Marchwood Parish Council
Marchwood Village Hall, Village Centre, Marchwood SO40 4SF
Tel: 02380 860273 office@marchwoodparish.gov.uk

Dear Councillor, you are hereby summoned to attend the **Full COUNCIL MEETING** of **Marchwood Parish Council** on Monday 22 July 2024 at **7.30pm** to be held in the **Pine Room Marchwood Village Hall**.

Tina Dudley, Clerk to the Parish Council   Tuesday, 16 July 2024

Agenda

1. **Apologies for absence**

   To receive and consider for acceptance any Member apologies for absence and approve by resolution.

2. **Declarations of Interest**

   Members and officers are invited to make any declarations of interest that they may have in relation to an item on the agenda and are reminded to make any declarations at any stage during the meeting if it becomes apparent that it may be required.

3. **Public Participation**

   For the public and press to ask questions on matters relating to items on the agenda.

4. **Minutes**

   To approve the minutes of the previous meeting of the Parish Council held on 20 May 2024 as a correct record and duly signed by the Chairman (appendix A).

5. **Reports from the New Forest District Councillors**

   To note the reports from the New Forest District Councillors (Appendix B)

6. **Internal Audit review**

   To review and approve the effectiveness of the Internal Auditor (Appendix Ci), Do the numbers information 2024-2025 (Cii).

7. **BDO Conflict of interest**

   To approve and sign the declaration of Conflict-of-Interest Form with BDO LLP external auditor (Appendix D).

8. **Cork Lane works required**

   To consider the approval of works on Cork Lane to clear the ditch to help alleviate flooding (Appendix E).

Members of the Press and Public are welcome to attend any meeting of the Parish Council. These rights are enshrined in the Public Bodies (Admission to Meetings) Act 1960 and the Openness of Local Government Bodies Regulations 2014.

All in attendance should be aware that filming, photographing, recording, broadcasting or transmitting the proceedings of the Council may occur during the meeting.

9. **Waterside Community Fund representation**
   To consider a request for the continuation of the MPC representative on the Waterside Community Fund (Appendix F).

10. **EV ChargePoint Update**
    To receive an update on the EV ChargePoint's at the Lloyd Recreation Ground (Appendix G).

11. **Personnel Committee membership**
    To consider appointing an additional member of the council to the Personnel Committee.

12. **Lloyd Recreation Ground**
    To authorise the undertaking of a feasibility study into the Lloyd Recreation Ground sports facilities.

13. **Close of meeting, Date of next meeting 16 September 2024 at 7.30pm.**

Marchwood Parish Council

Minutes of the Full Council Meeting of Marchwood Parish Council held at Pine Room, Village Hall, Marchwood on Monday 20 May at 7.30pm

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

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

Election of Chairman 2024 – 2025

PC/24/001 – Cllr Buckett proposed Cllr Case to be Chairman for the municipal year 2024/2025, seconded by Cllr Shelley and agreed by all.

Resolved - Cllr Case be elected Chairman of Marchwood Parish Council for the Municipal year 2024/2025.

Election of Vice Chairman 2024 – 2025

PC/24/002 – Cllr Mballa proposed Cllr Hindle to be Vice Chairman for the municipal year 2024/2025, seconded by Cllr Shelley and agreed by all.

Resolved – Cllr Hindle be elected Vice Chairman for the municipal year 2024/2025.

Apologies

PC/24/003– There were no apologies for absence for this meeting.

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Declarations of Interest

PC/24/004 – There were no declarations of interest for this meeting.

Public Participation

PC/24/005 – No members of the public attended this meeting.

Minutes

PC/24/006 – Resolved – To accept the minutes of the Council meeting held on 11 March 2024 as a true and accurate record and duly signed by the Chairman.

Standing Orders

PC/24/007 Cllr Hindle proposed the heading ‘Model Standing Orders’ be deleted and replaced with Marchwood Parish Council Standing Order.

Resolved - to approve the Standing Orders with the amendment to the title to read Marchwood Parish Council Standing Orders.

Financial Regulations

PC/24/008 – The Clerk highlighted point 6.9ii, the figure of £3,000 to be authorised expenditure in cases of serious risk to the delivery of council services or to public safety on council premises.

6.9ii was agreed by Councillors.

