

MARKYATE PARISH COUNCIL

MINUTES OF MARKYATE PARISH COUNCIL MEETING HELD VIRTUALLY ON TUESDAY 1st September 2020 AT 7.30PM.

Present: Cllr. P. Bunyan, Cllr. S. Pilkinton, Cllr. R. Peterson, Cllr. C. Ononye, Cllr. D. Kao.
Mrs D. Sells, Clerk/RFO

In attendance: C/Cllr. Terry Douris, 3 members of the public

86/20 APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

B/Cllr. H. Chapman, Cllr. P. Styles due to personal reasons.

87/20 TO RECEIVE UPDATE ON A COUNCILLOR WHO HAS NOT ATTENDED A MEETING FOR SIX MONTHS

Due to the restrictions of Covid-19, a Councillor has been unable to attend a meeting consecutively, for the last 6 months, however it was agreed by all present that a dispensation should be granted due to such unprecedented times.

88/20 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

No declarations of interest at this meeting.

89/20 TO RECEIVE NOTICE OF COUNCILLOR VACANCY DUE TO THE DEATH OF CLLR. TAUNTON

The notice was received by all present and displayed on all notice boards.

90/20 MINUTES OF THE LAST MEETING

It was **RESOLVED** that the minutes of the Markyate Parish Council Meeting held on the 4th August 2020, as circulated, be received as a true record and were signed by the Chairman. This was proposed by Cllr. Kao and seconded by Cllr. Pilkinton.

91/20 PUBLIC COMMENTS AND QUESTIONS IN ACCORDANCE WITH STANDING ORDER 1 (c to j)

A member of the public joined the meeting wishing to speak about the proposed planning application to provide a care home in London Road. As stated by many other parishioners, this would entail loss of privacy in the back gardens of the surrounding properties, due to the proposed building being far too high. The impact to many of the nearby residential properties would be significant.

On a separate issue, a parishioner asked the Council if they could assist with a parking matter on their property. Originally refused, they have finally been given planning permission for a dropped kerb, but would like to increase the size of the parking area as per the original application, due to being disabled. The Council agreed that once all the information has been forwarded to them, they will investigate this and see if any assistance can be given.

92/20 PICKFORD ROAD PROPOSAL FOR 6 DETACHED HOUSES AND PLAYING FIELD

The Parish Council further discussed the acceptance of the playing field extension off Cavendish Road and it was unanimously agreed that the piece of land and the planning application should be kept as two separate items. The Parish Council will therefore, defer their decision of the offered land until the planning application has been determined and commenced.

93/20 PLANNING DECISIONS FROM DACORUM BOROUGH COUNCIL

1	20/01140/FUL	Construction of single storey rear extension & outbuilding in rear garden for storage. Conversion of first floor into 1-bedroom residential flat.	121 High Street	Refused
2	20/01141/LBC	Construction of single storey rear extension & outbuilding in rear garden for storage. Conversion of first floor into 1-bedroom residential flat.	121 High Street	Refused
3	20/01453/FHA	Ground floor side and rear extension and single storey front porch.	13 Cavendish Road	Granted
4	20/01741/FHA	Removal of existing porch and construction of single storey side extension.	Little Cheverells Cheverells Green	Granted
5	20/01408/LBC	Removal of existing porch and construction of single storey side extension.	Little Cheverells Cheverells Green	Granted
6	20/01553/LBC	Proposed Extension and Alterations	2, Woodend Cottages, Little Woodend	Refused

7	20/01552/FHA	Proposed Extension and Alterations	2, Woodend Cottages, Little Woodend	Refused
---	--------------	------------------------------------	--	---------

94/20 TO CONSIDER PLANNING APPLICATIONS BELOW

1	20/02159/OUT	Outline Planning Permission including Access, Appearance, Layout and Scale with some matters reserved (Landscaping) for the demolition of the existing structures and redevelopment to provide a new 73-bedroom care home (Use Class C2) together with associated access, car and cycle parking, structural landscaping and amenity space provision.	3 London Road	Site will overlook parishioners' gardens, with loss of privacy. This needs to be addressed. The light is also a concern. Many objections received. The Council's comments have not been taken on-board and the Council cannot support this application at the moment. Although good for the village, this application needs amending due to the anguish of the parishioners, who the Council fully support.
2	20/02231/FHA	Single story rear extension.	41 High Street	No objections.
3	20/02319/NMA 1	Non-Material Amendment to Planning Permission 4/00171/19/FUL (Demolition of existing equestrian facilities and construction of one four-bedroom dwelling, one three-bedroom holiday let, one workshop/barn/carport building, with associated soft landscaping, hardstanding, and fencing.)	1 Woodend Cottages Little Woodend	Flamstead Parish.
4	20/02282/CON	Installation of new 9 metre wooden pole to facilitate broadband electronic communications apparatus.	Opposite High Winds Farm Hicks Road	Raise no objections.
5	20/02249/DRC	Details as Required by Condition 8 (Fire Hydrant) Attached to Planning Permission 4/02221/18/FUL (Demolition of existing indoor manege and open barn. Construction of 4 new three-bedroom dwellings and introduction of new linking track for Horses.)	Puddephats Farm Puddephats Lane	Flamstead Parish.
6	20/02427/TPO	Works to Trees	Street Record Bartholomew Green	No objections.

95/20 ACCOUNTS FOR PAYMENT

To approve the signing of cheques for payment and the signing of the Accounts Schedule for 31st August 2020, as circulated. It was proposed by Cllr. Pilkinton and seconded by Cllr. Ononye and **agreed** unanimously to approve the schedule for payment outside of meeting. **RESOLVED:** that the schedule of payment be signed as circulated, noting that cheques have been signed as and when required by approved signatories, during the coronavirus pandemic lockdown.

