

# Marhamchurch Parish Council

Tuesday 16 March 2021

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An online meeting of the Parish Council was held via ZOOM video conferencing on above date at 7:30pm.

## **Councillors Present:**

**21/48:** Chair Cllr J Walter, Vice Chair Cllr T Perry, Cllr I Waterhouse, Cllr L Kerr, Cllr T Edwards, Cllr F Hunt, Cllr R Bray.

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

2 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.**

**21/49:** Cllr P Crum sent his apologies, due to personal matters. It was resolved to approve the absence. Proposed Cllr Hunt. Seconded Cllr Edwards. Unanimous. Cllr Butler and Cllr Proudfoot sent their apologies, they are both running late but will join the meeting as soon as possible. It was resolved to approve the apologies. Proposed Cllr Waterhouse. Seconded Cllr Hunt. Unanimous.

## **Declarations.**

**21/50:** Cllr Perry declared the longstanding interest in Agenda item 12. This was noted by Cllrs. Cllr Bray declared an interest in Agenda item 8b (i) Planning App PA21/01360.

## **Dispensations.**

### **21/51:**

(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.**

### **21/52:**

Member of public spoke re Agenda item 23 – Cycleway and wanted to flag with Councillors that Connect Bude, in partnership with Bude Climate Partnership and Bude Coastal Communities Team recently submitted a bid to 'Restoring Your Railway Ideas' Fund for a grant towards the cost of a feasibility study into extending the railway line from Okehampton to Bude. Concern was flagged that if the Cycleway feasibility study followed the old railway link, that this might adversely affect the potential of a re-instated railway line.

Another member of public supported these comments, and talked of the social, economic and environmental benefits a reinstated rail service could provide.

**It was resolved to approve to bring agenda item 23 – Cycleways – forward to discuss after Correspondence. Proposed Cllr Edwards. Seconded Cllr Perry. Unanimous.**

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

**21/53:** It was resolved to approve the minutes and ratify all decisions made at the online meeting held on 16 February 2021. Proposed Cllr Waterhouse. Seconded Cllr Perry. Unanimous. The Chair, Cllr Walter signed them as a correct record.

**Matters Arising**

**21/54:**

(i) Stevens Homes Update – email was circulated from Stevens Home rep to concerned residents. Landscaping work should be underway. To continue to monitor.

(ii) Carpark of Bullers Arms Update – site visit is planned but no updates as yet. To continue to monitor.

(iii) Query was raised re compliance issue at Courtlands, Helebridge Road (PA14/11524)– this was lodged in Jan 2020. Further investigations required.

**Correspondence**

**21/55** – all information circulated to Cllrs via email.

- (i) Restoring Your Railway: Bude Coast Community Team (BCCT) requesting MPC thoughts on proposal. Apologies were sent to BCCT, as this request was missed at the last meeting. Clerk read out the email received from BCCT – which was seeking support from local town and parish councils for Bude Connect to access funds from Dept for Transport towards successful proposals to undertake transport and economic studies and create a business case for restoring rail lines. MPC confirmed their support of this feasibility study, acknowledging the social, economic and environmental benefits a reinstated rail service could provide. Proposed Cllr Edwards. Seconded Cllr Butler. Unanimous.
- (ii) Covid-19 Updates from Cornwall Council
- (iii) Pop-Up Site at North Viewing Carpark – Truck selling drinks & food. It was noted that this is in addition to the ice-cream van.

**Cycleway**

**21/56**

It was agreed to lift Standing Orders and a discussion was had re a feasibility study to assess possibility of creating a cycle route linking Bude and Holsworthy. MPC wanted to support the study, as it was felt that it would offer great benefits to the community. It was agreed to be kept on the agenda for further discussions regarding possibility of financial support when the Precept is reviewed in the next financial year.

**Planning.**

**21/57**

**a) Decision Notices/Updates:**

- (i) PA20/11002 | Construction of extension at ground and first floor level | Hideaway House Helebridge Road Marhamchurch. APPROVED.
- (ii) PA21/00988 | Submission of details to partially discharge condition number 3 in respect of decision notice PA20/01732. | The Old Rectory Pinch Hill Marhamchurch. DISCHARGED.
- (iii) PA20/11102 | Proposed conversion of building to dwelling | Woodknowle Farm Sharlands Road Marhamchurch. APPROVED.
- (iv) PA20/11103 | Listed building consent for the proposed conversion of building to dwelling |

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Woodknowle Farm Sharlands Road Marhamchurch. APPROVED.