Resolved – to approve Marchwood Parish Council Financial Regulations as set out.

Membership of Committees

PC/24/009 - Members agreed that whilst there remained vacancies for Councillors Members would be on all committees with the exception of Personnel that would remain with 3 Councillors; Cllr Proctor did not want to be a member of the Planning Committee.

Resolved – to approve membership of all committees.

Resolved – Chairman of all committees would remain the same as 2023/2024: Cllr Hindle, Policy and Resources, Cllr Saxby, Planning Committee, Cllr Buckett, Amenities Committee and Cllr Case, Personnel Committee.

Outside Bodies

PC/24/010 – Members requested that a standing agenda item for reporting on outside organisations by Councillors be added to each Council agenda to come.

Some Councillors stated that they had not heard from the organisations they represented; the Clerk was asked to contact those organisations to ascertain if they were still active.

Resolved – To approve Councillor representation on Outside Bodies.

Marchwood Community Association	Cllr Hindle
New Forest Association Local Council	All Councillors
New Forest Environment Protection Liaison (2 Members)	Cllr Leath
New Forest Consultative Panel	Cllr Proctor
The Handy Trust (Nominated Trustee)	Cllr Case
Marchwood Twinning Association	Cllr Proctor
Marchwood Fete	Cllr Mballa
NFDC Quadrant Meetings	All Councillors
Marchwood Schools Liaison (2 members)	Cllr Leath

ABP Port Consultative Committee (2 Members)	Cllr Case, Clerk
Solent Gateway Liaison Group	Cllr Buckett, Leath and Mballa
Scout and Guide Management Committee	Cllr Buckett

Council Insurance

PC/24/011 – Resolved to accept quotation 3 for the Engineering/vehicles renewable yearly; to accept Council/Lloyds insurance quote 3 for a period of 3 years 2024/2027.

Annual Governance and Accountability Return 2023/2024

PC/23/012 - Resolved - the Internal Audit report for the 2023/2024 was received and noted.

PC/23/013 - Resolved - the Annual Governance Statement 2023/2024 was approved.

PC/23/014- Resolved – to authorise the Chairman and the Clerk to sign the Annual Governance Statement 2023/2024.

PC/23/015 - **Resolved -** the Accounting Statement 2023/2024 was approved.

PC/23/016 - Resolved – to authorise the Chairman and the Responsible Finance Officer to sign the Accounting Statement 2023/2024.

PC/23/017 - Resolved - to publish the Public Rights of Inspection on the Council's website and on parish council notice boards on 3 June 2024, to begin the public rights of inspection on 4 June 2024 was approved.

Code of Conduct

PC/24/018 - Resolved to adopt the Local Government Association Code of Conduct.

Close of meeting – date of next meeting

PC/24/019 – Date of the next meeting 22 July 2024.

The meeting Closed at 8.27pm.

 Chairman's signature ……….……… Date …………

<u>Review of Effectiveness of Internal Audit and Auditor</u>

Introduction

In association with the monitoring and approval of the system of internal control, The Parish Council must also review the effectiveness of the internal audit and auditor each financial year.

The Account and Audit Regulations 2015 require councils to ensure that an effective system of internal control and audit is in place and is reviewed to enable Marchwood Parish Council to positively answer all assertions in the AGAR (Annual Governance and Accountability Return).

<u>Assertion 6 Internal Audit</u>: We maintained throughout the year an adequate and effective system of internal audit of the accounting records and control systems.

In order to warrant a positive response to this assertion, the authority needs to have taken the following actions:

1.35 Internal audit — The authority needs to appoint an independent and competent person to undertake an effective internal audit to evaluate the effectiveness of its risk management, control and governance processes considering internal auditing guidance for smaller authorities.

1.36 The internal auditor must be able to demonstrate independence from the council's financial decision making. The Clerk, RFO or Councillors (or close associates such as family members of those individuals) are not considered independent from the council’s financial decision making.

1.37 Provision of information — The authority needs to ensure it has taken all necessary steps to facilitate the work of those conducting the internal audit, including making available all relevant documents and records and supplying any information or explanations required. The internal auditor is expected to inspect all documentation which should be supplied by the council on request from the auditor.

Do the numbers, Eleanor Greene has been the Internal Auditor for the Parish Council in recent years from 2019/2020.

