

Marhamchurch Parish Council

Tuesday November 15th 2016

A meeting of the Parish Council was held in the Methodist Sunday School on the above date at 7.30pm.

Councillors present: Chairman Mr R Hockin, Messrs R Blewett, M Grills, J Petherick, Mrs F Hunt Mrs I Waterhouse and Mrs J Walter. S Colwill arrived at 8pm during correspondence

Also in attendance Clerk, Mrs B Heathcote and C Cllr N Chopak.

Approximately 8 members of the public were present for some of the meeting.

Apologies – Messrs T Edwards, T Perry

Declarations of Interest

16/202 No declarations

Dispensations.

16/203 No requests for dispensations were received.

Public Open Session to receive questions and answers from the public on an agenda item.

16/204a Mr D Fensom advised that the bridge on the footpath at Sharlands is dangerous. There are some slats missing; the surface is very slippery and the gate at one end will not shut. Cllr N Chopak will advise CC accordingly and suggested that it may take some time for CC to do the repairs as they are short staffed. . It was agreed that, if CC provide the equipment and volunteers do the repairs to get the work done more quickly, that this is acceptable.

16/204b Mr P Jones advised that there was as blockage in the sewer between the public toilets and the Village Hall on 05.11.16. SWW cleared the blockage and advised that the sewer from the toilets should never have been linked into the Village Hall system due to the steepness of the pipes.

Confirmation of the Minutes of the Meeting of the Parish Council held on October 18th 2016.

16/205 Following a typing correction in 16/180, an amendment on Para 16/181- date correction and Para 16/182a –addition Car Park, the minutes were approved and signed by the Chairman.

Matters Arising.

16/206a **Para 16/182a Bullers Arms Car Park Community Asset List Request.** A copy of the updated form had been circulated to councillors and sent to CC. CC has asked for more detail and, following a discussion, it was agreed to do another draft.

16/206b **Para 16/185** Following consultation with Cllr Chopak, as there was no new information about the crop spraying in Hobbacott Lane, it was decided not to place the matter as an agenda item.

Correspondence.

16/207a The following items (most of which had been emailed) were placed for circulation on 03.11.16

- i) Clerks & Councils Direct magazine
- ii) CALC Weekly News Roundups 21.10.16 & 28.10.16
- iii) Vital Venues October update.
- iv) For Cornwall (26.10.16)
- v) CC Communities & Devolution Special Bulletin – Parliamentary Boundary Review 2018.
- vi) Email from Bude Canal & Harbour Society re Bude Canal Regeneration Project.
- vii) CC Dates of Planning Conferences for local councils.
- viii) Email and some of the attachments from Kernow Matters to You re the cross border constituency.
- ix) CC Communities and Devolution special bulletin – Town Parking Review.
- x) CC Neighbourhood Planning e bulletin.
- xi) Copy of letter sent re the Precept referendum threat – similar letters were sent to Rt Hon, The Lord P Tyler, Lord M Taylor of Goss Moor, Bishop of Truro, Dept of Communities and Local Government (Marcus Jones MP) and D Rogerson.
- xii) S Mann MP letter - re response to No 11 above.

16/207b The following items were placed for circulation on 15.11.16:

- i) Parish Council Accounts Balance Sheet and Expenditure and Income figures.
- ii) Copy of Village Hall Trust letter re SITA grant.
- iii) Marhamchurch Christmas Tree Appeal Accounts.
- iv) Cornwall Air Ambulance Annual Report, Accounts and literature.
- v) CALC email and attachments re Pre- application Planning Protocol.
- vi) CC Communities & Devolution Newsletter Nov
- vii) CALC Weekly News Roundups 04.11.16 & 11.11.16 + Planning Training Conference Agenda.

16/207c Correspondence items dealt with at the meeting.