Cllr Proudfoot joined the meeting.

**b) Planning Applications/Appeals:**

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

**\*\*CLLR BRAY LEFT THE MEETING\*\***

- (i) PA21/01360 | Change of use of land for the siting of 2no. timber camping pods, together with associated landscaping and works on land | East Helscott Farm Marhamchurch.

Following an in-depth discussion, the Clerk was directed to respond as follows:

Marhamchurch Parish Council finds itself unable to support this planning application as it is presented since the change of use from agricultural open countryside to holiday development does not appear to offer any direct significant benefit to the well-being of Marhamchurch parishioners or visitors.

However, if there was provision made within the application for a permissive public footpath to link Helebridge multi use trail to the existing footpath from Sharlands Farm – the council may find the proposed change of land use more supportable. Proposed Cllr Proudfoot. Seconded Cllr Waterhouse. Unanimous.

**\*\*CLLR BRAY RE-JOINED THE MEETING\*\***

Late Planning App:

- (ii) PA21/01916 | Internal alterations and a two-storey side extension | Higher Beer Hobbacott Lane Marhamchurch.

This application was not able to be listed for comment at the parish council meeting, unfortunately, as the agenda for business matters had already been published before this was received.

The Cllrs however, noted the application, and no concerns were flagged but, as it was not listed on the agenda, Cllrs are not permitted to formally comment on the application.

Cllrs agreed to make no comment, Clerk to advise Planning Officer.

- (iii) PA21/01480 | Construction of a crematorium with associated access, landscaping and infrastructure | Land West Of The A39 Poundstock Bude

The above planning application was raised at the 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 it 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 Clerk at their earliest convenience so that it may be listed for further discussion.

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

**21/58**

- a) Chairman.

£175 Community Chest Funding approved for purchase of Flags, litter pickers and storage, plants and bulbs for planters and paint for playpark. Thanks was expressed to Cllr Chopak for this. Cllr Walter updated that

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the first flag was put up before St Piran's Day and thanks was extended to Peter Green and Andy Walter for their help in facilitating this. Cllr Walter also wanted to express huge thanks to Roger Blewett for all the years he has been organising this.

Bins have been delivered to Cllr Perry.

b) Cornwall Councillor N Chopak.

Everyone encouraged to book in for the vaccine when invited to do so.

Area Network Panel meeting will be changing. Cllr Chopak advised she will no longer be Chair of this.

Further Consultation re Good Energy: Cornwall Council wind turbines. Clerk to clarify further with Cllr Chopak.

c) Playpark

- (i) Repairs at Playpark required following safety inspection carried out by CORMAC. Cllr Perry to liaise with Cllr Hunt once report is received.
- (ii) Repairs on bridge still pending.
- (iii) Clerk chased Outdoor PlayPeople – via email and phone but no update as yet.

d) The Clerk.

BT Broadband increases by 14p – inline with 0.6% rate of inflation.

Online banking paperwork – still ongoing.

Zoom VAT number issues in order to reclaim VAT paid via HMRC – pending.

Annual Leave owed.

1 week leave over Easter holidays 5th – 9th April.

**Community Emergency Plan.**

**21/59**

It was updated for Feb/March – but further amendments required as The Bullers is no longer serving food at this time.

**Allotments.**

**21/60**

Clerk submitted map of location and solicitor details to Community Link Officer.

**Cemetery**

**21/61**

- (i) Parishioner Request to reserve 1 burial plot - CANN. It was resolved to approve the request. Proposed Cllr Waterhouse. Seconded Cllr Hunt. 7 in favour. 2 abstained.
- (ii) Parishioner Request to reserve double depth burial plot - SELBY. It was resolved to approve the request. Proposed Cllr Waterhouse. Seconded Cllr Walter. 7 in favour. 2 abstained.
- (iii) Request to sell a double depth plot back to MPC due to relocation. An email request from owner of Plot 66 have requested to sell their double depth plot. They paid £280 for this in 2018. It was resolved to approve the request to purchase back Burial Plot 66, minus an

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admin fee of £50. Proposed Cllr Waterhouse. Seconded Cllr Proudfoot. 7 in favour. 2 abstained. Clerk to action.