The external Auditor is appointed centrally.

<u>Assertion 7 Reports from Auditors</u>: We took appropriate action on all matters raised in reports from internal and external audit.

1.39 To warrant a positive response to this assertion, the authority needs to have considered all matters brought to its attention by its external auditor and internal audit and taken corrective action as appropriate.

Meeting the standards		
Expected Standard	**Evidence of Achievement**	**Is this standard achieved/needs**
1. Scope of internal audit	Scope of internal audit work. Terms of reference and financial regulations, payments and invoices, all expenditure and VAT. Risk management processes and wider internal control. Precept, adequate budgetary processes including budget monitoring and appropriate reserves. Expected income, recorded and promptly banked. Salaries, paid in accordance with council approval. Asset and investment, complete and accurate. Periodic bank account reconciliation were carried out. Accounting statements prepared. Correct publication on being published on website.	Yes. Completed assertions were illustrated in Audit reports presented to Council for action, approval. The current Internal Auditor is Do the Number, Eleanor Greene. The Clerk and RFO recommend Eleanor is appointed Internal Auditor 2024/2025.
2. Independence	Internal Auditor has direct access to RFO. Reports are made in own name to Council. The Internal Auditor does not have any other role within the council.	Yes
3. Competence	No evidence that internal work has not been carried out ethically, with integrity and objectivity. Internal auditor familiar with governance processes and	Yes (previous experience with Town and Parish Councils since 1997. Has been MPC auditor since 2019/2020.

	accounting regulations for parish councils. Qualification: BSc Hons ICPA.	
4. Relationships	Clerk/RFO are consulted on the internal audit plan and on the scope of each audit. Responsibilities for officers and internal audit are defined in relation to internal control, risk management and fraud and corruption matters. The responsibilities of council members are understood.	Yes.
5. Audit Planning and reporting	The audit is a feature of a wider plan with regards to internal control. Policy and procedural reviews and monthly reports and strong internal control and procedures embed this approach within MPC.	Yes. The review of Internal control is now in place every 6 months, a rolling program of policy, procedural and risk assessment reviews is being undertaken to ensure that the policies and procedures adopted are compliant and current.

Characteristics of Effectiveness		
Expected Standard	**Evidence of Achievement**	**Is this standard achieved/needs**
Internal audit work is planned	Planned internal audit work is based on risk assessment and designed to meet the body's governance assurance needs.	Yes, letter of engagement to be agreed by council.
Understanding the whole organisation its needs and objectives	The annual review demonstrates how audit work will provide assurance in relation to the body's annual governance statement.	yes
Be seen as a catalyst for change	Supportive role of audit for developments such as governance review, risk management and ethics.	yes

Add value and assist the organisation in achieving its objectives	Demonstrated through positive management responses to recommendations and follow up action where called for.	Yes.
Be forward looking	When identifying risks, changes on the national agenda are considered. Internal audit awareness of new developments in the services, risk management and corporate governance.	Yes, Clerk/RFO are updated regularly by the Internal Auditor regarding changes to procedural matters and regulations.
Ensure the right resources are available	Adequate resource is made available for internal audit to complete its work. Internal auditor understands the body and the legal and corporate framework in which it operates.	Yes. Parish specific accounting package purchased April 2021. Yes.

Recommendation: Council appoints Do the Numbers, Eleanor Greene as Internal Auditor 2024/2025.

Do the Numbers Ltd
Internal Audit Information 2024/25

Who are Do the Numbers Ltd?

- A company led by Eleanor Greene BSc Hons ICPA who has been auditing Parish Councils since 1997.
- Qualified with ACCA in Private Practice and then worked for the Audit Commission.
- Following ten years as Company Secretary of Hampshire ALC, Eleanor was for three years Secretary of the Hampshire SLCC as an Associate member and is a founder member of the Internal Audit Forum , so is up to date with sector developments.
- The company is in regular communication with the External Auditors (PKF, BDO and before them District Audit and the Audit Commission).
- The company holds £150,000 of Professional Indemnity Insurance linked to the practising certificate.
- When not dealing with local Councils, Eleanor acts as the independent examiner for several charities and has a tax practice covering individuals, partnerships and small companies.
- Therefore the company understands HMRC systems and compliance and the differences between Parish, Charity and Company law.

