**MARLDON PARISH COUNCIL**

Minutes of the Meeting of Marldon Parish Council held on

Monday 10th December 2018 at 7.30pm

**PRESENT:** Cllr J T Pennington – Chairman, Cllr S Veasey – Vice-Chairman, Cllr J Clarke, Cllr M Oliphant, Cllr G Page, Cllr F Palk, and Cllr D Sutton,

**ALSO PRESENT:** 4 members of the public 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 thanked the Parish Council for all they did in the village.

A resident told the meeting that he had wished to ask a question of the Empty Homes Officer from South Hams District Council at the November Parish Council meeting but had not been allowed to do so by the Chairman. He asked the Parish Council why Pembroke Park, which had been empty much longer than Downalong House, had not been raised with the officer when the opportunity arose at the last meeting. He requested that this matter be raised with the District Council and kept on the agenda until there was a resolution.

**1. (12.18) APOLOGIES**.

Apologies were received from Cllr N Stevens, Cllr R Thorpe, Cllr D Webber and County Cllr J Hawkins.

**2. (12.18) DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST**.

The Chairman declared a prejudicial interest in agenda item 8 – report by the County Councillor.

**3. (12.18) APPROVAL OF MINUTES** – 12th November 2018 meeting.

The minutes of the Parish Council meeting held on 12th November were proposed by Cllr Palk and seconded by Cllr Veasey, agreed by the meeting and signed by the Chairman as a true record.

**4. (12.18) MATTERS ARISING**.

a) **Dog Bin Compton.**

Nothing to report at present.

**b) Speed Reduction Group – setting up.**

There was nothing to report.

**c) Snow Warden Scheme.**

Cllr Page told the meeting that 1 ton of salt had been delivered to Westerways for winter use. Volunteers would be needed and Cllr Page would distribute a plan once this had been written.

**c) Extension of the Churchyard.**

Nothing to report at present, the Parochial Church Council was waiting for a decision from the diocese.

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

Two sets of quotes had been received but Cllr Veasey was still waiting for a third quote for the fencing; the Clerk advised that there may be a possibility of missing the Fund deadline.

**e) National Trust Parking in Compton.**

Cllr Oliphant reported that a 2 hour walk had taken place at short notice with staff from the National Trust. They would look at costings and would check with the tenant farmers concerned but they were keen to take this forward.

Cllr Palk advised that the owner of an adjacent property had recently passed away.

*Cllr Sutton arrived at 7.35pm*

**f) Downalong House.**

Nothing further to report – Cllr Pennington would keep in touch with David Sexton the Empty Homes officer from the District Council.

**g) Storage container for MEG at Broomhill Meadow.**

Cllr Page told the meeting that £600 had been received from the District Council for the storage container from Cllr Pennington’s Community fund.

**h) Community Payback Scheme.**

The Clerk had again chased for this work to be carried out in Compton under this scheme but was still awaiting a reply.

**i) Parish Council Deeds.**

WBW solicitors had confirmed that they were holding the deeds to Tor Field for the Parish Council. The Chairman had the deeds for Broomhill Meadow and Jubilee Meadow and would pass these to the Clerk in order that they could also be held by the solicitors.

The Chairman told the meeting that the ownership of the land for the Village Hall was unknown.

**j) Church Hill Width Restriction.**

Cllr Sutton reported that several vehicles had become stuck on Church Hill that week. The Clerk would ask the Highways officer for her advice on what could be done at this site and ask for costings with a view to the Parish Council using part of the Section 106 monies to purchase signage and/or bollards.

**k) Village Hall – survey of retaining wall at rear.**

Cllr Pennington had arranged for the Treasurer of the Village Hall Committee and the Environmental Health officer from the District Council to meet. There was an additional problem of the wall to the dwelling behind the Village Hall beginning to lean over; the owner of this wall and those of any adjoining properties would be involved in discussions. Cllr Pennington would report back to the Parish Council before any decisions were taken.

**5. (12.18) POLICE MATTERS**.

There was no police report.