- i) CALC Newsletter included information and an agenda for the planning training conference.
- ii) CALC email with recommendations for a formal Pre-application Planning Protocols in collaboration. It was agreed to place it on the next agenda.
- iii) Following an email, Mr P Green gave information about plans for a Marhamchurch Food & Craft Fayre for Easter Monday, 11.30am – 3.30pm. Food stalls, craft stalls, cream teas would be in the Methodist Sunday School room, Village Hall and around the War Memorial. The Chairman suggested to Mr Green that he check with CC as they own the land around the War Memorial and about a Temporary Events Notice.
- iv) The Clerk has responded to a letter from CC enquiring about bus shelters in the parish and who is responsible for their maintenance, confirming that there is only 1 by the War Memorial and the parish council own and maintain it.
- v) Helston TC Cllr D Potter email to gauge interest in Cornwall hosting a stage of the Tour of Britain Cycling race. Following a short discussion, it was resolved to respond that ‘We support the Tour of Britain cycling race passing through our parish.

Planning

16/208a No Decision Notices/Updates.

16/208b Applications/Appeals.

- i) No planning applications
- ii) a) Update re Change of Venue for APP/D0840/W/16/3154072 (PA16/00853). CC has advised that the venue for the Public Hearing has been changed to Room 2/3 Parkhouse Centre Bude.
b) It resolved that the Chairman will speak on behalf of the parish council at the Appeal Hearing. A copy of his speech will be circulated beforehand

Cllr N Chopak.

16/209 There is a CC meeting next week which will deal with the budget for the next 4 years. There are serious concerns about the Health and Adult Social Care budget and it is probable there will be an extra ring-fenced 2% to help cover. A Health Transition Plan has been set up to specifically deal with the planned closure of some cover currently at Barnstaple Hospital. NDDH, being the closest, is the main hospital that serves many people in this area. There is also the risk of further reviews of the provision by Stratton Community Hospital, Holsworthy and Bideford hospitals. Cllr N Chopak will follow-up about a pothole in Sharland’s Road and the many warning signs (ie slippery road) that have been left in rural roads long after work is complete

Traffic Speed Sensor.

16/210 Cllr N Chopak has made further enquiries and it is not straightforward for the parish council to buy a traffic speed sensor. There would need to be a Traffic Regulation Order which would be costly and take a long time. If the parish council is prepared to accept one on loan of a style suggested by CC, there will be no charge. It was agreed to follow CC’s suggestions and Cllr Chopak will request one which can be moved between Pinch Hill and Helebridge Road.

Neighbourhood Plan.

16/211 Mr J Petherick has sent the application under Part 2 (5) of the Neighbourhood Planning (General)

Regulations 2012 for the designation of a Neighbourhood Area together with a map of the entire parish to which the application relates.

RBL Poppy Wreath.

16/212 The Clerk had ordered the Wreath and Mrs J Walter represented the parish council at the ceremony.

CC Communities and Devolution special bulletin – Town Parking Review.

16/213 CC is consulting on introducing residents parking in some towns including Bude which will include residents' parking zones and pay and display parking on some streets. Exhibitions have been planned in Truro, Penzance, Falmouth & Penryn and Newquay. CC has sent letter to residents that live within the areas where they are proposing to introduce the zones (including some areas in Bude). If the proposed zones are introduced, there may be some displacement in surrounding streets and CC is also writing to people who live near proposed zones. Parking zone permits for 2017/18 would be £50 for the first permits and £75 for a second permit. Following an enquiry, the Clerk has been told that there will be an exhibition in the Parkhouse Centre on 1st December 2 – 6.30pm.

Council Tax Referendum update.

16/214 Following information from CALC about the Local Government Finance Settlement Technical Consultation, in particular proposals by the government to extend council tax referendum principles to local parish and town councils, the Clerk prepared and circulated a letter for approval to councillors objecting to a council tax referendum. Following a majority approval, the Clerk sent copies of the letter to S Mann MP; the Bishop of Truro; Lord M Taylor of Goss Moor; The Rt Hon the Lord P Tyler and D Rogerson, Leader of N C Liberal Democrats asking for their support in opposition to the referendum. A letter objecting to the introduction of a parish council tax referendum was also sent to Marcus Jones, Parliamentary Under Secretary of State Minister for Local Government. Replies have been received from S Mann, MP and Bishop Tim of Truro.

