

# Marhamchurch Parish Council

Tuesday 27 April 2021

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An online meeting of the Parish Council was held via ZOOM video conferencing on above date at 7:45pm.

## **Councillors Present:**

**21/78:** Chair Cllr J Walter, Vice Chair Cllr T Perry, Cllr R Bray, Cllr S Butler, Cllr P Crum, Cllr T Edwards, Cllr F Hunt, Cllr L Kerr, Cllr S Proudfoot, Cllr I Waterhouse.

**Also in attendance:** County Councillor Nicky Chopak and Clerk Elly Hawkins.

12 members of the public were present for the meeting.

*Cllr Walter opened the meeting and welcomed everyone. She advised that if excessive background noise, Cllrs may be requested to 'mute' themselves. A show of hands will be needed for voting and oral responses from the councillors without visual connection.*

## **Record and Approve Apologies.**

**21/79:** None.

## **Declarations.**

**21/80:** Cllr Perry & Cllr Butler declared the longstanding interest in Agenda item 12. This was noted by Cllrs.

## **Dispensations.**

**21/81:**

- (a) The following approved dispensations were noted by Cllrs:  
Cllr Perry re Cemetery – Agenda item No. 12
- (b) No new dispensation requests were received.

## **Public Open Session.**

**21/82:** No Comments or questions were raised.

## **Confirm the Minutes of the previous Meeting.**

**21/83:** It was resolved to approve the minutes and ratify all decisions made at the online meeting held on 16 March 2021. Proposed Cllr Perry. Seconded Cllr Kerr. Unanimous. The Chair, Cllr Walter signed them as a correct record.

## **Matters Arising**

**21/84:**

- (i) Query was raised re compliance issue at Courtlands, Helebridge Road (PA14/11524)– this was lodged in Jan 2020. Feedback from Cornwall Council confirmed that it is still under investigation, but that due to changes in data protection legislation which have come into force through the General Data Protection Regulations (GDPR) Planning Enforcement are no longer able to provide regular updates for ongoing investigations, however, they will provide a summary once the investigation has been concluded. Temporary green netting has recently been put into the gaped area.

Signed: \_\_\_\_\_ Chairman. 18/5/2021

- (ii) Pop-Up Site at North Viewing Carpark – Truck selling drinks & food. Concerns were raised by another business in the parish as it has potential to cause a detrimental impact on their business. This concern could benefit from being monitored over the summer.

**Correspondence**

**21/85** – all information circulated to Cllrs via email.

- (i) Covid-19 Updates from Cornwall Council

**Planning.**

**21/86**

**a) Decision Notices/Updates:**

- (i) PA20/02034 | Reserved matters application for the construction of four dwellings (appearance, landscaping, layout and scale) following outline approval dated 18/02/2019 | Land West Of Crest Haven Hobbacott Lane Marhamchurch. Approved.
- (ii) PA21/01916 | Internal alterations and a two-storey side extension | Higher Beer Hobbacott Lane Marhamchurch. Approved.

**b) Planning Applications/Appeals:**

*Any late planning applications received will be discussed but not decided under this section.*

- (i) PA21/03203 | Redevelopment of site - Demolition of existing bungalow and erection of 2 dwellings | Long Close Helebridge Road Marhamchurch.

The existing bungalow is set well down in the plot and the ridge height is in keeping with all the other properties to the west of the site. The only taller structure is that of Penhele, whilst the property at the south side is also set well down and blends in with the properties to the west.

The proposed development is for two four bed homes, which would make them out of reach of local buyers. The two properties would also double the foot print of the existing bungalow. The ridge line will be some 4 metres higher than the current bungalow (and the other properties to the west) and will be 7 metres higher than the ridge height of the property to the south. These properties will have an overbearing presence to all the other properties and indeed will substantially overlook Hideaway House, which is contrary to Policy 21 of the Cornwall Local Plan. In essence we believe this to be over development of the site. There is also a concern that this form of housing does not fall into the affordable housing bracket ie offering the younger local population an opportunity to live in the area in which they grew up in.

There is no mention of any form of renewable energy in this application and would welcome the applicant to reconsider this.

MPC also feel that there is insufficient parking for 2 large properties and that vehicles will be parked on the road opposite the school which will create a hazard. Destruction of a fine mature hedge is also something that we are against. There should be a net gain in vegetation we believe.

Therefore, Marhamchurch Parish Council does not support the application. This was unanimously agreed at the last council meeting. Proposed Cllr Edwards. Seconded Cllr Crum. Unanimous.

Signed: \_\_\_\_\_ Chairman. 18/5/2021

**To receive oral or written reports and authorise any action.**

**21/87**

a) Chairman.