**6. (12.18) FINANCE.**

The following payments were approved by the meeting:-

**Payments- Main a/c:**  £ Clerk – Mrs T Rowe net salary November 2018 305.79

Office Allowance November 2018 12.00

317.79

H.M.R.C. – November 76.60

Marldon PCC – Floodlighting of Memorial Clock 25.74

Plandscape – 1st November grass cutting 114.00

**BANK ACCOUNTS as at 30th November 2018**

Main Account: £27,444.18

P3 Account: £484.18

Environment Account: £1,083.23

(Includes £600.00 from S.H.D.C.)

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 £50,030.31

**7. (12.18) BUDGET FOR 2019/20.**

The Chairman had arranged a meeting of the Finance Committee to discuss the budget and precept for 2019/2020 at 7.30pm at the Village Hall on Thursday 20th December 2018.

**8. (12.18)**  **REPORTS:**

**District Council Report.**

Cllr Pennington reported on 4 issues being discussed by the District Council at present:-

1. The outsourcing of the Waste Collection Service – this had been fully agreed by the District Council that day and would be taken on by a private company in the New Year. Cllr Pennington was pleased to report that this would bring about considerable savings over the life of the contract.
2. The re-organisation of public toilets:-
3. Some would be closing
4. Some would be taken over by Town and Parish Councils
5. Some would be retained by the District Council but would no longer be free to use; a fee would be charged on entry.

There would be savings of £494,751 each year.

1. Second Homes – the District Council had agreed to examine and lobby Central Government on the 100% business rate relief on the letting of self-catering holiday homes and also to levy Council tax on all second homes.
2. The basic allowance for South Hams District Council members was currently £5,000 per annum and was set by an independent outside committee. At a recent District Council meeting 2 Councillors had put forward a proposal that the allowance be increased to £10,000, a 100% increase. Cllr Pennington had strongly opposed this and his opposition was supported by a large majority of District Council members.

**County Councillor’s Report.**

In his absence Cllr Hawkins’s report had been circulated to members of the Parish Council by email.

Cllr Hawkins reported that Devon County had set up a working group to look into the implementation and success of the current of 20 mile zones.  
The Group had met 3 times and were expected to make recommendations in the spring of 2019.  
Cllr Hawkins suggested that Marldon could make a representation to the group.   
The Government review was still awaited but rumours were that it was not supportive.   
  
Following the meeting with residents from Church Hill, Cllr Hawkins had spoken a number of times to Lisa Edmonds and Neil Oxton from Devon Highways on improving signage at the bottom and top of the hill.  
In both their views the signage was adequate and they felt that they were unable to help.  
The suggestion of narrowing the bottom of the entrance to Church Hill was felt of possible help but sadly as normal there were no funds available; Cllr Hawkins would continue to press for improvements.

The meeting noted that the email had been addressed to the Clerk and additional comments at the end of the email were ignored by the meeting.

However Cllr Pennington made reference to Cllr Hawkins’ comments in a manner which Cllr Sutton strongly disagreed with and following a heated discussion, Cllr Sutton left the meeting at 8.20pm.

**M.E.G.**

Marldon Environmental Group Report

Work carried out in this month: November 2018

14th November

Four members went to Village Road, Meadow Park and Vicarage Hill to clear road drains of leaf litter to ensure better drainage and reduce flooding risk. They then went to Broomhill to spread a new delivery of grit, the fourth donated by Cllr Palk and Andrew for the benefit of the village, around the entrance to the meadow and around the new tool shed, and to meet with a contractor to discuss the best way of roofing the container to make it completely water tight for many years to come. Two members cut and cleared tree branches overgrowing the side of the meadow to enable the grass cutter tractor to cut nearer the fence. Two members were dropped off at Otter Nursery from where they could walk down footpath 1 to Compton to carry on their P3 survey. Two members litter picked around the village. In all 10 people turned out in various capacities, a good morning.

21st November

Four members went to the Preston Down underpass to cut back the vegetation overgrowing the footpath. Two members continued to cut back overgrowing tree limbs on Broomhill Meadow. Two members continued work on the tool shed, welding on a new side and preparing and patching other areas to make the shed more weatherproof and secure. Two members litter picked around the village.

