Parish Council meeting to discuss this. It was noted that Cllr Pennington had a copy of the deeds of the land concerned. Cllr Veasey would contact Reverend Jones to invite him to the meeting. Cllr Palk suggested that this area be added to the current grounds maintenance contract.

**d) Communities Together Fund – Parish Council bid for 2019**

The meeting discussed possible projects to be submitted for this fund.

Cllr Veasey would obtain fencing quotes for the play area in Tor Field and along the bridle path to Broomhill for the next meeting.

**e) Road Repairs at Pembroke Park.**

It was noted that Devon County Council had returned to the site and had cleaned up the stones left following recent repairs.

**f) Provision of a storage container for MEG at Broomhill Meadow.**

Cllr Pennington had sent a form for the Marldon Environment Group to apply for funding for the transport and siting of a storage container at Broomhill Meadow. Cllr Page was waiting for quotations before an application could be made.

**g) Community Payback Scheme.**

The Clerk had yet to obtain details of the Community Payback Scheme from the County Council. The Parish Council wished to use this scheme to clear gulleys and verges in Compton. The Clerk would copy Cllr Hawkins in to the email to the County Council.

**6. (09.18) POLICE MATTERS**.

There was no police report.

**7. (09.18) FINANCE**

The following payments were approved for the month of September 2018:-

**Payments- Main a/c:**  £ Clerk – Mrs T Rowe net salary August 2018 305.99

Office Allowance August 2018 12.00

Stationery 5.98 323.97

Clerk PAYE to HMRC – August 76.40

Plandscape (Landscaping & Grounds Maintenance Ltd) – August 114.00

Devon Communities Together –

S Veasey Neighbourhood Planning Course 20th September 76.05

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

Main Account: £24,101.85

P3 Account: £510.97

Environment Account : £483.12

NS&I Investment Account Balance at 31.12.2017: £21,018.72

(gross interest p.a. for 2017 =£98.58)

Total Balance held by Marldon Parish Council £46,114.66

**8. (09.18)**  **REPORTS:**

**County Councillor’s Report.**

Cllr Hawkins told the meeting that Cllr Sutton had informed him that Torbay Council were installing 20mph zones outside all their schools and he had made enquiries as to how this could be done. Devon County Council was still waiting for a Central Government ruling on 20mph speed limits.

The next TTRO would be considered in March 2019 by HATOC and Cllr Hawkins urged the Parish Council to consider any new yellow lines for the Parish and let him know as soon as possible so that these could be included. This would be added as an item on the next Parish Council agenda.

Cllr Hawkins told members that he had allocated £1,000 of his County Council locality fund for Marldon which could be used to pay for items such as the new bin at Compton if the Parish Council were willing to pay for it to be emptied. This money could also pay for new grit bins. The money needed to be spent before Christmas 2018.

Cllr Hawkins informed Councillors that the additional signage on Church Hill, due to be discussed under agenda item 13, would have to go through Neil Oxton at Devon County Council or Cllr Hawkins Locality fund could pay for this.

Cllr Page or Cllr Sutton would send a photo of the problem area on Church Hill to Cllr Hawkins. Cllr Veasey suggested that bollards at the bottom of the hill, as narrow as the pinch point further up, might be a solution to the problem.

Cllr Hawkins told the Parish Council that they could purchase flashing speed restriction signs to help alleviate speeding in Compton at an approximate cost of £2,500; Devon County Council Highways could advise.

**District Council Report.**

Cllr Pennington told the meeting that he had received a report from David Sexton, South Hams District Council’s Environmental Officer, concerning “Downalong House”. An Enforcement Notice had been sent to the property owner but it had not been complied with.

Therefore South Hams District Council had obtained a magistrate’s warrant to enter the property with pest control officers on 6th September; the neighbours had been informed.

Following a question from Cllr Palk, Cllr Pennington proposed that the Parish Council write to David Sexton and ask what the next steps, timescale and procedures would be in order to make this property habitable and to get it occupied again so to not to let it stay in such a derelict state.

**M.E.G.**

Marldon Environmental Group Report

Work carried out in this month: August 2018

15th August

Five members went back to Totnes Road to complete the cleaning up of the footpath down the side of Churston Park from the roundabout to Westerland Lane. Two members litter picked in the village and one member mowed the bottom of footpath 13. Steve Holley cut the roadside verge at Compton and cut and cleared out the adjacent brook.