- (iv) Update re drainage concerns – seems to be a lot drier now. Thanks was expressed to The Brays for their help and a letter of thanks to Heywoods for all their help over last few months, especially welding playpark slides & use of digger. Clerk to action.
- (v) AOB. None.

### **Civil Enforcement Training.**

#### **21/62**

Civil Enforcement training can be undertaken by volunteers to assist with dogs on beaches, fly tipping, poor parking etc. Cllr Crum expressed an interest in this at the last council meeting, but not present at time of discussion so deferred again until next meeting.

### **Walking in Cornwall.**

#### **21/63**

Website was circulated. No further action required. To remove from next agenda.

### **Footpaths**

#### **21/64**

Cllrs Walter, Proudfoot and Waterhouse updated that they had covered lots of the footpaths within the parish. There were a number of missing signs, and an email had been sent to Cornwall Council. Pending feedback.

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

#### **21/65**

It was resolved to continue with LMP, Clerk to organise paperwork for it to be put out to tender. Proposed Cllr Waterhouse, Seconded Cllr Hunt. Unanimous.

### **Annual Parish Meeting**

#### **21/66**

It was resolved to approve that the APM be held on 27th April, with a report from Chairman of Marhamchurch Village Shop. Proposed Cllr Kerr. Seconded Cllr Hunt. Unanimous.

Cllr Butler left meeting due to technical issues.

### **Citizen of The Year Nominations.**

#### **21/67**

Nominations have been received. It was agreed to award 2 awards this year, due to last year being missed. Proposed Cllr Perry. Seconded Cllr Bray. Unanimous.

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

#### **21/68**

Clerk updated that current legislation only permits online meetings to be held until 7 May 2021. Information provided from CALC details:

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Lobbying is continuing in the hope that Government will find a way to either extend the regulations beyond May or to introduce a permanent change.  
Currently any meeting held after May 6th, will need to be held in a physical format and many councils have expressed strong reservations about this happening so soon.

**Authority of Delegation.**

**21/69**

Broad Scheme of Delegation, which was adopted back in May 2020 expires 31 March 2021 which states: 'The Council delegates authority to the Clerk in consultation with the Chairman/Vice Chairman to take any actions necessary to protect the interests of the community and ensure council business continuity'  
It was agreed to renew the broad delegation until further advice is provided from CALC regarding this.  
Proposed: Cllr Walter. Seconded Cllr Waterhouse. Unanimous.

**Elections.**

**21/70**

Clerk confirmed she has received hard copies of Candidate Packs today. Clerk will leave copies with Cllr Walter. Copies are available to download from Cornwall Council website.

**Neighbourhood Development Plan.**

**21/71**

Deferred to next meeting.

**Women's Institute Anniversary Tree.**

**21/72**

A tree is being donated to W.I to celebrate 75 years. The W.I wondered if MPC had any suggestions of a suitable location in the village. No further action required.

**Women's Centre Cornwall.**

**21/73**

Clerk circulated a funding request from Women's Centre, Cornwall. It was agreed that we continue to assess any future applications at the annual review in November. Clerk to advise.

**Finance & Legislation.**

**21/74**

- a) Approval of payments totalling **£1058.86** as per February schedule and consider payment of urgent accounts presented by the date of the meeting. **PLUS £80 Cemetery Maintenance.** It was resolved to approve payments. Proposed Cllr Proudfoot. Seconded Cllr Walter. 8 in favour. 1 abstained.
- b) Cllrs noted Income & Bank Balances as per the schedule.
- c) Cllrs noted Bank reconciliations.

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

**21/75**

- a) Highway matters – None.

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

**21/76**

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

**21/77**

27 April 2021. Cycleways. Restoring Railways

**Meeting closed at 22:15**

**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. 27/4/2021