28th November

Due to bad weather members were offered a day off, however two members went to the tool shed to prepare for the next stage of its refurbishment. One member cleared part of a footpath over grown with ivy by Five Lanes roundabout at the request of a member of the public and one member started to clear the path on Preston Down Road between Mayfield College and the underpass which had become narrow due to soil and vegetation build up.

Steve Holley tidied up the verge on Vicarage Hill of loose vegetation and burnt it with previously collected material.

5th December

Wet weather yet again curtailed activity. Despite this, two members worked on the MEG tool shed and three members continued work on clearing the footpath and cutting back heavy vegetation on the verge leading to the underpass on Preston Down Road. A hot cup of tea at Mayfield College was a much appreciated reward.

6th December

The tool shed was roof felted and was now fully weatherproof and was looking good.

The MEG tool shed was now nearly ready for the transfer of machinery and tools and would act as a meeting point for MEG members and others who are tirelessly giving time and expertise for the benefit of the Parish of Marldon and Compton. Over the last few months the container had been cleaned down and rust treated, had a new side welded in, a new roof fitted and the floor modified. A final coat of paint and a few small jobs would see it ready for use. Robin Cox and a small band of helpers had worked tirelessly to get it fit for purpose and would soon be able to take a well-earned and very deserved rest for Christmas.

The obligatory annual P3 survey of all the footpaths and green lanes in the Parish of Marldon had now been completed by 2 MEG members and the forms would be completed and sent to Devon County Council before the year end. The results are very satisfactory with relatively minor comments. Well done to all the survey team and all MEG members who have worked all year to keep the footpaths in good condition for all to enjoy.

Cllr Page thanked all MEG members and everybody who had, in any way, helped and supported the endless task of keeping Marldon and Compton footpaths, fields and environment in a good state of repair during 2018. He also thanked the many people who had helped with their skills and the members of the general public who had passed on their words of support and appreciation.

This month over 60 hours of voluntary work had been completed by MEG members despite some awful weather.

The Chairman once again thanked the MEG group for all their hard work on behalf of the Parish.

**9. (12.18)**  **NEIGHBOURHOOD PLANNING.**

Cllr Clarke reported that a joint meeting had been held with the Public Grounds Committee but another meeting was needed; Cllr Clarke would refer to this in her report later in the meeting.

Members discussed a letter received from Marldon Preschool concerning land for new premises. The Chairman gave the Clerk details of the restrictive covenants on Broomhill Meadow which she would pass to the preschool.

The Preschool would be invited to attend a future meeting. Cllr Page suggested that there might be a possible site for the Preschool on Vicarage Road on land belonging to Torbay.

**10. (12.18) PLANNING.**

**3629/18/LBC** – Listed building consent for part re-roofing of two lean-to structures on the main house, replacement of the asbestos gutters and down pipes with cast steel and refurbishment of 3 dormer windows on the front elevation – **Castle Barton, Compton, Marldon TQ3 1TA.**

**Recommend Approval.**

**3628/18/HHO –** Householder application for proposed ground/first floor extension – **Tuckers Hay, Compton Pool Cross, Compton, Marldon**

**TQ3 1TB.**

**Recommend Approval.**

**3718/18/LBC-** Listed Building Consent for roof covering replacement to the front elevation of the property due to severe deterioration of original surface and substructure (retrospective) **– 1 Compton House, Compton Pool Cross to Compton, Marldon TQ3 1TA.**

**Recommend Approval.**

**3719/18/VAR –** Application for variation of conditions 2 (approved plans) and 6 (landscaping scheme) following grant of planning permission 0178/18/FUL **– Winsland, Churscombe Road, Marldon TQ3 1NA.**

**Recommend Approval.**

**3557/18/HHO –** Householder application to rebuild roof and concert to provide 4 bedrooms and bathroom, single storey side extension, alterations to entrance and provision of additional parking **– 16 Belfield Way, Marldon TQ3 1NY.**

**Recommend Approval.**

**3811/18/FUL** – Erection of games room building for use in connection with holiday cottages **– Compton Pool Farm, Compton Pool Cross, Compton Marldon TQ3 1TA.**

**Recommend Approval.**

**3923/18/HHO –** Householder application for removal of existing conservatory and replacement with larger single storey flat roofed extension to North East and South East elevations and conversion of garage into bathroom and en suite **– 7 Churscombe Park, Marldon, TQ3 1NP.**

**Recommend Approval.**

**11. (12.18) JOINT LOCAL PLAN CONSULTATION.**

The minor modifications document had been circulated to the members of the Parish Council for information and it was noted that this had little effect on Marldon.

