**MARLDON PARISH COUNCIL**

Minutes of the Meeting of Marldon Parish Council held on

Monday 11th March 2019 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 Webber.

**ALSO PRESENT:** 9 members of the public, Dr Ray Harrison from the Marldon Village Hall Committee, Kerry McCabe the TRAYE Youth Worker 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 resident of Pembroke Park asked the Parish Council several questions pertaining to the proposals for additional recreational facilities on Broomhill Meadow:-

* Where was the money coming from
* Were there any restrictions or covenants on the land
* Were there any restrictions that only allowed the monies to be spent on Broomhill Meadow.

The Chairman explained that it was proposed to use the Section 106 monies from the development at Moorview which were for sporting and recreational facilities in the Parish, not specifically for Broomhill Meadow. There were covenants on Broomhill Meadow which restricted its use to recreational use (there could be no building on the land and football was also not permitted).

Cllr Clarke told the meeting that the nature reserve idea for the site was a “white elephant”. Several other ideas such as tennis courts and allotments had been suggested over the years. There had been feedback for more central recreational facilities at sites such as Tor Field.

Cllr Veasey told the meeting that the flyer being circulated to all residents was to test for ideas.

Dr Harrison from the Village Hall Committee told the meeting that most of the work to stabilise the cliff behind the Village Hall had been completed but the contractor wished to know what was happening to the wall owned by the Parish Council before the scaffolding was removed. He advised that if the Parish Council wished the contractor to carry out any work for them; they would have to let him know as soon as possible. Dr Harrison explained that the Village Hall Committee had applied to Devon Communities for a grant towards the works but this could only be for up to £10,000.

Cllr Veasey had met with a contractor (Plandscape) that day to obtain a quote for the work required to the wall.

Dr Harrison clarified that the scaffolding was now interfering with the cliff wall works. He added that additional costs would also have to be met for the disposal of the skip material; Cllr Palk assured Dr Harrison that this would be removed without cost to the Village Hall despite the skips being incorrectly filled with mixed materials. Cllr Veasey would contact the Village Hall’s contractor the next day. The plan was to remove the wall and replace it with palisade fencing.

Cllr Pennington advised that he had £1,100 from his Community Fund to give to the Village Hall and Dr Harrison advised that Marldon Pantomime group had donated £500.

Dr Harrison explained that the Village Hall Committee were trying to plan for the Youth Group to have greater use of the Village Hall and Cllr Pennington told the meeting that he was trying to tap into some of the other Section 106 monies held by the District Council for Community Projects.

Kerry McCabe showed a short film on the work of the TRAYE project and what they had been doing for the last 3 years. They now covered 5 areas including Marldon, this for 260 young people, with 22 young people from the village attending Youth Club nights.

Cllr Thorp thanked the Youth group for all their work and Kerry McCabe explained that it was their dream to get a regular permanent venue for the Marldon group. They had use of the Village Hall from 22nd April until September on a Tuesday evening (twice a month); they could also use the function room at The Olde Smokey House Pub. The meeting suggested that the Youth Group approach other users of the Village Hall to swap nights if possible during the winter.

The meeting thanked Kerry McCabe for showing the film and for her work with the young people in the village.

**1. (03.19) APOLOGIES**.

Apologies were received from Cllr N Stevens, Cllr Sutton and Cllr Webber.

**2. (03.19) DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST**.

There were none.

**3. (03.19) APPROVAL OF MINUTES** – 11th February 2019 meeting.

The minutes of the Parish Council meeting held on 11th February were proposed by Cllr Page and seconded by Cllr Veasey, agreed by the meeting and signed by the Chairman as a true record.

**4. (03.19) MARLDON VILLAGE HALL.**

1. **Village Hall Charges –** Cllr Palk told the meeting that he had a copy of the Village Hall accounts and he suggested that the Parish Council pay for its use of the Village Hall for all its meetings, not just those additional to the monthly meetings. This was not agreed by the meeting.
2. **To consider financial assistance to the Village Hall Council towards costs for works to the wall at the rear of the building.**

Cllr Pennington proposed that the Parish Council work in conjunction with the Village Hall Committee to endeavour to raise funding for the problem with the cliff wall behind the building i.e. from outside sources, if this was not possible then it would be necessary to use Parish Council monies. This was seconded by Cllr Veasey and agreed by the meeting.

