

MARLDON PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of meeting of Marldon Parish Council held on Monday February 14th 2011 at 7.30pm

MEMBERS PRESENT:

Cllrs: Pennington; Benney; Palk; Webber, Danby, Mrs Cox, Mrs Clarke, Thorp, Veasey and
Clerk to the Council: David Eeles

ALSO PRESENT: 22 members of the public

1(2.11) APOLOGIES

Cllr Joinson

2(2.11) APPROVAL OF MINUTES:

After one minor amendment it was unanimously **AGREED** that the Jan. 10th 2011 Ordinary meeting minutes be approved as true records and were accordingly signed off by the Chairman.

4(2.11) POLICE Matters

At Chairmans discretion the Police item was brought forward due to the presence of PC Nick Talbot our Neighbourhood Beat Officer.

Nick apologised for not being able to attend previous meetings due to a commitment to the 999 cadets which is also on the Monday evening. He had wished to attend to update members on the situation at the school with regard to inconsiderate parking at the school. He has been liaising with the Headteacher and a letter has been sent to all parents highlighting the hazard such parking causes for pedestrians and other road users and explaining that fixed penalty tickets will be used. He has also liaised with Duncan Russel the Road Casualty Officer to see if it can be made safer, but in the light of reducing budgets it might be better if all the highway work- double yellow lines and dropped kerbs where residents want them- were authorised collectively. The school will also start a campaign where selected older pupils will identify where parents should not park and stand there with red cards.

Cllr Thorp thanked him for coming and asked if teachers would be in attendance for the rd card initiative. He also noted that PCSO Paula Frain had been outstanding in her efforts in this area even though she had sometimes been subjected to unwarranted abuse. He also reiterated the danger caused by parking at the top of Westview at busy times in the morning. Cllr Benney hoped the new initiative would get a better reception than previously, and PC Talbot said things were improving although some people were still infringing. The Chairman and Cllr Benney noted that the yellow line requests had already been grouped

together and were awaiting the procedure. He was willing to contribute towards the cost of this out of his locality budget and it was AGREED this should be established.

PC Talbot then read the January Crime Report:

1. A male has been issued with a £80 fixed penalty for shoplifting at Marldon Petrol Station
2. Burglary to shed in Kiln Road with a claw hammer stolen
3. Criminal damage to concrete flower pot and theft of flower pots Marldon Cross Hill
4. Theft of house name in Five Lanes Road
5. Burglary at Westerland with ornaments and tom tom stolen

He also warned that there had been a spate of shed burglaries in the Stoke Gabriel/Harberton areas and to watch out for this.

3(2.11) MATTERS ARISING

3(1.11) Occombe House: The Chairman read out Mr Bye (Mayor of Torbay)'s reply to the Council's letter and members reiterated their view that this was a vulnerable group who needed round the clock care and we owe it to them to stand up for them, and Cllrs Cox and Thorp in particular felt strongly that the closure decision was misguided and ill-informed. However the residents relatives now felt listing the building might not be helpful and accordingly the Chairman proposed the following letter be sent to Mr Bye:

Dear Mayor,

Re Occombe House

Marldon Parish Council thanks you for your prompt reply to our previous communication on this subject, and at the last meeting unanimously agreed that the following letter should be sent to you:

Further to our previous letter on the possible closure of Occombe House. Having discussed the issue further with the relatives of the residents, Marldon Parish Council do not intend to request that the building could be considered for listing. We also strongly support the view of the residents relatives that Occombe House should be refurbished and remain as a home for the residents.

Yours sincerely

This was seconded by Cllr Thorp and duly **CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY**

6.12.10 Members discussed the question of whether the tree at No.10 Weekaborough Drive should be felled, and a number felt sympathy with those who felt the tree was too large for its surrounds even though it had been there before the houses. Nevertheless the matter was now in the hands of SHDC and the Parish Council had already voted on the issue.

5.11.10 Cllr Cox reported that of the trees due to be planted in Broomhill Meadow 70 have now been planted mainly birch and rowan along the main path with some hawthorn and oak also. 30 were left for other areas.

6(1.11) Parish Cluster meeting on Jan 18th : Chairman reported a good meeting where he had spoken on the LDF and planning issues as well as the 111 bus issue. Cllr Park had brought up the issue of lengthsman on rural roads and the impending cuts had been discussed but no decisions had been made yet. He thanked Clls Palk and Benney for attending with him.

4(1,11) Breaking up road in Belfields: The potholes have been recorded and instructions passed to contractors and work was due to be done between 26 Feb- 6 March. Cllr Benney reported that work had been done but Belfield Ave. was the worse area and also Five Lanes Road - Marldon Cross Hill and to the Five Lanes roundabout. This area will be closed 28th Feb- 15 April for Utilities work.

6(1.11) Chairman reported that 3 representatives of the refuse collectors had received formal thanks from the Leader of the Council on behalf of all the workers for the excellent job they had done during the bad weather.

5.(2.11) REPORTS

DISTRICT COUNCIL REPORT

C. Cllr Pennington reported that:

1. Site RA 22 Vivarage Road has been deleted from the S. Hams Local Development Framework by the inspector following the Examination in Public.
2. S. Hams Council Formula Grant towards the Budget was reduced from £4,956,194 in 2010/11 to £4,176,419 ie by £779,783 or 15.7%. despite this savings of £1m have been made and net cost of services= £10,974,500 as against £11, 151,700 last year- Council Tax will not be increased.

