

Minutes of Marston Parish Council meeting held on 10th February 2021

This meeting was held virtually using Google Meet

All councillors were sent an invitation email at 6.30pm with a link to ‘Join’ the meeting. Clerk ran the meeting and accepted all join requests

The meeting opened at 19:00

**Present**:

Parish Cllrs; Chairman M Potts (MP), Phil Carter (PhC), Amanda Nixon (AN), Dave Collier (DC) and Chris Anthwal (CA)

Clerk; Caroline Constable (CC)

**Apologies**:

Apologies received from Wrd Cllrs Lynn Gibbon and Norman Wright

**Declarations of interest:**

There were no declarations of interest

**Dispensations:**

There were no dispensations

**Public Forum:**

There were no requests from the public to join the meeting

**Minutes:**

The minutes from the parish council meeting of 13/01/2021 were agreed and approved.

**Actions from previous meeting:**

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| |  |  |  |  | | --- | --- | --- | --- | |  | Action | Assigned to | Actioned | | 1 | Visit Higher Marston play area and check out building work going on at properties adjacent to the play area | PM | PM not present to ask | | 2 | Add link to ‘report issues’ app on website and in MM for reporting potholes etc.. | CC | √ | | 3 | Sent contact details to clerk for painters and decorators/tarmac contractors | ALL | √ | | 4 | Obtain quotes for painting of hall and tarmacking of car park | CC | √ | | 5 | Publish thanks to Warren Davies for contributions to pc (plus his farewell email) | CC | √ | | 6 | Email response to Appeal – 20/00759/FUL – erection of cattle shed | CC | √ | | 7 | Send precept request | CC | √ | | 8 | Advise Angie that payment will now be via cheque directly to her | CC | √ | |  |  |  |  | |
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|  | Agenda Point | Assigned to.. |
| **1** | **Co-opt New Parish Councillor(s)**  PC had received two applications from local residents to join the council; Angela Johnson and Ian Stanley.  Cllr MP nominated to co-opt Angela Johnson and all in agreement, Angela co-opted as parish councillor.  Cllr AN nominated to co-opt Ian Stanley and all in agreement, Ian co-opted as parish councillor.  Cllr MP welcomed them to the parish council |  |
| **2** | **Parish Cllr Reports**  Cllr DC – asked what was being done about the state of Ollershaw Lane after the recent flooding. Clerk advised that a scheme of works was in place to resurface but a schedule had not yet been agreed. Cllr PC noted that markings had already been applied to the road in some places.  Cllr MP – Steven Bentley from Highways had been in contact via email regarding the knocked down ‘one way’ sign on the triangle at the top of Ollershaw Lane. The work had been assigned to a contractor and would be starting soon.  Cllr MP advised that the cast iron heritage sign at the same point was rusty and leaning and could be deemed a danger. Cllr’s MP and AN had both reported this to CW&C but no response so far. Cllr MP to chase with Steven Bentley.  Cllr MP had also reported the removal of the bollard in Higher Marston Play Area, as a large hole had been left which was dangerous. No response as yet.  Cllr MP also advised that she had reported the empty ‘salt grit’ bins on Higher Marston and so far only one had been filled.  Cllr MP also reported that she had received a number of complaints from residents about the state of the hedges on Higher Marston. As we have informed residents many times these hedges are on private land and as such we have no sway on their maintenance. Another resident had also rung asking for an escaped sheep to be removed from the road (Ollershaw Lane), Cllr MP advised that this was not a responsibility of the PC but that she would contact the police, which she did. | MP |
| **3** | **Ward Cllr Reports**  There were no Wrd Cllr’s present but clerk had an update from Cllrs NW and LG.  Wrd Cllr LG – clerk read out updates received from Wrd Cllr LG in email January 2021. Keep advertising CW&C Report It app and tool so that residents can more easily report issues. Details to be added to MM again. COVID-19 Outbreak Board meetings being held regularly to monitor the situation. Public are being encouraged to listen in and ask questions (if registered). Add details to MM. Police and Crime Commissioner community funding available for small projects. World map showing Covid infection rates available on CW&C website. More TAST (Targeted Asymptomatic Serial Testing) sites added predominantly for unpaid carers. New centres at Stanney Oaks and Winsford Lifestyle Centre. A large mobile vaccination unit has been approved to support local vaccination sites. Redevelopment of Moss Farm in discussions with stakeholders. Northwich Outdoor Market Public Space scheme has had a contractor commissioned for the works. Awaiting on a decision from planning for a start date.  Wrd Cllr NW – advised that a meeting had been held the previous evening with Wrd Cllrs and PC chairs and the recent flooding had been discussed. Cllr MP had been present and advised that plans were being drawn up to mitigate any future flooding issues. These plans would potentially see an early warning alert going out to PCs/residents and a stock of warning signs, bollards and sand bags being provided to each PC so that they could respond more quickly to events and advise residents of issues and put out signs/bollards/sand bags. Cllr CA asked whether training would be given beforehand as this could be a potential health and safety issue. Cllr MP advised that this issue had not been raised in the meeting. Wrd Cllr LG had requested that CW&C provide a map of all drains and gullies (ditches) so that PCs could more easily identify any problem areas. Cllr CA advised that this was indeed an issue because the filling in of the culvert behind Ollershaw Lane has led to extensive flooding in residents gardens. Cllr MP also advised that CW&C would be instigating a more thorough maintenance system of road sweeping and clearing of drains. | CC  CC |