Please refer to report made at the Annual Parish Meeting on 27<sup>th</sup> April 2021.

b) Cornwall Councillor N Chopak.

Cllr Chopak wanted to briefly state that her work continues, and that it has been a pleasure and privilege to work with MPC.

c) Playpark

(i) Repairs at Playpark – still ongoing.

(ii) Outdoor PlayPeople – installed new rockers.

d) The Clerk. No updates.

**Community Emergency Plan.**

**21/88**

Details are still around the village, and as the easing of lockdown continues some businesses information will be changing. Poster to be updated accordingly.

**Allotments.**

**21/89**

Email received from Solicitor to confirm that MPC would still like to engage their services. Clerk confirmed that we are awaiting feedback from Cornwall Council re next steps and that it will likely take a while to get to contract stage. Clerk made contact with Community Link Officer, meeting in place for next week.

**Cemetery**

**21/90**

(i) Parishioner Request to reserve 1 cremation plot - Goodwin. It was resolved to approve the request. Proposed Cllr Proudfoot. Seconded Cllr Bray. 8 in favour. 2 abstained.

(ii) Non-Parishioner Request to add words to existing memorial tablet. - Gliddon. To resolve to approve the request and to amend the fee from £120 - £60. Proposed Cllr Proudfoot. Seconded Cllr Waterhouse. 8 in favour. 2 abstained.

(iii) Retrospective approval to instal memorial headstone – Gilhespy. It was retrospectively resolved to approve the request. Proposed Cllr Kerr. Seconded Cllr Waterhouse. 8 in favour. 2 abstained.

(iv) Retrospective approval of Non-Parishioner Request for double burial plot & 1<sup>st</sup> interment – Father Scott. It was retrospectively resolved to approve the request. Proposed Cllr Crum. Seconded Cllr Waterhouse. 8 in favour. 2 abstained.

(v) AOB – Clerk updated that paperwork has been completed in respect of the request to buy back Plot 66 in Marhamchurch Parish Cemetery. Clerk to action refund.

Signed: \_\_\_\_\_ Chairman. 18/5/2021

## **Proposed construction of Crematorium, Land West of A39 Poundstock, Bude. PA21/01480**

### **21/91**

The above proposal was raised at the last meeting, and although Marhamchurch Parish Council have not been asked by Cornwall Council to comment, as it does not fall within the parish boundaries, it was flagged that the above-named proposal, PA21/01480, would perhaps it might be of interest and may affect the residents of Marhamchurch Parish, and indeed those of other local parishes. It was agreed to note that should any parishioners have queries or concerns regarding the proposal that they should contact the Parish Council at their earliest convenience so that it may be listed for further discussion. Contact has been made by residents and it is therefore listed for further discussion.

It was resolved to lift Standing Orders in order for members of public to comment on the proposal.

Proposed Cllr Proudfoot. Seconded Cllr Bray. Unanimous.

**\*\*8:20pm Standing Orders were lifted\*\***

Concerns were raised by 3 members of the public opposing the proposal, which were noted by Cllrs.

**\*\*8:29pm Standing Orders resumed.**

Concerns were flagged regarding the suitability of the location, why alternative sites had not been investigated, whether it was financially viable and concerns that if it was not successful that potentially future development on-site would be a concern. Additionally, a location in an area that would serve an overall larger population would potentially be more suitable. It was resolved to lodge a comment stating that MPC do not support the proposal for reasons stated above. 9 voted in favour. 1 abstained.

## **Footpaths**

### **21/92**

Further to concerns around a number of missing signs, an email had been sent to Cornwall Council. Cllr Walter has been liaising with an officer from Cornwall Council to facilitate improvements and it is hoped a meeting will be arranged soon.

## **Local Maintenance Partnership 21/22.**

### **21/93**

A tender for the work has been published in Noticeboard and published on the Parish website. No applicants as yet. Cllr Hunt to post on the Newsletter Facebook page and Cllr Proudfoot offered to place ad in Mole Valley Farmers & Bridgemans. Clerk to forward copy of tender with deadline of 18<sup>th</sup> May 2021.

## **Future of Online Meetings post May 2021.**

### **21/94**

No updates at yet, so currently any meeting held after May 6<sup>th</sup>, will need to be held in a physical format.

## **Neighbourhood Development Plan.**

### **21/95**

Thanks was expressed to Cllr Edwards for all his hard work so far. It was hoped to have arranged a meeting but this has not been possible as yet.

## **Garden Waste Collection Permit – St Marwenne’s Church.**

### **21/96**

Historically the Parish Council has reimbursed St. Marwenne’s Church for the cost of the garden waste collection permit (£48 for 2 years) and they are hoping the Council are able to continue with this arrangement. It was resolved to approve the request. Proposed Cllr Hunt. Seconded Cllr Waterhouse. Unanimous.

