

Markyate Parish Council

MINUTES OF MARKYATE PARISH COUNCIL MEETING HELD ON TUESDAY 10th JANUARY 2017 AT 7.30PM IN THE Y2K HALL, MARKYATE, HERTS, AL3 8PS.

Present: Cllr P Bunyan, Chairman, Cllr R Langley, (Vice Chairman), Cllr D Coasby, Cllr R Peterson, Cllr S. Pilkinton, Cllr P. Sherriff
B/Cllr H Chapman, Cllr. D Kao, Mrs D Sells, Clerk/RFO

In attendance: 1 member of public, B. Cllr Jane Timmis MBE

214/17 APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Apologies were received from Cllr G Baldwin, due to work commitments.

215/17 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

Cllr R Peterson declared a personal interest in item 228/17 due to living in close proximity of the request for bollards in Wesley Road. Cllr P Sherriff declared a personal interest in item 239/17 due to living in close proximity to the tree requiring inspection.

216/17 MINUTES OF THE LAST MEETING

It was **RESOLVED** that the minutes of the Meeting of Markyate Parish Council held on 6th December 2016, were a correct record and were signed by the Chairman. This was proposed by Cllr Coasby and seconded by Cllr Sherriff.

217/17 DRAFT MINUTES FROM THE BUDGET & FINANCE COMMITTEE MEETING

It was **RESOLVED** that the minutes of the Budget and Finance Committee meeting held on the 3rd January, 2017 with minor adjustments to the draft budget, were a correct record. This was proposed by Cllr Peterson and seconded by Cllr Langley.

218/17 CO-OPT WEI-TSUNG (DAVID) KAO

Following the appropriate Notice of Vacancy notices and procedures followed, the chairman Cllr Bunyan declared Wei-Tsung (David) Kao duly elected as a co-opted member onto the Parish Council to serve the remaining term.

219/17 PUBLIC COMMENTS AND QUESTIONS IN ACCORDANCE WITH STANDING ORDER 1 (c to j)

It was reported that Dacorum Borough Council Strategic Planning and Environment Committee meeting will be held on Tuesday, 31st January, 2017 at their new offices, The Forum, Marlowes, Hemel Hempstead, HP1 1DN. Any Councillor wishing to attend is most welcome.

At 7.40 p.m. Cllr Pilkinton arrived.

Luton Airport

Borough Councillor Jane Timmis MBE, representing Dacorum Borough Councillors on the Luton Airport Consultative and The Noise and Tracks Committees said she was able to report on the latest situation regarding Luton Airport.

70% of planes taking off from Luton fly on a centre line between Flamstead and Markyate. The noise pollution especially during the summer months affects a large number of those living in both villages and will only get worse as passenger numbers increase from the present 13 million to an estimated 18 million by 2020. The Airport points to the increase in quieter planes and new technology to ensure planes keep to a precise flight path, but the sheer increase in the number of flights and the slow climb of the aircraft counter the benefits.

At present there is a very complicated system of flight control in our skies, as both Heathrow and City Airport share the skies around Luton Airport. To keep safe Air Traffic Control, keeps planes separated by height, and so Luton planes have to take off at lower angle to remain at a lower level until they are out of the area. They are planning a complete reorganisation of the ATC system in the near future, so our best hope is that we lobby for the possibility that Luton planes can take off at a steeper angle, resulting in them being higher over the villages and therefore less intrusive.

She then went on to give her views regarding planning application 4/03300/16/MFA – Land on corner of Friendless Lane and Pickford Road. This is within the Chilterns area of outstanding natural beauty. The proposed development will impact on Markyate more-so than Flamstead. There is no street lighting and no pavements. Part of the surrounding area is Greenbelt. Trees have already been removed. Access onto Pickford Road will be dangerous, due to poor line of sight. This area has been described as of high ecological value which should be enhanced. Many objections have so far been raised by both Flamstead and Markyate residents, including those of Herts County Council. The planning application decision will be extended for the time-being.