It was also proposed by Cllr Pennington and seconded by Cllr Veasey and agreed by the meeting that the Clerk write to the Secretary of the Village Hall Committee to ask for a separate specific meeting, to seek dates for this and to stress the financial importance of their providing the Parish Council with a copy of the deeds to the Village Hall immediately.

1. **Work to the Parish Council owned wall at the rear of the Village Hall.**

Cllr Veasey was to seek a quote for the works to the wall from Plandscape.

**5. (03.19) MATTERS ARISING**.

**a) Extension of the Churchyard.**

Cllr Veasey and Cllr Pennington had met with members of the Diocese on Saturday 16th February at 3pm at St John’s in Totnes. The Diocese did not want the Parish Council land as an extension to the cemetery as they wished to close the cemetery but had suggested that the extension land be kept as a separate burial ground run by the Parish Council. The Clerk advised the Parish Council that there were numerous pitfalls and costs if they decided to take on running a burial ground independently of the Church.

Cllr Pennington suggested that the Church could be asked to carry out the administration as at present. Cllr Pennington proposed another meeting with the Diocese and this was seconded by Cllr Thorp and agreed by the meeting. Cllr Veasey advised that the Diocese would be coming back to the Parish Council when other decisions were made.

**b) Empty Properties - Downalong House and Pembroke Park.**

There had still been no reply from David Sexton the Empty Homes officer from the District Council. Cllr Veasey advised that work was taking place in Downalong House. A member of the public had been contacted by the Empty Homes Officer concerning Pembroke Park but had been advised that the officer concerned was shortly to leave the District Council.

**c) 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 and would chase again.

**d) Parish Council Deeds.**

The Chairman passed copies of the deeds for Broomhill Meadow to the Clerk but still held the originals and those for Jubilee Meadow. The meeting had noted that it was very important that the Parish Council view the deeds of the Village Hall.

**e) Church Hill Width Restriction.**

Cllr Hawkins had contacted Neil Oxton at Devon County Council Highways but Mr Oxton had advised there was no need for more signs at Church Hill.

Cllr Hawkins would pass details of a sign maker to the Clerk and would ask Lisa Edmonds the Highways Officer to talk to Cllr Veasey concerning widening the road at the bend on land owned by the Parish Council.

**6. (03.19) POLICE MATTERS**.

The Clerk read out a letter that Cllr Oliphant had received from Chief Inspector Adrian Leisk the Head of Roads Policing for Devon, Cornwall and Dorset Police. He apologised for the lack of communication given to those trying to set up Community Speed Watch groups and detailed the action plan that had been put in place to remedy this. He had also provided Cllr Oliphant with forms to detail equipment held and the training requirements of the group.

Cllr Oliphant had completed this paperwork and a reply was awaited.

**7. (03.19) FINANCE.**

The following payments were approved by the meeting:-

**Payments- Main a/c:**  £ Clerk – Mrs T Rowe net salary February 2019 305.79

Office Allowance February 2019 12.00

317.79

H.M.R.C. – February 2019 76.60

Opus Energy – Electricity Jubilee Meadow 30.92

South West Water Business – Jubilee Meadow 15.15

Vision ICT – Operation London Bridge for website 42.00

Environment Account – G Page 97.00

Environment Account – R Cox 25.18

Environment Account – R Cox 75.21

P3 Account – R Cox 32.79

Main Account – R Cox 58.49

**BANK ACCOUNTS as at 28th February 2019**

Main Account: £24,712.76

P3 Account: £413.31

Environment Account: £370.17

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 £46,514.46

N.B. A letter had been received from the Bank of Ireland advising that from 7th May 2019 they will no longer pay interest on the Parish Council accounts.

**8. (03.19)**  **REPORTS:**

**County Council Report.**

Cllr Hawkins told the meeting that Devon County Council had set their budget for 2019/20 and had raised Council Tax by the maximum allowed of 3.99%.

The County Council had needed to make £13,000,000 of savings but had raised money on core services by £20,000,000, this included the main issues of adult and children’s social services.

