

All minutes are draft until approved by the Council at the next meeting

Marchwood Parish Council

Minutes of the meeting of the Parish Council in the Pine Room at Marchwood Village Hall on Monday 18th October 2021 at 7.30pm.

Councillors: Cllr J Case – in the Chair (P)

Cllr W Bucknell	(A)	Cllr M Havercroft	(P)
Cllr D Hindle	(P)	Cllr P Mballa	(A)
Cllr M Proctor	(P)	Cllr M Saxby	(P)
Cllr A Ushamba	(P)	Cllr R Young	(P)

(P) Present (A) Absent

In attendance: Mr B Gibbs (Clerk to the Council) & Mrs C Cockeram (Deputy Clerk). Also in attendance were District Cllrs Bennison and Hoare, County Cllr Harrison and five members of the public.

Apologies for absence

22/239 Cllrs Bucknell and Mballa sent their apologies.

Declarations of Interest

22/240 There were no declarations of interest made.

Public Participation

22/241 A parishioner spoke about the two recent deaths that had occurred at the Twiggs Lane junction of the A326. The following points were noted.

- A petition has been raised online seeking improvements to the road itself and the junctions emerging from it.
- Over 4000 people had signed it.
- The Parishioner had also written to all Parish Councils from Netley Marsh through to Fawley.
- He had also written to Hampshire County Council and had received an acknowledgement from Cllr Rob Humby.
- Cutting back overgrown vegetation would lead to an immediate improvement to the sight lines.
- Improved signage and warning signs would also help reduce speeds through the by-pass.
- Consideration should be given to installing light-controlled crossings at both the Staplewood Lane and Twiggs Lane junctions.
- Permanent speed cameras should also be installed.

Chairman's report

22/242 Cllr Case asked the Clerk to present a brief report regarding youth provision in the village that had been due to be discussed in tonight's exempt business.

Legal advice had been received to the effect that the item could be discussed in the open session of the meeting.

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22/243 The Clerk told the meeting that the Marchwood Youth Club is currently being re-organised with help from the Parish Council. The following points were noted.

- The Youth Club occupies part of the Lloyd Recreation Ground Sports Pavilion under a lease arrangement.
- This lease has reached the end of its term but has not been surrendered by the Youth Club.
- The Youth Club is a charitable organisation.
- The trustees of the charity include current parish councillors and employees of Marchwood Parish Council and the Handy Trust.
- The Youth Club informed their current bankers of the plans to re-organise
- In response, their bankers took the opportunity to close their account as they are moving away from the small charity sector.
- The Youth Club has here been able to pay their bills since June 2021.
- In addition, the Youth Club's sub tenant has paid a number of months' rent into the Lloyd Recreation Ground Trust account rather than leave this owing.
- This equalled £888.00
- The Youth Club has three outstanding invoices that need to be paid.
- These are for the annual Performing Rights Society fee (for playing of music in public) £174.40. The annual Television Licence £159 and the annual insurance fee £400.
- The total outstanding was therefore £733.40.

22/244 The Clerk said that he had received advice from the Parish Council's solicitor that the interim solution to managing the Youth Club's affairs whilst it was being re-organised was as follows.

22/245 The money deposited in the LRGT bank account may be transferred to the Parish Council's treasurer account using powers outlined in the Memorandum of Understanding.

22/246 The Parish Council may then pay the Youth Club's outstanding invoices using powers obtained from Section 19 of the Miscellaneous Provisions Act 1976.

22/247 The Parish Council can then hold the balance of £154.60 until such times as the Youth Club has managed to open a bank account with a recognised provider.

22/248 The Clerk informed the meeting that these are powers he was able to discharge in his own right but that he asked for the actions to follow a Parish Council Resolution.

22/249 **RESOLVED:** To accept the advice of the Clerk and its own solicitor and empower the Clerk to expedite the actions minuted above.

Minutes

22/250 **RESOLVED:** To accept the minutes of the ordinary meeting held on the 6th September 2021 and the extra-ordinary meeting held on the 22nd September 2021.

Reports from the New Forest District Councillors

22/251 Cllr Bennison spoke about the following items:

- Complaints received from villagers regarding issues with shore fishing at the sea wall at the RNAD.

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- The NFDC waste management strategy. The new strategy will bring improvements including collecting recyclable materials that have been separated by householders.
- There may be the introduction of wheely bins in the future.

22/252 Cllr Hoare spoke about the following items:

- NFDC are working with the NFNPA regarding its recreational strategy. The aim being to reduce anti-social behaviour, fires and BBQs and wild camping.
- There are still issues with kerbside collections due to staff shortages.
- There is still a backlog with green waste collections and no new customers are being taken on at this time.

22/253 Both Cllr Benison's and Hoare's written reports will be appended to these minutes.

22/254 County Cllr Harrison spoke about the following items.