20th August

Dave Berlyn went to mow Broomhill Meadow and the Bridleway.

22nd August

Six members went to Broomhill Meadow to cut back the overgrowing trees to the field gate approach and move the gravel in front of the gate in order to allow easy access for the transport of the donated shipping container, the new MEG tool shed, into Broomhill. Two members litter picked around the village.

24th August

Two members went to Broomhill to lay and level four blocks in preparation for the MEG tool shed.

29th August

Four members went to Peter’s Field to re-site the metal bench which had been removed the previous month for repair and restoration. Many very positive comments had already been received regarding this work. One member cut the Bridleway paths and five members went litter pickling around the village, this included three extra family volunteers making the most of the school holidays, an extra thank you to them!

5th September

Five members went back to Broomhill to further cut back branches to open up the approach to the meadow after seeing the size of the transport required to site the MEG container. The container had now been emptied and readied for transport and a delivery date was awaited; all was ready now this end. One member cut back brambles etc. down the underpass, one member mowed the footpaths around Broomhill Meadow and two members litter picked.

Steve Holley had been busy this month cutting the grass in Vicarage Road, Vicarage Hill opposite Pembroke Park and the verge round the notice board on the corner of Nether Meadow, the area around the village seat in Village Road and the triangle onto Ipplepen Road.

This month approximately 70 hours of voluntary work had been completed.

Cllr Page agreed to get the Nether Meadow and Compton notice boards varnished.

**9. (09.18)**  **NEIGHBOURHOOD PLANNING.**

Cllr Sutton told the Parish Council that the next meeting of the Neighbourhood Plan group was planned for Wednesday 26th September at 7.30pm at her house (this was later revised to Wednesday 3rd October).

Cllr Sutton wished to step down as Chair of the group but would continue to take part. Cllr Veasey would shortly be attending a neighbourhood planning course. The group needed to make an application for a grant.

Cllr Sutton suggested that agenda item 12b) be considered at this point in the meeting.

Copies of a letter from Marldon Playgroup/Preschool asking the Parish Council to consider the building of a playgroup facility on Broomhill Meadow had been circulated to members.

Councillors were unclear as to why the Village Hall was no longer fit for the purpose of the preschool but it was suggested this was because all the equipment had to be put away each day.

It was agreed that the Clerk would seek clarification as to the reason the Village Hall was no longer suitable, as the meeting felt that it would not be sensible to build another hall in the village which if used by other groups as suggested would compete with the Village Hall.

Cllr Pennington reminded the meeting that there was a covenant on Broomhill Meadow restricting buildings on the site.

*Cllr Sutton left the meeting at 9.00pm*

**10. (09.18) PLANNING.**

**2526/18/HHO** – Householder application for new detached garage –

**1A Moorview Crescent, Marldon TQ3 1BR**

**Recommend Approval.**

**2333/18/HHO – (Re-advertisement - revised plans received)** Householder application for single storey extension and construction of new garage with access off Nether Meadow **– 2 Meadow Park, Marldon TQ3 1NR**

It was proposed by Cllr Veasey and seconded by Cllr Clarke and agreed by the meeting that the Parish Council **recommend approval** of the application but ask that a condition be put on to lower the pitch of the new garage roof to prevent overshadowing of the neighbouring property.

**11. (09.18) CORRESPONDENCE.**

The following items of correspondence had been received:-

1. Details from South Hams District Council of works to resurface its car parks in Totnes from 10th to 24th September 2018.
2. Details from South Hams District Council of a programme to save public toilets, with a proposed saving of £226,000 in the next year – they would be contacting Town and Parish councils re the public toilets in their areas.
3. Devon Home Choice Training (first session on 18th October now fully booked) another session is planned for 17th January 2019; Cllr Stevens had booked a place.
4. Details of a TTRO for road repairs including road repairs in Marldon from Farmyard Corner to Mamicombe.
5. Details from South Hams District Council of law changes affecting houses of multiple occupation – five or more people.
6. Details of Devon County Council Food Waste Conference on Friday 21st September, at The Boniface Centre, Crediton from 9.30-3.30pm
7. South Hams District Council new social media campaign - 30 Days, 30 Ways started on 1st September and asked people to prepare for a range of emergencies including storms, adverse weather, fires in the home, power cuts and flooding. The campaign also advised how communities could support each other, such as where to give blood locally.
8. A copy of the Village Hall Council minutes for July and the Agenda for Tuesday 18th September.
9. Correspondence re repairs on Five Lanes Road – reply from Devon County Council re a resident’s complaint.
10. Devon County Council Highways – Roadmap Newsletter, with details on the Snow Warden Scheme.
11. DALC Newsletter including details of AGM, Conference and Exhibition on Wednesday the 3rd of October 2018 and their Annual Report for 2017/2018.