220/17 PLANNING DECISIONS FROM DACORUM BOROUGH COUNCIL

1	4/00182/16/ADV	School entrance sign adjacent to main gate on Pickford Road	Beechwood Park School	Grant
2	4/02897/16/DRC	Details as required by condition 4 (Contamination – Parts (a) and (b) only) Attached to planning permission 4/02353/14/FUL (demolition of existing buildings on site and replacement with four dwellings)	Cotton Spring, Friendless Lane	Grant

221/17 PLANNING APPLICATIONS

To consider planning applications listed below and those received between 4th January 2017 and 10th January 2017

1	4/03318/16/FHA	Single storey rear extension	4, Parkfield	No Objections
2	4/03161/16/FHA	Part retrospective planning permission for the demolition of a Static Home, outbuildings with self-contained accommodation, link extension and replacement outbuilding with self-contained ancillary residential accommodation.	Broadview Cottage, Luton Road	Presented at 06.12.16 meeting.
3	4/03300/16/MFA	Construction of 12 new dwellings. 5-one bedroom, 3-two bedroom and 4-three bedroom. Bin and cycle storage. Parking and access road.	Land to corner of Friendless Lane and Pickford Road	Opposed. Area of natural beauty. Traffic issues over development of site. Green belt on opposite site. Against - 6 For - 1 Abstain - 1
4	4/03320/16/FHA	13 Dammersey close	Side Gable	Noted that work has actually begun. Request for an officer from Dacorum to come and visit.
5	4/03364/16/TCA	The Tower House, Cleveland Road	Removal of Sycamore tree	No Objections.
6	4/03440/16/FHA	Demolition of an existing conservatory and construction of a ground floor extension. Changes to doors and windows to include addition of bi-folding doors and two new windows. Enclosure of the existing porch. Alterations to existing front elevation to match existing stables and storage buildings. Improvements to north facing landscape.	Ashtons, Green Lane	No Objections. Note : Very poor information given on this plan.

Action: Clerk

222/17 ACCOUNTS FOR PAYMENT

To approve the schedule for payment as attached. It was proposed by Cllr. Langley and seconded by Cllr. Pilkinton and **agreed** unanimously to approve the schedule for payment. **RESOLVED:** that the schedule of payment be signed as circulated. The schedule of accounts listed the balances of the Parish Councils accounts as at today's date as follows:

MPC Current Account	£6,582.58
HSBC [Precept Account]	£49,339.42
MPC Investment [NS&I]	£20,737.35
Petty Cash	£21.14
TOTAL	£76,680.49

223/17 TO RECEIVE THIRD QUARTER SPEND TO DATE AGAINST BUDGET

It was noted the third quarter spend is £90,380 against a budget of £98,890

This was proposed by Cllr R Peterson and seconded by Cllr R Langley.

224/17 DRAFT BUDGET/PROPOSED PRECEPT/REQUEST FROM CONCURRENT SERVICES 2017/18

a) It was proposed by Cllr P Bunyan and seconded by Cllr S Pilkinton and **RESOLVED** that the Council approves the draft budget for 2017/18 with some adjustments to the papers circulated. Based on the current information the Parish Rate for a Band D property is expected to be £37.29

b) It was proposed by Cllr R Langley and seconded by Cllr R Peterson and **RESOLVED** that the Council approves a Precept of £49,521.99

- c) It was proposed by Cllr P Sherriff and seconded by Cllr R Pilkinton and **RESOLVED** that the Council accepts the DBC Concurrent Services Grant of £8570.90 as detailed in their email dated 5 December 2016 and Village Warden of £9912.39 for 2017/18
- d) The Council Tax Support is £2213.55.

Action: Clerk

At 9.00 p.m. Cllr. Timmis left the meeting.