Community Benefit Fund

16/215 a) Update re Village Hall – SITA approved the Village Hall Trust (VHT) grant request. The pledged cheque from the CBF for £2,500 has been signed and handed over to the VHT.

Revel Field. Mr M Grills confirmed he is still chasing for the work to be done.

b) It was suggested that a note goes into the parish newsletter reminding groups to apply for funds.

Parish Cemetery - Review fees and conditions.

16/216 The suggested fees were discussed. Mrs I Waterhouse suggested increasing the non-parishioner adult cremation interment to £250 and following this amendment it was unanimously resolved to accept the increases in accordance with the circulated draft figures. It was resolved to introduce the new fees for non-parishioners with effect from 01.12.16 and for parishioners from 01.01.17. It was unanimously resolved to accept the revised conditions and procedures in accordance with the draft document. The Clerk will notify Funeral Directors and Stonemasons accordingly and place the revised fees on the Parish Website.

Playpark Terms of Reference, Constitution and Minutes' approval.

16/217 Copies of the new draft constitution had been distributed and it was resolved to accept the draft. Copies of the new draft Terms of Reference had been distributed and it was resolved to accept the draft. The group's minutes are always emailed to the Clerk who forwards them to the councillors. It was resolved to approve MPPG minutes dated 11.05.16, 08.06.16, 13.07.16 and 10.08.16 which were signed by the Chairman. In future there will be an item on the each agenda to approve the minutes and they will be stored in chronological order with the other council minutes.

Millennium Bench Maintenance.

16/218 – Nothing to report

Broadband Installation.

16/219 Confirmation that the grant application has been approved is still outstanding. The Chairman will

liaise with Mr D Fensom to see if the existing superfast broadband is accessible in the Methodist Sunday Schoolroom. Mr R Blewett will check to see if the Methodist Premises group will give permission to have it installed in the Sunday school if necessary.

Weed Treatment.

16/220 On 27th Oct BSTC Facilities Manager, Tim Blatchford advised that the weed treatment been delayed but they are currently spraying and should be in Marhamchurch the end of this week/early next (weather permitting). The Chairman advised that the weeds have been treated. The Clerk has been trying to organise a meeting with Mr Blatchford to ascertain which areas in the village were treated and also to find out which areas they have the contract from CC for grass/hedge cutting.

With consent from the councillors it was agreed to have the Precept item before the Grants item

2017/18 Precept.

16/221 A revised draft set of figures had been circulated showing a reduction in this year's grant allocation to £1K (a reduction of £1900) and to set next year's grants to £1K (rather than £2900 as previously drafted). CC has advised that if the May 2017 parish election is contested, the cost is estimated at £2351.10, if uncontested estimated at £358.49. The revised draft suggests precepting £2,500 for the May 2017 election, if the election is uncontested the balance can go into provision for a mid-term election and the amount (in the revised precept calculations) to build up reserves to cover a mid-term election has been reduced to £1K. Following the adjustments a 15% precept rise of £2025 (total precept £15525 would leave an estimated carry forward of £36 at 31.04.18. Although the councillors are concerned at having such low reserves, it was also agreed that it is important to try to keep the precept increase as low as possible to avoid a high increase on the parish council tax. It is estimated that the increase of 15% will represent an increase of less than 15pence per week per household.