**12. (09.18) LEISURE AND PUBLIC GROUNDS.**

a) Public Grounds Report from Cllr J Clarke:-

Cllr Clarke reported that she was sad to say that the run of the Youth Club using the large hall in the Village Hall had apparently come to an end. She read out an email from Kerry McCabe with the options that had been offered by the Village Hall, unfortunately none of which were satisfactory but Kerry and her partner hoped to accept one of these.

Cllr Clarke had not had an opportunity to speak to the Rev Steve Jones about this but would be doing so in the next week and it was hoped that he would negotiate the Youth Club’s use of the main hall on a permanent basis.

Kerry McCabe had written a letter to Parents and carers about her concerns regarding the drug deaths of young people in the South West which Cllr Clarke read out to the meeting and she asked the Parish Council’s permission to send a copy to the school and other Youth Groups in the village.

Cllr Clarke reported on the letter from the Secretary of Marldon Playgroup asking again about the possibility of a new building to house the playgroup on Broomhill Meadow because they had outgrown their current premises in the Village Hall. This subject had been brought up a long time ago but since then the Neighbourhood Plan group had been preparing plans to use the Meadow for more recreational facilities, mainly for the older children in the village and adults, as the little ones already had their playground and the last amount of money secured many years ago, meant for the 8-16 year olds was spent on a climbing frame for the younger children.

Cllr Clarke felt that the money which was coming from the Moorview development for recreation had to be spent on facilities for the older age groups as they had waited far too long for money to be spent on them. Cllr Clarke told Councillors that she could go back at least 20 years to when she and other colleagues started to campaign for recreational facilities on this ground and now at last hopefully this would happen with the Moorview money and matched funding. Cllr Clarke commented that if there was room on Broomhill and a building was allowed and if the Playgroup could obtain their own funds (not the Moorview development money) she would not be against the idea.

The Clerk would contact the Parish Council’s solicitors concerning the deeds of the Village Hall for the next meeting.

b) Letter from Marldon Playgroup/Preschool asking the Parish Council to consider the building of a playgroup facility on Broomhill Meadow was considered under minute 9. (09.18).

c) Allotments – the Clerk reported that the owner of plot 3 had been in contact and would ensure that this plot was kept in a tidy condition.

d) Request to erect a Marquee and hold a wedding reception on Jubilee Meadow in September 2019 – Cllr Pennington told the meeting that he had already spoken to the applicant and informed them that this would not be possible as it was a public open space and the Parish Council’s insurance did not allow private use.

e) A letter had been received from a young resident asking the Parish Council to consider keeping bees somewhere in the Parish, as it had been brought to her attention that bees in the UK were under a severe threat.

The Parish Council were very impressed by the letter and the Clerk would write to the parishioner thanking her for her letter and informing her that there were bees at the SW Water pumping station in Smallwell Lane.

**13. (09.18) HIGHWAYS AND MAINTENANCE.**

A request for additional signage on Church Hill to advise “unsuitable for long vehicles” would be referred to Cllr Hawkins to be taken forward.

Yellow lines in the Parish would be considered at the next meeting and Cllr Veasey suggested yellow lines opposite the bowling green entrance in Furzegood to allow cars to swing out.

**14. (09.18) BUSINESS AT DISCRETION OF CHAIR (for noting only)**.

There was none.

**15. (09.18) DATE OF NEXT MEETING.**

Monday 8th October 2018

The meeting closed at 9.35 p.m.

Signed By..................................................

Cllr T Pennington (Chairman) – 8th October 2018