Marston Sicca Parish Council
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Reg. Office:
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Draft Minutes of Ordinary Parish Council meeting held Long Marston Village Hall March 20th 2023

Members Present: Cllr. Ian Johnsey (Chair), Cllr. Bill Tempest, Cllr. Margaret Clarke, Cllr. Richard Whittaker.

Also present: six members of the public

1.Apologies

1.1 Apologies received from Cllr. Davis and Cllr. Hodges

2.Declaration of Interest

None declared.

3.Public open Session

3.1 Member of the public enquired about speed calming measures and the new VAS systems in place. Council members confirmed they can record data.

3.2 Resident referred to the village hall and asked if the council were considering a new village hall/community building. Council confirmed all options are being reviewed and, the agreement to contribute towards a surveyor to assess current VH.

4.County and District Councillor Reports

4.1 Cllr. Perteghella advised the District Council's budget was debated at the full council meeting on 27th February. The current administration's budget has been passed, but disappointingly of all the opposition group's important budget amendments only one was accepted, and this was to provide more resources for the enforcement team.

4.2 More positive news was the cost- of- living motion proposed by Cllr. Perteghella was passed unanimously at the full council meeting.

4.3 Cllr. Perteghella had contacted the council offices regarding parish boundary in relation to the Long Marston Airfield Garden Village. It was suggested this would be better discussed at a meeting in SDC with the parish clerk. It was agreed to organise a meeting with Cllr. Perteghella, the parish clerk and Cllr. Tempest.

5. Minutes of the previous meeting

Members considered Minutes of meeting held on February 20th 2023 to be an accurate account. Minutes were approved and signed.

6.Clerks Report

6.1 Asset Transfers

(i) Marston Meadow final land transfer is still delayed due to Severn Trent adding new points to the proposed transfer contract. There is a scheduled teams meeting between the three solicitors to find a workable solution.

(ii) Meon Vale assets is currently being processed between PC solicitor Robert Lunn and Lowth and St Modwen solicitors Lodders. In addition, the contractual agreement between Marston Sicca and Quinton Parish Councils is being organised to ensure this is concluded in readiness for the asset transfer. A range of questions has been tabled to ensure each parish council understand the process and how the assets will be managed going forward.

6.2 Election – council members were advised of the nomination process, to ensure nomination papers are submitted to the clerk for checking and to submit before the deadline of 4pm 4th April. Once the voting has been concluded, council members would take office from May 9th.

6.3. Adoption of social media Policy, deferred until next meeting.

6.4 The clerk gave members an update on ground maintenance tender. The costs submitted by Thos. Fox and the additional tender submitted by I. Johnsey & Co. for work to Barley Fields and Marston Meadow only. Comparing prices for these areas only, gave a cost benefit by using I.Johnsey but also reassurance that the work would be done in accordance with the agreement. It was resolved to award the noted two areas to I.Johnsey & Co. and to advise Thos. Fox. Clerk to action.

7. Correspondence

7.1 Clerk advised members of a grant request from the Masons Arms as a contribution towards the Coronation celebrations. The council had previously agreed a £3k budget for grants with a percentage of this to be for the Coronation. It was resolved to have the Masons table the projected costs and for the council to proportion an amount towards the event from the grants reserves. Clerk to action and report details for next meeting.

8. Meon Vale Assets

8.1 Clerk confirmed £15k had been awarded from SDC to help with Pavilion project and further £3500 awarded as part of digital inclusion. Quinton PC also holding funds for the project.

8.2 It was agreed that members from both parish councils should meet to discuss the asset transfer. Clerk to organise convenient date.

9. Vision for the future.

9.1. Marston Meadow – planting has already been undertaken. This includes planting scheme that should have been concluded by Lagan Homes. The working group has been assessing and pricing next priorities including gated entrance, pathway and the relocation/enhancement of the play area. Clerk to check with enforcement on planning conditions and variation to agreed layout.

9.2 Members discussed ideas for maintaining and managing assets post full acquisition. This included appropriate budgeting and monies for future maintenance. Clerk/RFO to investigate management fees, liabilities and income.

10. Climate Change and Biodiversity Event

10.1 Cllr. Whittaker confirmed the date set is June 10th and several guest speakers and initiatives have been organised. Anticipated spend is expected to be within budget.

11. Finance

11.1 Bank reconciliation was provided, and details agreed. RFO confirmed increased interest was being secured from Nationwide savings account.

11.2 Payments Made

Date	Payee	Cheque No	£	Details
02/03/2023	Tops Plants	BP	704.00	Planting Marston Meadow
02.03/2023	DG Marcuse	BP	289.90	10 Tree Guards
11/03/2023	DG Marcuse	BP	925.00	Tree planting and maintenance MM
15/03/2023	HP Instant Ink	DC	22.49	Printer Ink
17/03/2023	Lodders Solicitors	BP	2205.72	Open Space legal fees

11.3 Online Payments for Approval

Date	Payee	Cheque No	£	Details
20/03/2023	Warwickshire CC	BP	115.20	Streetlights
20/03/2023	Uberdoodle	BP	431.32	Website & Newsletter
21/03/2023	HSBC	CHG	20.37	Bank Charges
21/03/2023	I.Johnsey & Co	BP	£80 £810.00	MV allotments Barley Fields and Marston Meadow

11.4 Community Centre Payments Made

Date	Payee	Cheque No	£	Details
03/03/2023	British Gas	DD	135.18	Gas Community C.
09/02/2023	Nest	DD	134.23	Pension
17/03/2023	H Leedham	BP	222.50	CC Stock

11.5 Community Centre Payments for Approval

Date	Payee	Cheque No	£	Details
20/03/2023	Origin Eden	BP	119.00	Coffee Stock
20/03/2023	LPC Bakery	BP	12.89	Stock
20/03/2023	SK Hillier	BP	36.64	Stock
26/03/2023	BIFFA Waste Svcs.	BP	151.08	Bin collection
31/03/2023	SK Hillier	BP	***	PAYE
31/03/2023	British Gas	DD	104.66	Gas Community C.

12. Planning matters discussed:

12.1 18/01892/OUT, LMA 3100 and 18/01883/FUL – SWRR. Cllr Tempest gave a detailed review (see attached Appendix 1).

12.2 Other planning matters including All Things Wild remain ongoing.

13. Councillor Reports

13.1 Cllr. Davis informed members, further work on the Neighbourhood Plan. Confirmation received from SDC regarding DEV 6 – that they are happy with the policy as is, with no changes required.

13.2 Cllr. Clarke confirmed the working group for Marston Meadow was working well and reviewing various options for the site. A public consultation would be organised when the final land transfer is concluded.
13.3 Cllr. Whittaker provided members with a report including various schemes in place, an update from the biodiversity working group and comments from Meon Vale residents' association.

14. Date of next meetings:
14.1 Annual meeting of the parish – 6pm 17th April followed by
14.2 Ordinary parish council meeting – 7.30pm
Long Marston Village Hall

Debbie Woodliffe, Parish Clerk/RFO