Signed: \_\_\_\_\_ Chairman. 18/5/2021

**Cycleway.**

**21/97**

No new updates. To remove from next meeting.

**Connect Bude: Restoring Railways.**

**21/98**

No new updates. To remove from next meeting.

**Code of Conduct 2021.**

**21/99**

Cornwall Council has now circulated a revised code of conduct for local councils to adopt. An email from CALC stated they have raised a number of questions about the changes. Until feedback is received CALC are advising that councils may wish to wait for feedback from CALC before moving to adopt the new code and that in the meantime confirm that it is acceptable to continue with your existing code in the interim.

**Audit 20/21**

**21/100**

Clerk advised that having looked into the criteria, it appears that Marhamchurch PC are eligible to apply for an exemption as income and expenditure for the 20/21 year are both below £25K. It was resolved to approve the request to seek an exemption for the 20/21 financial year. Proposed Cllr Kerr. Seconded Cllr Edwards. Unanimous. Clerk to action.

**Appointment of Internal Auditor.**

**21/101**

Clerk confirmed that as part of Audit process that an Internal Audit needs to be completed. Clerk has confirmed that the internal auditor was used last year, Mr A Sachs is able to complete the Internal Audit for MPC. It was resolved to approve to engage Mr A Sachs for Internal Audit. Proposed Cllr Kerr. Seconded Cllr Edwards. Unanimous.

**Annual Accounts.**

**21/102**

Clerk provided Annual Accounts for year ending 31.3.2021. An Account Statement and a detailed Account Statement was circulated to the Cllrs. These were noted by the Cllrs.

**CALC Membership invoice.**

**21/103**

Clerk received 22/22 membership invoice of £389.58. Which includes CALC subscription £340.61 (VAT inc) NALC subscription £48.97 (0 VAT) & CALC office charge £0 (0 VAT). Previous membership was £357.94. It was resolved to approve membership renewal. Proposed Cllr Bray. Seconded Cllr Waterhouse. 9 in favour. 1 abstained.

**SLCC Membership.**

**21/104**

MPC have previously been a member of SLCC, however renewal lapsed in 19/20 financial year. Clerk requested to re-join the membership for 12 months at a cost of £144 p.a PLUS £10 joining fee. Budget was

Signed: \_\_\_\_\_ Chairman. 18/5/2021

put in Precept for this. It was resolved to approve membership application. Proposed Cllr Walter. Seconded Cllr Perry. Unanimous.

**Laptop.  
21/105**

Clerk updated that she is having ongoing issues with the current HP laptop, which is 5 years old. It is incredibly slow, and sometimes Clerk is unable to open simple word documents, and the only way to fix is to restart the computer which is not a good use of Clerk's time.

Clerk has obtained various quotes from £699 to £449. Purchase of Microsoft Office home & business would need to be made separately. It was proposed to budget up to £700 for new laptop and up to £200 for one-off purchase of Office home package. Proposed Cllr Walter. Seconded Cllr Crum. Unanimous. Clerk to action.

**Finance & Legislation.  
21/106**

- a) Approval of payments totalling **£2078.54** as per March schedule and consider payment of urgent accounts presented by the date of the meeting. **PLUS £410.36 for MVSL Grant (1/1/21-31/3/21)**. It was resolved to approve payments. Proposed Cllr Perry. Seconded Cllr Walter. Unanimous.
- b) Cllrs noted Income & Bank Balances as per the schedule.
- c) Cllrs noted Bank reconciliations.

**Parish Matters** - Agree action and authorise associated expenditure.

**21/107**

- a) Highway matters – None.

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

**21/108**

Concerns flagged at Foundry Lane – hedge has been removed. Cllr Chopak advised that she has already looked into this and is following up.

Hobbacott Rise concerns about abandoned field behind the development. Gate is open and easily accessible. Old vehicles and a caravan have been seen in the field. Clerk to contact Stevens Homes.

Cllr Proudfoot updated that she has been in contact with Ross Gherkin regarding mobile access circular routes in the area. Thanks was expressed to Cllr Proudfoot for this.

**Date of next meeting and note items from Councillors for the Agenda.**

**21/109** 18 May 2021

**Meeting closed at 9:13pm**

**PUBLIC BODIES (ADMISSION TO MEETINGS) Act 1960 S1(2) & S1(6)**

During the meeting it may arise that publicity would be prejudicial to the public interest by reason of the confidential or special nature of the business to be transacted and the press and public will be instructed to withdraw.

When this arises, the Chair will recommend to consider passing the following resolution: "to resolve that in view of the confidential or special nature of the business to be discussed, the public are excluded and instructed to withdraw."

Signed: \_\_\_\_\_ Chairman. 18/5/2021

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