Cllr Hawkins reported that as part of his work with Devon County Highways he was pleased to report that Widdecombe Lane would be resurfaced as part of the Highways budget for the forthcoming year.

**District Council Report.**

Cllr Pennington told the meeting that the District Council had set its budget for 2019/20 and proposals included:-

1. An increase in Council tax by £5 bringing the Council tax for a Band D property to £165.42 or 3.12% increase and this equated to the District Council’s tax requirement of £6,315,689.
2. A contribution to earmarked reserves of £714,300.
3. Proposed savings of £1,067,226.
4. Use of £500,000 of the New Homes Bonus to balance the revenue budget.
5. The Council Tax Support Grant paid to Town and Parish Councils to be reduced by 9.85% = £74,473.
6. Net expenditure of £8,832,752
7. Minimum level of un-earmarked revenue reserves of £1,500,000.

Cllr Pennington told the meeting that he had put a motion to the last Full District Council meeting for a capital grant to Marldon Village Hall but this had been rejected.

**M.E.G.**

Marldon Environmental Group Report

Work carried out in this month: February 2019

13th February

Two members went back to finish the refurbishment of the steps to the allotments. Three members bagged up gravel for the steps then cleared the approach to the allotment gate on West Lane, clipping the verge and clearing the wall of ivy; 14 hours of work.

20th February

Four members went to Leader Lane to trim back the overgrowth along the whole length of one side of the lane. Two members went to inspect the Parish green lanes.

27th February

Five members went to Brockhurst Park to cut a new section in footpath 17 and lay a new gravel surface; this to prevent the path from becoming a mud bath in wet weather. Both sets of steps were also raked and re-gravelled where needed and the path side bushes trimmed back where necessary. Two members went to inspect the green lanes around Compton.

6th March

Three members went to Jubilee Meadow to take the main gate off and modify the hinges and lower the gate height from the ground. This together with a hanging board would prevent all but the most determined dogs from getting out of the field and onto the road. This had been done in response to requests by dog walkers. It had been reported by a member of the public that two trees at the bottom of the field were leaning and pulling their roots up, probably due to the recent strong winds; these trees would need to be felled.

The MEG tool shed on Broomhill now had a paved area laid in front of the door to prevent mud etc being walked into the shed when tools were being given out and returned and would be a suitable space to inspect and clean equipment when used. Robin Cox had now almost completed the transfer of tools to the shed from his garage. When completed, MEG members will start to use Broomhill as their meeting point.

This month approximately 50 voluntary hours had been completed. The meeting thanked the MEG volunteers for all their hard work.

**9. (03.19)**  **NEIGHBOURHOOD PLANNING.**

Reported under Leisure and Recreation.

**10. (03.19) PLANNING.**

**0301/19/HHO** – Householder application for extension to form new kitchen, bedroom and balcony (resubmission of 2668/18/HHO) –

**24 West View Road, Marldon TQ3 1NG**

**Recommend Approval.**

**0417/19/FUL –** General purpose Agricultural Building – **Hazelwood Farm, Ipplepen Road, Marldon TQ3 1SQ**

**Recommend Approval.**

**0422/19/HHO –** Householder application for proposed detached domestic garage and workshop – **Channel View,**  **Ipplepen Road, Marldon TQ3 1SE**

**Recommend Approval.**

**0410/19/FUL –** Access alterations and creation of vehicular track – **Brownscombe Barn, Compton, Marldon TQ3 1TA**

**Recommend Approval.**

**0339/19/HHO –** Householder application for proposed alterations and extension to form porch and garden room **– 45 Vicarage Hill, Marldon TQ3 1NH**

**Recommend Approval.**

**0421/19/FUL –** Changeof use of the building known as “The Linhay” from ancillary accommodation into separate residential dwelling with associated access and residential curtilage **– The Linhay, Lower Westerland Barns, Westerland Marldon TQ3 1RU**

The applicant attended the meeting and explained the current situation at Lower Westerland Barns to the Parish Council.