225/17 TO RECEIVE UPDATED DRAFT PERSISTENT COMPLAINERS POLICY

Received and agreed.

226/17 TO RECEIVE REPORT OF DRAFT LEASE FOR CRICKET CLUB

It was reported that the last version of the new lease has been sent to the Legal Department at DBC. The Parish Council's solicitor will prepare this document for signatory purposes. However, there is a further point. The proposed lease plan showing the Club's property as edged in red and the Club House hatched in black will not be accepted by the Land Registry as what is known as a "compliant plan".

This means that a new plan will have to be drawn up and the Council should be prepared to instruct its surveyor to prepare this.

Action: HC/Clerk

227/17 TO RECEIVE REPORT ON CHRISTMAS LIGHTS

It was confirmed that the lights had been switched off. The metered supply is correct. *Arrangements will be made* for a date when the lights can be taken down; this will entail no parking signs being displayed. In addition, the Parish Council require the cost for next year for putting the lights up. The cost for taking the lights down this year has already been paid.

Action: SP

228/17 INSTALLATION OF BOLLARDS IN WESLEY ROAD

It was agreed to press for the installation of bollards to complete the line previously installed along the margin in Wesley Road to replace the felled trees that performed that function previously by providing protection to the grade-two listed retaining wall which supports a rise in the land of in excess of five feet.

The wall was constructed in around 1850 and was never designed to withstand the compaction of soil caused by motor vehicles should they park close to the boundary. Previously before Wesley Road was built in around 1927 it was just meadow land. Portions of the wall constitute the outer wall of the premises of 8 Albert Street and residents are in close contact with it just going about their daily lives.

It was agreed to try to obtain funding from DBC or David Lloyd's Community Budget as it was felt that the expense should not fall on to the Parish Council's Budget.

Action: HC

229/17 ASSISTANT DIRECTOR OF PLANNING, DEVELOPMENT AND REGENERATION

After offering to attend a PCM to offer advice and answer any questions, it was agreed that Mr. Doe should be invited.

Action: Clerk

230/17 TO RECEIVE REPORT FOR DEFIBRILLATORS

Deferred to the March Parish Council Meeting.

Action: Clerk

231/17 TO AGREE SUPPLY OF MANNED REFUSE FREIGHTERS 2017

Budgeted for three freighters throughout the year. It was proposed by Cllr Pilkinton and seconded by Cllr Coasby and **RESOLVED**

To accept the Manned Freighter @ £405.84 each during February, June and October 2017.

Action: Clerk

232/17 ACCESS IN THE VILLAGE ON A MOBILITY SCOOTER

Not very clear as to this parishioner's concerns. A letter will be sent asking what the specific concerns are and in what area. Other users of mobility scooters seem to have no issues.

Action: Clerk

233/17 REPORT ON FOOTPATH 13 LEADING TO CAVENDISH ROAD

It was reported that this footpath has to be a minimum of 2.5 metres in width, although there has been much controversy. However, people need access from the houses to the field and school. This path will make walking much easier and less hazardous.

Action: HC

234/17 TO RECEIVE UPDATE ON SECTION 106 FUNDS

It was reported that a visit to this site had been made. The play area by the village halls owned by DBC will be completely renovated, with extra equipment being added. There is a slight issue with the Health and Safety emergency access; this is being looked into and is ongoing.

The play area at Peggy's Field is also being renovated, i.e. safety surface; a play area and gym will be installed. Funds permitting, a ramp for children will be installed in the playground area.

DBC will follow the quotation process with a view to works being completed by early spring.

On going

235/17 TO RECEIVE ENVIRONMENT AGENCY AND RISK MANAGEMENT AUTHORITY CONSULTATION

Attendance was confirmed at this meeting.

Action: DC

236/17 TO DISCUSS AND AGREE WORDING OF THE TRANSFER OF THE CEMETERY LAND IN MARKYATE

The developer insists that a covenant is to be included in the Transfer stating that "the Property shall not be used for any purpose other than a cemetery and relevant associated car parking, without prior written consent from (Inland Homes Developments Limited).

