

MARLDON PARISH COUNCIL

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

MEMBERS PRESENT:

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

ALSO PRESENT: 9 members of the public

1(3.11) APOLOGIES

Cllr Webber

2(3.11) APPROVAL OF MINUTES:

It was unanimously **AGREED** that the Feb. 14th 2011 Ordinary meeting minutes be approved as true records and were accordingly signed off by the Chairman.

3(3.11) MATTERS ARISING

3(1.11) Ocombe House: The Chairman reported that the Mayor of Torbay is in favour of closure although he has passed the decision on to the Care Trust. One of the candidates for the mayor's job, Cllr Gordon Oliver, has sent a letter to the Minister of Health opposing closure. Mrs Thomas, relative of one of the residents, has sent a letter to the Chairman thanking the Council for its support and the Chairman had written to the Herald Express. He has made it clear that any planning application on that site will be opposed on the grounds that it is outside the development boundary and adjacent to the rejected RA22 site. It was also reported that residents have had to be moved out temporarily due to a flea infestation, the second time this has happened.

6.12.10 SHDC Dev. Control Cttee will meet on Wed. April 20th regarding the tree at No.10 Weekaborough Drive, and the applicant will have an opportunity to speak.

4(1,11) Breaking up road in Belfields: Members wished to compliment the workers responsible for this work- they had been considerate, thoughtful and had done a good job, and it was **AGREED** to pass this on to the contractors. However Cllr Danby expressed misgivings about the long term efficacy of the work as the new covering was only $\frac{1}{2}$ thick. He had phoned the engineer and he had agreed but said that it was all that could be afforded at present.

5(2.11) 111 bus: Chairman reported that his and others campaign to save this route had resulted in some success- although the 111 service will now go directly from Totnes to Paignton, County Bus service 149 will have a subsidy of £34,950 (compared with over £200,000 previously) and will run a service from Totnes to Torbay Hospital via Berry

Pomeroy and Marlton, although this will be a restricted service and only one bus will be used. The timetable will help schoolchildren going to Totnes but cannot be extended to the Willows with only one bus.

9(2.11): Cllr Danby reported that he has had a plaque produced for the new table on Tor Field to record the Millenium Trust's contribution and this will be "unveiled" on April 16th when Sarah Woolaston MP inaugurates the facilities. She will be holding a surgery that morning as well. Clerk has put notices up, there is a piece in the newsletter, and SHDC's Alex Wish has been invited. Cllr Danby has also contacted a young person who had first contacted him about the lack of facilities for youngsters 2 years ago and she will be opening the new area jointly with the MP.

4(3.11) POLICE MATTERS

None.

5.(3.11) REPORTS

DISTRICT and COUNTY COUNCIL REPORT

C. Cllr Pennington reported that:

Both S. Hams and Devon County Council have set budgets for 2011/12 and have not made any increases in Council Tax, and neither has the Fire Authority or the Police. Marlton PC reduced its Budget by 1.7% and together with Stoke Fleming PC were the only two of the SHDC parishes and Town Councils to do so out of 61 Parishes and Towns. By contrast 4 Parish Councils of similar size to Marlton raised the Council Tax: eg Yealpton and Wembury by 5% each; Kingswear 20% and S. Brent 2%. Marlton has the 4th lowest Council Tax of the 61 S. Hams Parishes and the other 3 are far smaller Parishes than Marlton and so not comparable.

Councils similar in size to Marlton

Marlton Council Tax= £13.67; Dartington £24.45; Kingswear £22.55; South Brent £37.71; Stoke Gabriel £21.12; Wembury £15.82. Marlton has achieved all this and increased services. Thanks to Parish Council: Council Tax 2011/12 on Band D property= Devon cc £1111.36; S. Hams £143.52; Fire Service £71.77; Police £156.60; Marlton PC £13.67 TOTAL: £1492.67

Cllr Thorp asked if any revaluation of houses for Tax purposes was due, Chairman said this was in the pipeline but not imminent.

MEG

1. Cllr. Mrs Cox reported that the new hedge trimmer had now arrived but not been used yet.
2. Members discussed the problem Mr Berlyn has cutting the grass on the bridleway due to having to move the boulders each time and Cllr Veasey suggested putting a field gate into the bridleway from Broomhill Meadow so that he could get in that way. This would be an agenda item to be discussed at the next meeting.
3. The Clerk has met with Robin Cox to agree this year's P3 budget and he has heard from DCC that this will be agreed.
4. Cllr Cox gave a cheque for £10 to the clerk for the MEG account from sales of maps etc. at the post Office.
5. Cllr Danby confirmed that there will be a meeting of the Public Grounds Cttee when he returns from holiday.