Annual Grants including Section 137

16/222 Letters and/or grant request forms have been received from: Marhamchurch Pre School, Friends of Bude Sea Pool, CRUSE Bereavement, Cornwall Air Ambulance, Marhamchurch Christmas Tree Appeal, Tanya's Courage Trust for young people with cancer and Marhamchurch Parish Playpark Group. Section 137 of the Local Government Act 1972 states funds should only be granted for any purpose which in the Council's opinion is in the interests of or will directly benefit the area or its inhabitants. Maximum allowed is £7.42 per electorate which currently is 685 therefore a maximum of £5082.70 can be allocated. There are other Local Government Statutory Acts which cover parish council grants and Section 137 must not be used as the statutory power to expend grants if there is another statute that covers. In November 2015 the budget had allowed a total of £2,900 for 2016/17 Annual Grants. £17.00 had been previously agreed for the RBL Poppy Wreath. The expenditure in 2016/17 has already exceeded the planned and it was resolved prudent to allocate less than the £2,900 – see 16/221 above. It was noted that Marhamchurch Pre School have requested £500, it was suggested using funds from the Community Benefit Fund and the Clerk was directed to write to them accordingly.

After a discussion it was resolved to make the following grants:

Section 137

RBL Poppy Appeal (already approved)	£ 17
Marhamchurch Christmas Tree Appeal	£100
Cornwall Air ambulance	£250

LGA S164

Marhamchurch Playpark	£200
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LGA S 19

Friends of Bude Sea Pool	£100
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TOTAL	£667
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The Clerk will ensure the requisite forms, paperwork and financial documents are complete and in order.

Marhamchurch C of E Primary School – report from Mr S Colwill.

16/223 Mr S Colwill advised that, after much deliberation, the Governors' of Marhamchurch Church of England VC Primary School have proposed to change their status and become part of The Saints' Way Church of England Multi Academy Trust. Other schools in the trust are St Petroc's, St Tudy, St Mabyrn, St Winnow, Lerryn and St Michael's. There is a consultation period from 31.10.16 to 25.11.16. Letters have been sent to parents and evening and morning meetings have been arranged.

Defibrillator Training.

16/224 The Clerk has contacted Mr Trebilcock from FLEET and Ms N Unger from the Bullers Arms to arrange a training session. Mr Trebilcock does not charge but would hope to receive a donation for FLEET. However, it transpires that Ms T Spittle has already started organising a training session which is likely to be in January and the Clerk will contact her and ask for the details so they can go in the parish newsletter and the Young Farmers can be kept in the loop.

Finance:

16/225 a). It was resolved to authorise payments totalling £310.43 as per the schedule plus £60.00 (RG Blewett - Cemetery Grass cut). Ref Para 16/215 above – £2,500 to Marhamchurch Village Hall Trust. It was also resolved to sign post-dated cheques 20.12.16 for Mr P Amos-Yeo and Mrs B Heathcote.

b) Income	Playpark donation from the Revel Committee		£200.00	
c) Bank Balances.as at 14.11.16	Monmouthshire B/Soc		£18,080.79	
	TSB	Int Acc	£ 7,947.96	
	TSB	Current Acc	£ 1,896.92	
	Playpark	TSB	Int Acc	£ 1,000.54
		TSB	Current Acc	£ 1,792.27

d) The chairman has undertaken his check and agreed the accounts.

Other Parish Matters

16/226 a) Highways –The Clerk has requested CC to check the overgrown roadside hedge adjacent to the footpath between the road and gardens of some properties in Helebridge Road.

b) Footpaths – see 16/204a above.

c) Mr P Hillenbrand advised that following the grant for a feasibility study – they are into their first phase and have had meetings with representatives from CRCC. Information and notices will be circulated to each householder in Marhamchurch soon and it is hoped that resulting feedback will strengthen their bid for more funds. Mr W Walker gave a brief update on the planning side of matters and confirmed that the plans have been reviewed to a more simple design which will be less costly.

Urgent Matters raised with the Chairman since the Agenda was published.

16/227 There is some obscene writing, visible from the road, on a side of a lorry parked in a field by Chrisney Road. The Chairman has been in contact with the owner, and it is hoped that he will take action to remove or cover it up as soon as possible.

December meeting.

16/228 – It was agreed not to plan for a meeting in December. If any planning applications arrive, that cannot wait until the January meeting; an emergency meeting will be arranged.

Date and Items for next Agenda.

16/229 a) January 17th 2017

b) Review Financial Regulations, Planning Pre-application protocol, Millennium Benches, BT Infinity Superfast Broadband.