COUNTY COUNCIL REPORT

D. Cllr Pennington reported that:

1. It has been a very difficult Budget process- there was a meeting due on Thursday.
2. Savings were being made through vacancy management and 2,000 jobs will go. Procurement will be done in bulk to gain economies of scale. 7 directors will be reduced to 2
3. Council Tax will be pegged
4. The capital programme will be severely cut back

5. Budget economies include bus service subsidies - £7.7m is spent on this including £200,000 on service 111, which he and other councillors have been fighting to retain. He was able to report success in this in that although the 111 Stagecoach service will now go direct from Totnes to Paignton, there will be a new Country Bus service from Totnes to Torquay via Berry Pomeroy and Marldon- the service 149- albeit with a reduced level of service. He thanked all those who had supported the campaign and the petition including members.
6. Another budget cut was in the ADVA budget for action against domestic violence, where DCC had persuaded the other partners- the Police and NHS- to contribute more thus reducing the overall impact.

6(2.11) ROYAL WEDDING

Cllr Cox said she had been approached by parishioners as to whether the Council had any plans for celebrating the Royal Wedding such as by providing commemorative mugs for the schoolchildren as had happened on previous such occasions. It was agreed that if this was done it would be for all the local schoolchildren regardless of where they lived. It was **AGREED** to investigate the costs and availability of mugs and report for the next meeting.

7(2.11) PLANNING

Please note the Chairman, Cllr T. Pennington, did not vote or participate in these discussions in order not to prejudice his involvement at SHDC planning meetings.

The following unanimous (except where stated) planning recommendations were made after duly being proposed and seconded:

34/2879/10/F: Hazelmere, Kiln Road: Resubmission 2 storey extension to house: Prop. By Cllr Veasey, Seconded Cllr Danby **NO OBJECTION**; Carried 7 votes for, one abstention.
34/2489/10/F Marldon Primary school - canopy: Prop. Cllr Cox Seconded Danby **NO OBJECTION** Carried nem con

8(2.11) CORRESPONDENCE

The Clerk summarised correspondence received. It was agreed to circulate the correspondence in future.

Agreed Clerk to contact Robin Cox re P3 returns

9(2.11) PUBLIC GROUNDS

It was announced that the new play area on Tor Field would be opened officially on Sat. 16 April at 11.45 by the MP for the Totnes area Dr Sarah Wollaston, clerk to make notices.

Cllr Danby reported that the Public Grounds Committee had agreed that a picnic table should be purchased to help make the new play area a community area and that the Marldon Millenium Fund had agreed to use up its remaining funds in paying for this, with a ceiling of £700 (£583 after VAT refund). Accordingly an extremely robust and vandalproof oak picnic table has been found by Cllr Danby and transported to the site with the help of Dave Berlyn for £50. Cllr Cox proposed and Cllr Palk seconded that a cheque for £750 be given to Cllr Danby to reimburse him for this expenditure which would in due course be reimbursed to a large extent by the Millenium Fund. This was **CARRIED** nem con. There would be a brass plaque saying who paid for it.

The Chairman and members offered their congratulations to Cllr Danby and Mr Berlyn for their efforts and Cllr Cox and her team were also congratulated for the planting on Broomhill Meadow.

10 (2.11) HIGHWAYS AND MAINTENANCE

The request for a grit bin in Brockhurst Park was passed on and approved by the Council although the Chairman warned that there was no money for any more bins.

Cllr Webber reported that despite the recent jetting of the buddles in Westerland Lane there was still flooding when it rained and also expressed concern at the mess on the road from a farm entrance at the top of Westerland Lane. There were potholes in Compton close to the telephone kiosk/ bus turning area.

11(2.11) FINANCE

The following payments were AGREED:

Payments- Main a/c:

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Clerk salary and expenses January	432.82
South West Water: estimated payment allots £50 pending meter reading + meadow £11.91	61.91
M. Danby for payments on Tor Field seating	750.00
Sum for reimbursing MEG social (to be vired from PS a/c next month)	58.50

BANK ACCOUNTS as at 31-1-2011

Main Account:	£28,679.72
P3 Account:	£334.28
Environment Account :	£518.57

Cllr Benney, Chairman of the Accounts Committee, proposed that in the light of the unreasonable restriction placed by the Co-op bank on the opening of the new account, that this process be discontinued and instead £15,000 from the main account be transferred to the Savings account held with National Savings. The Clerk spoke in favour of this and Cllr Cox seconded the motion, which was duly **CARRIED** unanimously and a cheque made out accordingly.

12(2.11) BUSINESS AT DISCRETION OF CHAIR

Cllr Thorp proposed that a sum of £200 be given to the producers of the parish newsletter to help defray increased costs, and this was seconded by Cllr Palk. Cllr Cox declared an interest as she was part of the Parish Parochial Council. Cllr Benney required more information before being happy with this grant and the motion was subsequently **LOST** 2 voted infavour, 5 against.

13(2.11) MATTERS UNDER REVIEW. None

14(2.11) CONFIDENTIAL MATTERS(S/O No 66)

Cllr Pennington sought members views on standing at the forthcoming election in May and hoped that everyone would, as he would, it being his 9th election. If this was the case he suggested they produce a joint leaflet and this was proposed by Cllr Benney, seconded by Cllr Veasey and duly **CARRIED**.

Cllr Webber gave his apologies for the next meeting and the Annual General Meeting.

15 (1.11) DATE OF NEXT MEETING -Monday March 14th

Signed (Chairman Cllr. JT Pennington) 14-3-2011