| **4** | **Progress Reports**   1. Painting of the church hall and tarmacking of car park – clerk has obtained two quotes from contacts of Cllrs DC and CA for the painting of the hall (plus fixing of leaky gutter and pointing of brickwork underneath chimney breast). One quote for £2400 (CA) and the other for £4340 (DC). Cllr CA advised that she had used her contact and was impressed with their professionalism. It was decided to go with the cheapest quote. Clerk to advise both parties.   Clerk had also obtained a quote for the tarmacking which is £12300, this is from a contact who quoted in 2019 (£11310). Still awaiting a quote from another party. Decision put on hold until we obtain at least one more quote. Clerk to chase.   1. Cenotaph Repair – Clerk advised that they will start the work when the weather improves | CC  CC |
| **5** | **Finance**  ***Invoices received & cheques created*:**   1. Clerks Purchases and Expenses - £61.94   Including stamps at £10.20  Clerks Salary 25 hrs @ £15.41ph - £385.25  Total payable £ 447.19 Chq no. 1270   1. Extra Gas Invoice for filling of LPG tank £399.47 chq no. 1268 2. Williams Print & Design Invoice – February Newsletter £115.20 chq no. 1269 3. NS&I Statement interest of £1.01 received, new balance at 1/1/21 £141.46 4. Donation of £30 from Dot Bailey of Ashwood Park – towards redecoration of Hall. Clerk to add thankyou to MM   ***Rent received*** *(via Cllr CA):*  No rent  ***Cleaner***  4 weeks 17/1/21 – 7/2/21 £40  ***Invoices received from Bookings agent***  4 weeks 17/1/21 – 7/2/21 £40  £80 chq no. 1271 | CC |
| **6** | **Correspondence**   1. Resignation from Iain Stead. Thanks to go in MM 2. Planning Application Decision – 20/02867/FUL – Single Storey Garage The Moorings, Marston Lane – Approval 3. Cheshire Stone Masonry update – hoping to set a start date when weather improves 4. Confirmation of Precept request - £12000 will see a reduction of 0.7% on pc contribution 5. Residents query about the Kissing Gate from Ashwood Park into Cross Street – trying to get wheelchair access. Clerk who lives adjacent to gate advised that when she moved into the street there was just a wooden gate and fencing and so the current wooden gate, metal gate and flag stones had been put in by Tingdene and as such they had taken on the responsibility. She also advised that according to her knowledge the actual strip of land that the gate was on was owned by a local land owner. Cllr DC to report this back to Ashwood Park Residents Association 6. Cheshire Action – addition of community buildings to Village Halls ‘Domesday Book’. Discussed whether PC wanting the Church hall adding to book. Agreed and clerk to send details 7. CW&C – Online Book of Remembrance for those who have died as a result of COVID-19. Clerk advised that we had already placed a notice regarding this in previous MM but that it could be added to next edition 8. Email from Wincham resident regarding flooding of Earles Lane. Clerk advised that she had been in communication with the resident and advised them to report it to CW&C, which they had done. Flood water was subsequently drained at which point a collapsed drain was discovered and fixed 9. Email from resident regarding difficulties on Ollershaw Lane after the flooding. One-way sign knocked down at top of Ollershaw Lane & grass verge ‘torn up’. Cllr MP advised that sign had been positioned too late to stop vehicles accessing Ollershaw Lane at which point they then had to turn around using the ‘triangle’ which is why it had been ‘torn up’. Advised that if PC responsible for future erection of signs it would need placing more prominently before the turning. Sign is being replaced. Clerk to advise resident 10. Email from CW&C regarding 2021 Census. Clerk advised that she and Cllr MP had already placed notice on facebook and would add to MM 11. Email from resident enquiring about the parish councillor vacancy. Now filled 12. HS2 consultation – deadline 26/2/21 13. Email from resident enquiring about the parish councillor vacancy. Now filled | CC  DC  CC  CC  CC  CC |
| **7** | **Any other business**  Clerk advised that Firequeen had attended the hall to service the fire extinguishers. One had been replaced and two filled up. Discussed continued difficulties in getting a company to quote for fire doors as most companies would not do such a small number (4). Cllr AJ advised that Antrobus had recently had a new fire door and she would obtain details | AJ |

Confirmed date of next meeting, 10/03/21

Meeting closed at 19:55

Abbreviations: pc (parish council), cllr (councilor), cllrs’ (councillors’), cllr’s (councillor’s), CW&C (Cheshire West and Chester), MM (Marston Murmurs), MPC (Marston Parish Council)