- The Government plans a more flexible approach to devolution, with new 'County Deals'.
- These will focus on growing the private sector by creating the conditions for long-term growth and productivity and will invest in infrastructure and connectivity;
- Ensure that people have access to good public services, and the skills and training needed to get good jobs.
- Improve the quality of life in communities through cutting crime and regenerating towns and high streets
- The County Council leader has picked this up by inviting all the leaders of districts and unitary authorities within Hampshire to discuss this.
- No new re-organisation of local government is planned.
- COP26 will take place in November 2021 and it is very important that successful outcomes emerge from the conference.
- The County Council's budget reduction consultations are almost complete with the aim of reducing the budget by £80M.
- Waste recycling centres and school crossing patrols appear to have been retained.
- Many highways' improvements are planned across the New Forest but budgets have not been allocated.

Cllr Harrison reminded everyone that he has a small amount a grant money available.

The A326 (Marchwood By-Pass)

22/255 Cllr Young led this item and began by referring members to Report A. This report was produced in response to a double fatality at the A326 / Twiggs Lane junction. He commented that there have been twelve people killed or seriously injured between Staplewood Lane and the Dibden roundabout.

22/256 Cllr Young commented his report to the meeting and asked for members to support him in engaging with Hampshire Highways and the County Council in general to identify safety improvements. The following comments were received.

- Many drivers ignore current signage regarding speed limits, no right turns and the proximity of schools.
- Verges are severely overgrown.
- Vegetation is obscuring some signage.
- The Staplewood junction is poorly designed.

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- Motor cyclists sometimes do not help themselves by ignoring advisory signage.
- Motor cycle “black spot” signs would work well here.
- There was no single cause of accidents. Many different explanations were identified.
- Cllr Humby and Oppenheimer should be written to seek their urgent help.

22/257 **RESOLVED:** The Clerk was instructed to write to Hampshire Highways seeking their help to identify safety improvements to the Marchwood Bypass.

22/258 **RESOLVED:** The Clerk was also instructed to invite Hampshire Highways to work with the Parish Council so that its local knowledge and experience can assist Hampshire Highways in identifying improvements.

22/259 Cllr Case asked for this item to be carried forward to the next meeting of the Parish Council in December 2021.

Lloyd Recreation Ground Trust matters

22/260 The Clerk reported the following items to the Parish Council (acting as the management trustee of the Lloyd Recreation Ground Trust) for its attention.

- The Scouts & Guides will be officially opening their new headquarters on Saturday the 30th October 2021.
- Invitations to attend have been sent out.
- Mr Craig Hylands has now submitted his resignation and we will be recruiting a new caretaker.
- The Clerk hopes to arrange casual cover during the intervening period.
- The Clerk has also sought advice from the Lloyd Recreation Ground Trust’s insurers to see if this task can be delegated to hirers.
- The height barrier has now been installed.
- The Clerk said that it is planned to install LED lighting as part of the ongoing maintenance of the Landscape team’s workshop.
- The Clerk said that a tidy-up of the workshop compound and have disposed of a significant amount of end-of-life equipment and other detritus.

External Audit 2020-21

22/261 The Clerk referred everyone to the copy of the external audit report contained within Report C. He continued by saying that there have been a couple of comments made and an instruction issued.

22/262 Comment one contained in the report referred to the exercise of Public Rights. The Clerk acknowledged that an error had been made when calculating the date of the commencement of the period if public inspection. The date published was in advance of meeting scheduled to approve the draft accounts. This is contrary to Section 15 of the Accounts and Audit Regulations 2015.

22/263 The other comment was the fact that the external auditor did not consider our documents to be an adequate explanation for the variance between Box 7 and Box 8 of the Annual Governance and Accountability Return.

22/264 The Clerk offered to accept censure from the Parish Council regarding these errors and omissions.

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Orders for Payment August to October 2021

22/265 **RESOLVED:** The Parish Council approved the Orders for Payment that are outstanding up to the date of the meeting. The Clerk referred members to Appendix A in their briefing pack.

Receipts August to October 2021

22/266 **RESOLVED:** The Parish Council noted the total of receipts up to the date of the meeting. The Clerk referred members to Appendix B in their briefing pack.

Orders for Payment for the 2nd Qtr. 2021-22 (1st July to 30th September 2021)

22/267 **RESOLVED:** The Parish Council approved the Orders for Payment for the period 1st July to 30th September 2021. The Clerk referred members to Appendix C in their briefing pack

Receipts for the 2nd Qtr. 2021-22 (1st July to 30th September 2021)

22/268 **RESOLVED:** The Parish Council noted the receipts for the period 1st July to 30th September 2021. The Clerk referred members to Appendix D in their briefing pack.

Income & Expenditure as at 31st August 2021

21/269 **RESOLVED:** The Parish Council noted the Income & Expenditure report as at as at 31st August 2021. Members were told that the Income & Expenditure report as at as at 31st August 2021 was Appendix E in their briefing pack.

Income & Expenditure as at 30th September 2021

21/270 **RESOLVED:** The Parish Council noted the Income & Expenditure report as at as at 30th September 2021. Members were told that the Income & Expenditure report as at as at 30th September 2021 was Appendix F in their briefing pack.