6(3.11) ROYAL WEDDING

Cllr Cox reported that Locketts of Stoke on Trent offered the best mug and she showed a sample to members. Price: £2.75 each plus 35p for box. Mr Chidlow has kindly agreed to fetch them. The Primary school were willing to make a donation of £400 and a total of £930 would be needed, although VAT can be reclaimed. Cllr Palk proposed that Cllr Cox be authorised to proceed with these arrangements and this was seconded by Cllr Benney and duly CARRIED unanimously. There would be a presentation at the school and Cllr Cox will liaise with Mr West the Headteacher. She was thanked by the members for her efforts. The clerk reported that he had researched another supplier in Liverpool but their mugs were a little more expensive.

7(3.11) 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.

34/0600/11/F: 6, Belfield Rise, Decking to rear

Prop. Cllr Danby, Seconded Cllr Benney- NO OBJECTION- duly CARRIED

8(3.11) CORRESPONDENCE

The Clerk summarised correspondence received.

The quote from Mr Bow regarding the graveyard wall was noted and clerk agreed to contact him again to get him to liaise with Cllr Joinson.

The new arrangement regarding HM Revenue and Customs regarding the requirement that clerks can no longer be self employed but must register under PAYE were discussed and it was AGREED that the offer of SHDC's Payroll Dept. to do this work at £3 a payroll be accepted, clerk to deal.

9(3.11) PUBLIC GROUNDS

Cllr Thorp asked on behalf of the Apple Pie Fair organising committee for permission to use the Meadow on July 30th as usual, and members were happy to give this, although there was also a warning that Meadow booking arrangements needed to be put on a more formal footing and this would be discussed at the next Public Grounds committee meeting.

Cllr Cox also had received an enquiry about the possible use of the Meadow for a childrens party in connexion with the Royal Wedding. It was agreed to chase up the Cricket Club for a list of their fixtures after which a response could be made.

Members discussed an e-mail from a resident about the state of a fence giving access to a private garden near the new play area in Tor Field, but as this was not on Council property there was little the Council could do about it. Cllr Benney would respond to the complainant.

10 (3.11) HIGHWAYS AND MAINTENANCE

1. A complaint from a resident about a footpath in Brockhurst Park that appeared to have been incorporated into a householders' garden and passage consequently restricted was discussed and it was AGREED to ask DCC Highways to look into the matter.
2. Cllr Joinson asked, and it was AGREED, if Torbay could be asked to tidy up the verges on the ring road near Widdecombe Farm where a lorry had evidently shed an amount of rubbish.
3. Cllr Benney noted that dog fouling was again on the increase and it was AGREED to alert the street scene officer and the dog warden
4. A letter from the Brockhurst Park management Cttee had been received asking if the road sign for Churscombe Road opposite the garage could be replaced as it was in poor condition: it was AGREED to follow this up.
5. Cllr Benney noted that the white line by the depressed kerb outside the post office was being ignored by many motorists. It was proposed by Cllr Benney and seconded by Cllr Thorp to once again write to the Highways Dept to see if their road technicians could suggest additional ways of deterring parking there.
6. It was AGREED to alert South West Water to the leaking sewage at the junction of Vicarage Hill and Nether Meadow.

11(3.11) FINANCE

The following payments were AGREED:

<u>Payments- Main a/c:</u>	£
Clerk salary and expenses February	367.5
Mr Berlyn, honorarium for work on bridleway (2 cuts) & Peters Field hedge	100.00
Ricoh photocopying (60%)	48.62
Chairmans allowance	120.00
Cllr Danby for plaque on Tor field table	43.00
Playdale- part payment for Tor field play equipment	4,723.00

P3 a/c:

Vire to Main a/c for MEG social paid erroneously from Main a/c last month 58.50

BANK ACCOUNTS as at 28-3-2011

Main Account: £12,396.92 (after transfer of £15,000 to N.S. a/c)
P3 Account: £334.28
Environment Account : £518.57

Members discussed the state of the main notice board outside the Post Office which was often impossible to read because of condensation, and where the notice quickly became stained with brown residue from the wooden panel. Cllr Veasey said it needed ventilation holes and agreed to do this.

12(3.11) BUSINESS AT DISCRETION OF CHAIR

13(3.11) MATTERS UNDER REVIEW. None

14(3.11) CONFIDENTIAL MATTERS(S/O No 66)

The Chairman again raised the issue of the Clerks position in relation to PAYE and it was agreed that exenses did not form part of the salary
He also sought and gained confirmation that all those present would stand again in the election.

15 (3.11) DATE OF NEXT MEETING -Monday 11th April

Signed (Chairman Cllr. JT Pennington) 11-4-2011