**12. (12.18) CORRESPONDENCE.**

The following items of correspondence had been received:-

1. Devon Home Choice training - 17th January 2019 and will run from 10.30-12.30 in the Main Council Chamber, South Hams District Council, Follaton House.
2. Citizens Advice South Hams Annual Report 2017-2018 and request for funding – the Clerk would bring details of previous grants to the next meeting.
3. Marldon PCC request for funding for newsletter - the Clerk would bring details of previous grants to the next meeting.
4. Request from the charity Scope for the Parish Council to consider the placing of a clothes bank in the Parish. Members noted that there was already a bottle bank in the Church House Inn car park – a possible site and suggested that Ye Olde Smokey House pub be contacted as a possible location.
5. Request from a parishioner for a skate park in Marldon; this had been passed to the Public Grounds Committee.
6. Minutes of the November Village Hall Council and their agenda for Tuesday 15th January 2019 and a reminder of their AGM on 19th February 2019.
7. Dates for the Jack and the Beanstalk Pantomime at the Village Hall would be 23rd to 26th January 2019.
8. Details of a new multi-million pound contract which had been approved by South Hams District Council for recycling, waste and cleansing services enabling the District Council to save over £3 million pounds over the life of the contract and improving the environmental impact. The new services would be delivered to a high standard from 1st April 2019 as part of a new partnership agreement with a private company.
9. The CPRE Devon Voice Autumn newsletter together with their housing needs evidence and review of Government Housing Policy and its impact on Devon had been received.
10. An additional letter from Marldon Preschool concerning a site for new premises had been received. The Chairman passed details of the covenants on Broomhill Meadow to the Clerk to be sent to the Playgroup leader.

**13. (12.18) LEISURE AND PUBLIC GROUNDS.**

Public Grounds Report from Cllr J Clarke:-

The Public Grounds Committee, Cllr Clarke, Veasey, Pennington and Fiona Bailey met on 21st November to discuss the flyer that was intended to be distributed throughout the village regarding the recreational facilities intended for Broomhill Meadow when the Parish was able to start using the Section 106 monies from the Moorview development. Cllr Clarke handed out copies of the proposed leaflet to the meeting.

The leaflet had been put together by the whole committee and was drafted by

Dr Peter Moore. This would be passed to the Clerk for printing on headed paper.

The Youth Club had attracted many new young people to their sessions and they had been concentrating on a project regarding mental health and “5 a day”. This had helped the young people to voice their thoughts and feelings. Five a day meant – 1) Connect with others 2) Be active 3) Keep learning 4) Give to others and 5) Be mindful.

The first session in October was in the Village Hall (an after school slot). The group spent time planning trips for the coming months and the young people helped prepare healthy snacks.

Following a report from Cllr Thorpe through the Clerk, Cllr Page agreed to look at the condition of the steps to the allotments with a view to the MEG group carrying out any necessary repairs.

**14. (12.18) HIGHWAYS AND MAINTENANCE.**

The meeting noted the problems in Meadow Park/Love Lane Close which had been raised by a resident. The Clerk had reported this to Devon County Highways.

Cllr Veasey told the meeting that there was a possible water leak on the entrance road to the Scout Hut; Cllr Page would look at this when the weather was dry.

Cllr Veasey reported that the kerb at the entrance to the bowling green was still loose; the Clerk would report this again.

**15. (12.18) BUSINESS AT DISCRETION OF CHAIR (for noting only)**.

There was none.

**16. (12.18) DATE OF NEXT MEETING.**

Monday 14th January 2019.

The meeting closed at 9.00 p.m.

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

Cllr T Pennington (Chairman) – 14th January 2019