

## **MARKYATE PARISH COUNCIL**

### **MINUTES OF MARKYATE PARISH COUNCIL MEETING HELD VIRTUALLY ON TUESDAY 2<sup>nd</sup> FEBRUARY 2021 AT 7.30 PM.**

**Present:** Cllr. P. Bunyan, B/Cllr. H. Chapman, Cllr. S. Pilkinton, Cllr. R. Peterson, Cllr. C. Ononye,  
Cllr. D. Kao

**In attendance:** 8 members of the public at this meeting.

#### **204/21 APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE**

Apologies: Cllr. P. Styles.

#### **205/21 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST**

No declarations of interest at this meeting.

#### **206/20 MINUTES OF THE LAST MEETING**

It was **RESOLVED** that the minutes of the Markyate Parish Council Meeting held on the 12<sup>th</sup> January 2021 as circulated, be received as a true record and were signed by the Chairman. This was proposed by Cllr. S. Pilkinton and seconded by Cllr. R. Peterson.

#### **207/21 PUBLIC COMMENTS AND QUESTIONS IN ACCORDANCE WITH STANDING ORDER 1 (c to j) Standing Orders were suspended**

A member of the public spoke, thanking the Council for their time. He spoke about the new submission of the planning application for the anticipated Co-op (see application below). A number of issues were raised, including the proposed parking not being sufficient and the potential problems that will undoubtedly arise with deliveries. Lorries will have difficulty accessing the service road, making it dangerous because they will potentially protrude onto Hicks Road. Other businesses in the village will suffer and the High Street could lose its viability.

Another member agreed with the above and also expressed concerns about the sheer size of the proposed development; stating his objections were not about the competition with other stores in the High Street, but about the size. There is a smaller unit nearby which could be used, but this is not a consideration.

A counter argument to the above – a speaker stated that the proposed area has been left empty for the last 5 years, with no interested parties coming forward and although the original application was dismissed on the grounds of lack of consideration by the planners regarding the Post Office; the size was not a factor. Regarding the parking, 6 dedicated spaces will be provided on the site and provisions are in place to increase parking at the front of the site. Regarding delivery operations – this will be closely monitored by the Highways Authority. Competition argument – the Co-op in nearby Caddington has operated successfully for many years, trading alongside other businesses; so there is little reason why this cannot be done in Markyate.

#### **Standing Order were reinstated**

#### **208/21 TO RECEIVE REPORT AND UPDATES FROM C/CLLR. TERRY DOURIS**

Cllr. Douris spoke about the spread of Covid-19 in the Hertfordshire area. The local Primary Care network, including Rothschild, has provided facilities for administering vaccinations, including the Hub at Maxted Road, Hemel Hempstead. The NHS continue to operate the hub at Stevenage.

The completed pedestrian bridge on Hicks Road looks very smart, including the nearby footpath which has been reinstated. Cllr Douris confirmed that he had allocated funds in order to reinstate the footpath at the northern end of Hicks Road.

A bus shelter on the now closed and filled southern lay-by of the A5183 will be installed in the near future.

HCC are aware of the significant flooding across the county and are currently putting together a strategic plan, which will be very expensive and will take time to complete.

A significant encroachment on a verge outside a property in Markyate is being looked into and will be dealt with.

All three lay-by's on the A5183 have now been closed, as promised.

HCC will be using funds of £15m to sustain many buildings under its umbrella, one beneficiary being Markyate School; photovoltaic panels will be installed and funds will be provided for replacement windows.

5,000 laptops have been distributed to those in need under the Government initiative, 10 of which have been donated to Markyate School.

Cllr. Douris spoke about the cost of repainting the seven streetlamps in the village. There is some initial research to be done and he will keep us updated. However, he did make the point that any re-painting costs will fall to the Parish Council, even though they are HCC columns. The lamp across the road from the NISA store has been replaced.

## 209/21 PLANNING DECISIONS FROM DACORUM BOROUGH COUNCIL

1	20/03563/FHA	Hip to gable conversion of original roof hip in order to accommodate a rear dormer loft conversion. Roof light added to the front elevation over the new staircase.	47 London Road	Granted
2	20/03460/FHA	Proposed single storey side extension, new windows and door.	18 Wesley Road	Granted
3	20/02582/ROC	Variation of Condition 6 (Approved Plans) Attached to Planning Permission 4/01612/16/FUL (Erection of 3 stables, with hay store, tack and saddle stores, with hardstanding area)	Land At The Ridings	Granted
4	20/03800/LBC 20/03801/LBC	Single storey rear extension, conversion of first floor into 1-bedroom flat, construction of chimney flue, construction of outbuilding for storage in rear garden and retention of laying the tarmac in back garden of property.	121 High Street	Refused

## 210/21 TO CONSIDER PLANNING APPLICATIONS BELOW

1	20/04064/MFA	Demolition of existing kennel buildings. Construction of two dwellings with new access and the retention of existing staff accommodation and its use a market dwelling.	Hazel Corner Dog Hotel Windmill Road	Although no objections, the original plans show staff accommodation, these plans show dwellings. It looks more like a large community area. Is this application in addition to or instead of the original plans?
2	20/04000/LDP	Summerhouse.	35 Corner Wood	No objections.
3	21/00077/FHA	Detached 3 bay garage/workshop.	Horsa Hut, Cheverells Green	No objections.
4	4/01278/18/FUL	Change of use of unit 1 (class d1 surgery/health centre use) to class a1 convenience food store, together with change of use of unit 2 (class a1/a2/a3/a4 and b1) to three residential units (one 1-bed and two 2-bed flats), together with associated external.	Units 1 And 2 Richmond Square Hicks Road	Concerns about the flats – they will have no privacy. Parking is an issue, only 6 places have been allocated. What about staff parking? The extra traffic will have a huge impact on the village and local businesses; how can the village accommodate the extra traffic? The size of lorries is an issue, they do not have enough space. It was felt that the Co-op has not fully addressed the delivery lorries and parking issues. This could potentially lead to the death of the High Street. Votes – 4 in favour of Objection and 1 Against. These objections are on the grounds of unsuitability of the flats and transport issues – both for parking and delivery vehicles.
5	21/00253/FHA	Side and roof extensions to bungalow to create 1.5 storey dwelling.	8, Dammersey Close	Objection – over-development of site.

