

All minutes are draft until ratified by the Committee at the next meeting.

Marchwood Parish Council

Minutes of the Full Council Meeting of Marchwood Parish Council held at Pine Room, Village Hall, Marchwood on Monday 11 March at 7.30pm

Present: N Buckett, J Case (Chairman), P Mballa, M Proctor, and L Shelley.

In Attendance: Tina Dudley, Parish Clerk, Colette Cockeram, Deputy Clerk, Angela Woodward, Responsible Finance Officer.

Apologies

PC/24/080– apologies for absence were received from D Hindle, (annual leave), M Saxby (Personal).

Resolved to approve apologies for absence from Cllr Hindle and Cllr Saxby.

Declarations of Interest

PC/24/081 – There were no declarations of interest for this meeting.

Public Participation

PC/24/082 – A representative of the Marchwood Mens shed informed Members of the partnership working underway with the Council to construct picnic tables within the grounds of the recreation ground and the building of an area to encourage hedgehogs and wildlife for the benefit of young people and families. The Mens shed was also building display boards so that local artists and other groups could display their work and hold exhibitions within the Marchwood Hub. He thanked Council for the support and partnership working.

Minutes

PC/24/083 – Resolved – To accept the minutes of the Council meeting held on Monday 18 December 2023 as a true and accurate record and duly signed by the Chairman.

Reports from NFDC (New Forest District Council) Councillor

PC/24/084 – In addition to his report Cllr Young informed Council he updated spoken with officers at NFDC regarding the works on footpaths within the village, delays had occurred due to staffing problems however, proposed plans for the project would be presented to Council in the near future.

He had met with the designated local police officer and introduced him to MPC officers.

The proposed care home on Hythe Road was to be considered by NFDC Planning Committee on Wednesday 13 March with a recommendation to approve the plans. Following a Members query Cllr Young informed Council the footpath that currently went through the site would be rerouted around the edge of the proposed development.

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The flooding on Tavells Lane was being investigated by NFDC.

Cllr Young had held talks with Solent Gateway and Amazon with a view to try and minimise waste being discarded including bottles of urine on local verges with Amazon agreeing to improve facilities it offered to staff.

Cllr Mballa informed Council the NFDC waste strategy was causing confusion, NFDC were engaging with residents.

He highlighted the consultation HCC were currently undertaking with regard to cutting services importantly the recycling centre within Marchwood, if opening hours were to be reduced or closure of the site it was thought that more fly tipping would occur within the village and residents would have to drive further afield to dispose of waste, residents and Members were urged to respond to the consultation.

There was an emergency plan consultation regarding community resilience currently underway.

Report from HCC (Hampshire County) Councillor

PC/24/085 – Cllr Harrison informed Council that he had spoken to Highways Executive and officers about mitigating problems within the village regarding works on the highway. For a number of reasons work could not be stopped however, traffic lights on Marchwood Lane on the approach to Trotts Lane junction, had been removed with further works being carried out at night. There were difficulties for highways planning road works and also works required by the utility companies that were only required to give 3 days' notice for proposed works.

CCTV will be installed at Staplewood Lane/A326 junction in the hope that motorists would be deterred from turning right at the junction.

Regarding the A326 widening scheme two developments that might be significant following the decision by HCC to progress the scheme. A change in the law requires HCC not only to "have regard" for the purposes of National Parks but to demonstrate that what they plan adds to the purposes of conserving and protecting the area.

The proposed Fawley town is "under review". This may well alter the business case for the whole project which was originally estimated to cost just under £100 million and now, (because of increasing construction costs) possibly a lot more.

He had attended the ABP meeting in the Village Hall and thought it was an interesting way to reveal plans for Dibden Bay. The immediate prospect of more commercial use of the Sea Mounting Centre, with a possibly 700 extra lorry movements a day that was not welcome, both from an environment point of view and the ability of our local roads to withstand the extra traffic weight.

The proposal for a new link road from the A326 directly into the port would (on balance) be positive as it effectively bypasses the village. This was linked to the road widening scheme, with some serious negative consequences.

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He further stated that he had been campaigning hard (with others) to put pressure on HCC not to close Marchwood tip, or indeed to restrict its' use. Most people seem to agree that closure will likely prompt more fly tipping, both here and in the National Park. Here again, it is hard to argue that closing the tip supports the core purposes of the NPA to conserve and protect the area.

He had met with the Regional Manager of Bluestar buses to discuss issues with the service Marchwood has been receiving. There were many issues raised as a result of putting a call out on social media. Of course, the service has been impacted by roadworks, in the same way that all traffic has.

There was no mention in the HCC budget of investing in the Waterside railway passenger service.

Grants had been provided to support a number of Marchwood based organisations and others that improve things for residents, including a grant for the Party in the Park, later this year.

Members raised the issue of a lack of communication from HCC despite requests for meeting with highways no adequate response had been received. Further concern was raised regarding the flooding issues on Cork Lane with residents been sent round in circles and HCC denying any responsibility for undertaking the works.

Asset Register

PC/24/086 – Resolved that the Asset Register as of 31 March 2024 be approved.

Risk Assessment of Financial systems' and Internal Controls

PC/24/087 – Resolved that the Risk Assessment of Financial systems and Internal Controls be approved.

Reserves Policy

PC/24/088 – Resolved that the Reserves Policy be approved.

Development Opportunities – Vending machines for the Lloyd Recreation Ground

PC/24/089 – Resolved to approve the purchase of a hot drinks and snacks machine to be sited inside the Pavilion at Lloyd Recreation Ground.

Funding would be from the Earmarked Reserved 'Elections to be renamed 'Development Opportunities' with the remaining funding from the general reserve.

Handy Trust SLA

PC/24/090 - Resolved to approve the SLA with the Handy Trust 2024-2025.

Roebuck debt

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PC/24/091 - Resolved to agree that the debt of £70 from the former Roebuck football team was irrecoverable therefore, the debt was to be 'written off.'

Christmas Event in the Village Centre

PC/24/092 - Resolved to approve a Christmas event taking place in December 2024 to be organised by the Parish Council with Councillors Buckett, Leath and Case helping to plan and organise the event.

Marchwood Parish Logo

PC/24/093 - Members considered a logo provided by a local artist however, it was considered to be over complicated for the purposes of a logo. Members agreed that a competition to design a new Parish Council logo would be organised and advertised on social media and other council publications.

Close of meeting and Date of next meeting

PC/24/094 – the meeting closed at 8.58pm. The next meeting was 20 May 2024.