The Council will be bound by this covenant if it is accepted and not in a position to deal with the sale or use of the land for any purpose other than as a cemetery without this developer's consent.

It was agreed to accept the advice of the Parish Council's Solicitor that the covenant should not be accepted.

Action: HC/Clerk

237/17 TO RECEIVE CONSULTATION ON MODIFICATIONS TO THE SITE ALLOCATION

Deferred until next meeting.

Action: SP

238/17 TO RECEIVE REPORT FROM DBC TOWARDS FUNDING FOR WORKING PAPERLESS WITH PLANNING APPLICATIONS

It was proposed a large monitor to project the planning applications is considered with funding from DBC.

Deadline for response 31 January 2017.

Action: PS/Clerk

239/17 TO RECEIVE REPORT ON TREE INSPECTION AT PEGGY'S FIELD

It was agreed it will be established who the house adjacent to the sycamore tree belongs to. It is on the left as you walk around the patch of Peggy's field and against the fence line behind impenetrable scrub. If access can be gained, DBC can inspect the tree by looking over the fence.

Action: RL

240/17 TO RECEIVE REPORT ON CHEVERELLS CLOSE, MARKYATE

It was reported at this moment in time no more appeals have been lodged. As of the 16th January 2017, the resident will have to remove the fence in question. The Enforcement Officer/DBC has confirmed that this will happen.

Action: HC

241/17 TO RECEIVE CLERK'S REPORT

Nothing to report.

242/17 CORRESPONDENCE FOR INFORMATION ONLY

The Clerk circulated the list of correspondence for information only which was duly noted.

243/17 ITEMS FOR MARKYATE MONTHLY

Luton Airport, Proposed Housing Development, Planning Applications, Installation of Bollards in Wesley Road, Refuse Freighter, Defibrillators, Access in the Village using a Mobility Scooter, Going Paperless, Tree Inspection Peggy's Field.

Action: DC

244/17 TO RECEIVE REQUEST FROM MARKYATE YOUTH FC TO EXPAND IN THE FUTURE

It was proposed by Cllr Bunyan and seconded by Cllr Pilkinton and

RESOLVED

that the Parish Council should donate £600 from reserves for the Youth FC to purchase a ride on grass cutter.

Action: Clerk

245/17 PUBLIC BODIES (ADMISSIONS TO MEETINGS) ACT 1960

It was **RESOLVED** that under S 4 (A) of the Public Bodies (Admissions to Meetings) Act 1960 the Press and Public be excluded during the items in Part II of the agenda for this meeting, because it is likely that publicity would prejudice the public interest by reason of the confidential nature of the business or for other special reasons stated in the resolution, arising from the nature of the business or proceedings.

Three quotations were requested but only two were received and presented to the Parish Council for grass cutting in Peggy's Field and cemetery

It was **RESOLVED** to accept the quotation from Village Garden Services as follows:-

Peggy's Field (Village Green)

To cut all grassed areas including enclosed play area

To apply weed killer when needed

14 cuts from 01.03.17 to 31.10.17 @ £90.00 + VAT

Total: £1260.00 + VAT

Markyate Cemetery

To cut all grassed areas

To apply weed killer when needed

To empty the bins when necessary

14 cuts from 01.03.17 to 31.10.17 £78.00 per cut + VAT

Total: £1092.00 + VAT

Hedge cut @ £173.40 x 2 + VAT

Unsuccessful quotations as follows:-

Peggy's Field

A - £1280.00 + VAT

Cemetery

A - 1040.00 + VAT

Action: Clerk

Although not the most competitive quotation, VGS was selected as the standard of work was satisfactory.

There being no further the meeting closed at 10.20 pm

Next meeting: 7th February 2017

Signed: _____

Date: _____