## 211/21

To approve the signing of cheques for payment and the signing of the Accounts Schedule as of 31<sup>st</sup> January 2021, as circulated. It was proposed by Cllr. S. Pilkinton and seconded by Cllr. C. 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 31<sup>st</sup> January 2021

MPC Current Account	£12,506.37
HSBC [Precept Account]	£57,994.68
MPC Investment [NS&I]	£21,434.38
Petty Cash	£25.80
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>£91,961.23</b>

## 212/21 TO RECEIVE AND SIGN THIRD QUARTER SPEND

It was noted the third quarter spend to 31<sup>st</sup> December 2020 is £51,935 against a budget of £101,289 This was received and signed by the Chairman. Proposed by Cllr. S. Pilkinton and seconded by Cllr. R. Peterson.

**213/21 TO RECEIVE AND SIGN BANK RECONCILIATION.**

This was received and signed by the Chairman.

**TO RECEIVE AND SIGN PRECEPT FORM FOR PARISH FUNDING PROPOSALS AND TAX BASE 2021/22**

- (a) It was proposed by Cllr. C. Ononye and seconded by Cllr. D. Kao and **RESOLVED** that the Council approves the draft budget for 2021/22. Based on the current information the Parish Rate for a Band D property is expected to be £68.71.
- (b) It was proposed by Cllr. Pilkinton and seconded by Cllr. Peterson and **RESOLVED** that the Council approves a Precept of £87,245.
- (c) The Council Tax Support is £844.80.

**Action: Clerk/RFO**

**214/21 TO APPROVE THE PROPOSED REQUEST FOR INCOME FROM CONCURRENT SERVICES FOR 2021/22**

It was proposed by Cllr. R. Peterson and seconded by Cllr. D. Kao and **RESOLVED** that the Council accepts the DBC Concurrent Services Grant of £7,442.71 and Village Warden Grant of £10,467.04 for 2021/22.

**Action: Clerk/RFO**

**215/21 TO RECEIVE AND AGREE RESPONSE TO THE DACORUM BOROUGH COUNCIL LOCAL PLAN EMERGING STRATEGY FOR GROWTH (2020-2038)**

Due to the enormous task of finalising a response, the Parish Council will discuss and agree their response for Markyate before the 28<sup>th</sup> February deadline.

Great Gaddesdon Parish Council have proposed a possible joint response to DBC by all the Parish and Town Councils in Dacorum regarding the Local Plan. All present were in agreement that they will support this action.

**216/21 TO RECEIVE AND AGREE RESPONSE TO THE HERTFORDSHIRE WASTE LOCAL DRAFT PLAN CONSULTATION – 11<sup>TH</sup> JANUARY 2021-19<sup>TH</sup> MARCH 2021**

Deferred.

**217/21 FUNDING FROM C/CLLR DOURIS' LOCALITY BUDGET FOR BOXING GYM FOR MARKYATE MINDS**

It was confirmed that Markyate Minds will be applying direct for this funding, as they now have their own dedicated Bank Account.

**218/21 AGREE A SCHEME FOR MARKYATE THAT MAY FIT THE MORE TARGETED CRITERIA FOR THE REVAMPED P3/ACTIVE TRAVEL GRANT**

The Council agreed that an application for two Electronic Bus Timetables for the village should be sought.

**Action: Clerk**

**219/21 TO RECEIVE UPDATE AND AGREE ACTIONS ON COVID-19 IN LINE WITH NEW GOVERNMENT GUIDELINES**

Guidelines remain the same. The majority of people are abiding by the rules. Limited hirers at the halls which are thoroughly cleaned after each use.

**Action: Clerk**

**220/21 TO RECEIVE AND NOTE NHS, SOCIAL CARE AND FRONTLINE WORKER'S DAY**

This was noted, with the Chairman recognising all frontline workers during this difficult time, stressing that although the NHS have been outstanding, there are many others on the frontline who deserve acknowledgement.

**221/21 CLERKS REPORT**

Nothing to report at this meeting.

**222/21 TO DISCUSS AND FORMULATE ITEMS FOR INCLUSION IN MARKYATE MONTHLY**

To be agreed.

**223/21 CORRESPONDENCE FOR INFORMATION ONLY**

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

**224/21 TO DISCUSS AND AGREE APPOINTMENT OF A NEW DATA PROTECTION OFFICER**

Deferred.

225/21

**Public Bodies (Admissions to Meetings) Act 1960 That under S 4 (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. **Quotation for pot holes in drive leading to village halls.**

Three quotations were requested but only two were received, and it was **RESOLVED** to accept quotation from:

**William Smith** at a cost of £2,340

The unsuccessful quotations were:

a) **£3,650**

**Action: Clerk**

There being no other business the meeting closed at 10.00 pm

**Next meeting: 2<sup>nd</sup> March 2021**

Signed: \_\_\_\_\_

Date: \_\_\_\_\_