**Recommend deferral of a decision to allow the Parish Council to arrange a site visit with the applicant.**

**0601/19/FUL –** Renewal of extant consent no. 0615/16/FUL for the erection of a replacement dwelling and associated works - **Upper Channel View, Ipplepen Road, Marldon TQ3 1SE.**

**Recommend Approval.**

**11. (03.19) CORRESPONDENCE.**

The following items of correspondence had been received:-

1. From South Hams District Council a reminder about changes to Planning Consultations from 1st April 2019
2. Details of help available from Devon Communities Together concerning Community Led Planning (Parish Plans).
3. A News Release from South Hams District Council concerning their budget for 2019/2020.
4. Details from Devon County Council of a new consultation representing the partner authorities for the *Devon Authorities Strategic Waste Committee* (DASWC); *Consultation – Review of the Reuse Credit Scheme (RCS).* The consultation will be open between **25th February 2019** and the **5th April 2019** (6 weeks).
5. Details from Wessex Resolutions CIC of a New Bulk Buy Fuel Scheme in partnership with South Hams District Council.
6. From CPRE an invitation to a seminar on ‘Devon’s New Housing Need – A Government & Local Authority Perspective’ on Thursday, 21st March 2019. 11am-3pm at The Estuary Suite, Sandy Park, Sandy Park Way, Exeter EX2 7NN
7. From Elections at South Hams District Council details of Marldon Nomination papers for 2nd May 2019.
8. A copy of a letter from the contractor working on the wall at the rear of the Village Hall offering to carry out works for the Parish Council.
9. Details of increases to the charges for grounds maintenance from Plandscape – these were agreed by the meeting.

**12. (03.19) LEISURE AND PUBLIC GROUNDS.**

Public Grounds Report from Cllr J Clarke:-

Cllr Clarke reported that having seen Kerry McCabe’s film of the Youth Club children, their activities and their love of the fact that they have a Youth Club with someone to talk to if they have a problem as well as somewhere to mix with friends and enjoy exciting times together, she hoped the Parish Council would understand her passion for obtaining more space for the Youth Club in the Village Hall together with more recreational facilities using the Section 106 monies from the Moorview development.

This had been Cllr Clarke’s wish for many years and now she and fellow Committee members could see a light at the end of a very long tunnel. Together with other friends the committee had given out all the leaflets and when collected Cllr Clarke would be able to deliver the results of the survey at the next Parish Council meeting, i.e. the wishes and hopes of all the Parishioners both young and old for more recreation facilities.

Cllr Clarke told the meeting that she had received some very good feedback as the leaflets were delivered and she would be calling a meeting for the Leisure and Public Grounds Committee to peruse the findings. Cllr Clarke thanked everyone who helped deliver the leaflets and Cllr Pennington for the information on streets and numbers of leaflets required.

Kerry and the Youth Club children delivered to all of the Belfields area on their Youth Club night and were really helpful and enjoyed being asked to be a part of the survey.

On the subject of outdoor exercise machines, there had been a great deal of enthusiasm as people had seen and used them in other parts of the country and abroad and were very impressed with what they could do for young and old.

There would be much more to report at the April meeting and Cllr Clarke told members that she knew they would all have enjoyed watching the film of the Youth Club children as she had when she first saw it at the AGM of TRAYE a few weeks before.

Cllr Pennington proposed a grant of £1,000 to TRAYE and this was seconded by Cllr Clarke and agreed by the meeting.

Cllr Thorp reminded the Clerk that a cheque as a grant to Torbay Hospital Radio had been agreed at the previous meeting.

**13. (03.19) HIGHWAYS AND MAINTENANCE.**

Cllr Veasey reported that the road gulleys in Five Lanes Road were blocked with gravel and in the Totnes Road outside Dormer House the gulley was blocked.

Cllr Veasey also reported that two street lights which he had reported in Village Road had stopped working again; also a light in the Bowling Green car park was not working. Les Pym from Devon County Council Street lighting later advised that the Bowling Green light was not the responsibility of the County Council.

The kerb at the entrance to the road to the bowling green was still loose and a trip hazard.

Potholes in Pembroke Park had been filled but many had been left unrepaired; Cllr Hawkins advised that this was due to the depth (or lack of) of the potholes.

**14. (03.19) BUSINESS AT DISCRETION OF CHAIR (for noting only)**.

There was none.

**15. (03.19) DATE OF NEXT MEETING.**

Monday 8th April 2019.

The meeting closed at 9.50 p.m.

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

Cllr T Pennington (Chairman) – 8th April 2019