Income & Expenditure against budget as at 31st August 2021

21/271 **RESOLVED:** The Parish Council noted the Income & Expenditure against budget report as at 31st January 2021. Members were told that the Income & Expenditure against budget report as at as at 31st August 2021 was Appendix G in their briefing pack.

Income & Expenditure against budget as at 30th September 2021

21/272 **RESOLVED:** The Parish Council noted the Income & Expenditure report against budget as at 30th September 2021. Members were told that the Income & Expenditure report against budget as at 30th September 2021 was Appendix G in their briefing pack.

Balance Sheet as at 31st August 2021

22/273 **RESOLVED:** The Parish Council noted the Balance Sheet report as at 31st August 2021. Members were told that the Balance Sheet up to the 31st August 2021 was Appendix E in their briefing pack.

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Balance Sheet as at 30th September 2021

22/274 **RESOLVED:** The Parish Council noted the Balance Sheet report as at 30th September 2021. Members were told that the Balance Sheet up to the 30th September 2021 was Appendix F in their briefing pack.

Bank Reconciliations as at 31st August 2021

22/275 **RESOLVED:** The Parish Council noted the Parish Council's Bank Reconciliations as at 31st August 2021.

Lloyds Bank Instant Access Account £50,000.64
Lloyds Bank 30 Day Notice (Treasurers) Account £12,465.21
Lloyds Bank Business Instant Account £50,007.81

Members were told that the Bank Reconciliations as at 31st August 2021 was Appendix F in their briefing pack.

Bank Reconciliations as at 30th September 2021

22/276 **RESOLVED:** The Parish Council noted the Parish Council's Bank Reconciliations as at 30th September 2021.

Lloyds Bank Instant Access Account £143,033.38
Lloyds Bank 30 Day Notice (Treasurers) Account £23,752.34
Lloyds Bank Business Instant Account £50,008.23

Members were told that the Bank Reconciliations as at 30th September 2021 was Appendix F in their briefing pack.

Committee Minutes

22/277 **RESOLVED:** To receive as follows:

Planning: 31st August 2021.
Policy & Resources: 26th Feb 2021.
Amenities: 14th June 2021.

22/278 **Exempt Business:** To pass a resolution in accordance with the Public Bodies (Admission to Meetings) Act 1960 to exclude the public and press from the discussion of the following matters where publicity might be prejudicial to the special nature of the business.

Exempt Business:

22/172 **RESOLVED:** To accept the exempt minutes of the council meetings held on the 26th July and 9th September 2021 as a true record.

There being no further business the meeting closed at 9.55pm

District Councillor Report to Marchwood Parish Council

The Promenade

I contacted HCC regarding the issues that residents were experiencing along the Promenade with Fishermen and their activities. Paula Edwards responded with some suggestions which whilst being perfectly sensible I believe most of the suggestions have already been employed by the Parish Council in an effort to contain the unsociable activities.

These were her suggestions

Liaise with New Forest District Council to see if they could send their pedestrian sweeper along the promenade on a regular basis – **I have already spoken with Byron to see if the chaps are reporting hooks when they cut the Promenade, his reply was that the machines would just mash them up so they would have no knowledge of their existence.**

Is there the potential for NFDC to provide or increase the number of these? **I believe there are litter bins plus additional fish hook bins, do those bins have notices on them asking the fisherman to use them at all times.**

With regard to hooks and lines being thrown into the sea and fish being thrown back I'm not sure that there is anything that the Highway Authority can do about this.

Signage is an obvious thing that could be done and HCC would be happy to approve the erection of any provided by the district or Parish Council, but I'm not sure what impact this would have if any; people who fish should know the damage their lines and hooks can do and how to use their equipment safely.

Could the Parish use social media or approach any local fishing clubs or forums to publicise the issue and promote some self-policing within the fishing community? **Is this a possibility?**

As a last resort you could speak to the legal officers at NFDC to see if there are any byelaw's that could be put in place to stop fishing is all else fails? **I am willing to ask but as NFDC are not the landowner that may not be possible.**

I seem to remember when this issue arose before the local PC or PCSO took a walk along the Promenade and spoke to individuals fishing to advise them of the difficulties with fishing hooks being discarded on the ground and lines being left unattended.

Is that a possibility?

Garden Waste Collections

From 13th September garden waste collections will recommence on a four-week basis. Until the service gets back up to speed no new garden waste customers can be accepted and no additional bags will be sold. This will be review on an ongoing basis but is likely to continue until Christmas at least allowing time for staffing levels to recover.

Planning

The Council is advising developers and homeowners who are planning any building project at home to know the best time to carry out an ecological survey or potentially face delays to the planning process.

“Assessing the likely ecological impacts of a development is often complex so employing a suitably qualified ecological consultant is usually cost effective and valuable. Pre-application discussion with the Local Planning Authority will ensure all issues are considered before an application is submitted and help prevent delays.”

The survey season for many species ends in the next couple of months. Residents can see information about optimal survey periods at <https://newforest.gov.uk/article/2780>

For pre-application planning advice, see <https://newforest.gov.uk/article/1464/Pre-application-planning-advice>

Cllr. Sue Bennison

September 2021