The schedule of accounts listed the balances of the Parish Council's accounts as follows:

As at 31st August 2020

MPC Current Account	£9,533.05
HSBC [Precept Account]	£102,989.50
MPC Investment [NS&I]	£21,281.17
Petty Cash	£75.19
TOTAL	£133,878.91

96/20 BANK RECONCILIATION

Deferred until next meeting.

Action: Clerk/RFO

97/20 CLOSING OF AUTOMATIC GATES AND NEW SIGNS

It was noted the Automatic Gates are now open and it was agreed the new opening time will be 6.30 am and closing at 11 pm 7 days a week. Signs with new timings will be erected as soon as possible.

Action: RP/Clerk

98/20 TO NOTE FUNDING FOR THE REFURBISHMENT OF VILLAGE CLOCK AND PART FUNDING FOR ONE OF THE NEW NOTICE BOARDS

Through the Locality Budget, the village has benefited from the village clock refurbishment and part funding of one new notice board at the Fire Station, thanks were given to C/Cllr. Douris for this generous contribution.

99/20 INSTALLATION OF FENCE BY PLAY AREA IN CAVENDISH ROAD

Deferred.

Action: Clerk/HC

100/20 OPERATION SHIELD

It was reported that some of the boxes of provisions provided by Hertfordshire County Council from the Operation Shield have been delivered to the vulnerable in the village by Sue Tobin, during Covid-19, and have been appreciated enormously by all recipients. Deliveries will continue while stocks last. The Food Bank has also been given provisions. The Parish Council thanked Sue Tobin for her dedication and hard work.

Action: Clerk/RFO

101/20 CHRISTMAS LIGHTS

It was reported that the relevant paperwork has been received for the Christmas lights installation. Although there are restrictions still in place, due to Covid-19, the Christmas Lights will add some much-needed cheer. The cost of installation last year was £1,368 and although a price has not yet been received, it should not differ too much from that figure. The majority of Councillors were in favour of going ahead once the quote has been received.

Action: SP/Clerk

102/20 CLERKS REPORT

Nothing to report at this meeting.

103/20 TO APPROVE RISK ASSESSMENTS FOR VILLAGE/Y2K HALL, PARISH COUNCIL OFFICE AND PEGGY'S FIELD

The Risk Assessments were received and approved, and thanks were given to staff for the efforts in generating these documents.

Action: Clerk/RFO

104/20 TO DISCUSS AND FORMULATE ITEMS FOR INCLUSION IN MARKYATE MONTHLY

Christmas Lights, Replacement of Light on High Street – rest to be agreed.

105/20 CORRESPONDENCE FOR INFORMATION ONLY

The Clerk circulated the list of general correspondence which was duly noted.

106/20 STEAM CLEANER FOR VILLAGE/Y2K HALLS

The purchase of a steam cleaner for the halls will be discussed at the next Halls Meeting. It was agreed that costs permitting, this would be of great benefit during these times when deep cleaning is of utmost importance.

Action: Clerk

107/20 DISCUSS PRELIMINARY IDEAS TO MOVE PARISH OFFICE INTO LARGER LOUNGE IN THE Y2K HALL

Due to health and safety reasons and Covid-19 guidelines, discussions took place on moving the parish office into the larger lounge area. Lights will need replacing and more power points installed, which will be fitted at a later date. One of the outer windows would be replaced as a "talking screen" with a canopy, to shield from the weather. This would avoid unnecessary traffic in and out of the office. It is worth noting that the windows in this room will need replacing regardless, in the not too distant future. The telephones, CCTV screen, BT equipment etc., will also need to be moved. Estimated cost will be in the region of £4,500-£5,000.

It was proposed by Cllr Bunyan and seconded by Cllr Pilkinton and agreed unanimously.

Action: Clerk/RFO/RP

108/20 DRAFT PLAN ON A NEW STRATEGY FOR SETTING SPEED LIMITS TO PROTECT PEDESTRIANS AND CYCLISTS.

Hertfordshire County Council is working tirelessly to make roads safe for pedestrians and cyclists. The Speed Management Strategy will be looked at and others were encouraged to look through this document also.

Action: All

109/20

Public Bodies (Admissions to Meetings) Act 1960 that under S4 (A) of the Public Bodies (Admissions to Meetings) Act 1960 the public be excluded during the items In Part II of the agenda for this meeting, due to commercial sensitivities, that if members of the public were present during these items there would be disclosure to them of exempt information relating to proposed contract.

1. **Parish Council Insurance**

Three quotations were obtained, and it was **RESOLVED** to accept quotation from:

a) Ecclesiastical 3 Year Long Term Agreement at a cost of £2,646.73 inclusive of insurance premium tax (at the prevailing rate).

The unsuccessful quotations were:

b) £2,822.54

c) £3,627.68

Action: Clerk/RFO

2. **Play Equipment and Outside Gym in Peggy's**

Three quotations were obtained, and it was **RESOLVED** to accept quotation from:

a) Wicksteed

Accompanied Annual Inspection @ £86.00 each area

Report showing detailed Analysis of Risk Assessment from Inspection Report @ £20.00 each area.

Play equipment one area, Skate Park classed as another area.

Gym equipment classed as separate area.

Total: £318.00

The unsuccessful quotations were:

b) £14.99 per month

c) £110.50

Action: Clerk/RFO

There being no other business the meeting closed at 9.10 pm

Next meeting: 6th October 2020

Signed: _____

Date: _____