What does the Internal Audit process comprise ?

Every council will get a visit to their office / the Clerk's place of work between the 31st March year end and late June to review the controls and systems and to sign the AGAR (annual return) in good time for the 30th June submission deadline.

Larger councils – whose operations and systems are more complex – get extra visits spread through the year between October and March, to allow a thorough review of all activities to take place.

Every council, no matter how large or small has unlimited email support throughout the year.

Communication is primarily with the proper officer, but sometimes also with the Chairman.
There is no such thing as a 'stupid' question the first time it is asked – it is always better to ask during the year so that matters are handled correctly in the first instance.

Fees

The Internal Audit Fee scale for 2024/25 is set on the same basis as that for external audit – bandings based around total income or expenditure - as a proxy for the complexity of the council.

There is a fee of £75 for any aborted visit or for any visit cancelled at less than one week notice.
It is likely that no council will ever have to pay this as our systems include a clear schedule of documentation and actions to have been completed prior to the visit.
The issue of notice periods primarily applies to small councils where we are keeping your fees down by visiting more than one parish in a day.

When your quote is provided, your likely fee will be confirmed in writing.
Quotes come with no obligations.

All engagements are on a "good till cancelled" basis.
Councils are not locked in to more than one year.

Audit Calendar

Showing what main audit related actions the council should have undertaken during the year;

April	Complete Cash book for prior year, ensure bank reconciliation to 31 March complete and approved by council. Prepare draft annual return figures.
May	Internal Audit visit – approve IA report at full council including action to be taken. Ensure all RTI submissions complete for year – take a copy of annual summary.
June	Complete AGAR and submit with all required paperwork to External Auditor

July Review Standing orders and Financial Regulations
August Review all policies, especially Data Protection, schedule update approvals
September Review Risk Assessment as per guidance in Governance & Accountability
October Receive completed external audit, report to full council and act on any points raised
November Start preparing the budget through monitoring of expenditure and requirements
December Finalise budget and complete approval of updated policies
January Submit Precept request.
Include final budget in signed minutes and clearly minute the Precept amount.
February Review fixed asset register to bring up to date, review Transparency Code
March Review supporting statement to year end accounts – debtors, tenancies, leases, contingent liabilities.

Paperwork / electronic document schedule

This is the list of information that the Internal Auditor will need to check to assure themselves of the tests listed on the Internal Audit Statement on the AGAR.
Some of the items may not be applicable to very small parishes but all are part of a good internal control environment.
Ideally provide copies of starred (***) items for the IA to put in their file – this will save accidentally marking your originals.
All items marked "T" should be published on the council website under the Transparency codes.

- Minute book – master copy including agenda papers, subcommittees and confidential (T)
- All invoices and receipts to 31 March (*electronic PDF files are permitted*)
- Bank statements for all accounts including loans and investments – to 31 March
- Bank reconciliation for all accounts as at 31 March (T)
- Cheque book stubs / Paying in books
- Petty cash records and reconciliation
- Insurance Schedule – including vehicles
- Wages – evidence of RTI and Pension submissions, P60 for all staff, P45 for leavers
- VAT reclaim or return to 31 March
- Burial register, memorials register
- Last year's Internal and external auditor reports and annual return (T)
- Register of Members' interests (*link to Monitoring officer page is best*) (T)
- Financial regulations / Standing Orders / Risk Assessment – as reviewed in year (T)
- Budget for the following year – as approved in year (T)
- Review of variances between cash book and budget for the current year. (T)
- Review of leases, tenancies, contingencies and other agreements
- Income & Expenditure (R&P for small councils) to 31 March, showing comparatives (*** T)
- Balance sheet at 31 March – showing comparatives (*** T)
- Fixed asset register as at 31 March, checked against the Insurance schedule (T)
- Trade Debtors and prepayments listing (***)
- Trade Creditors and Accruals listing (***)
- Analytical review of variances for section 2 of Annual return (T)

The list looks very long written out like that but every organised clerk is actually already doing all of this – they just may not think of it in those terms.

Eleanor Greene ICPA
for Do the Numbers Ltd

CONFLICT OF INTEREST WITH BDO LLP

To be completed annually and minuted at a meeting of the smaller authority.

Name of Smaller Authority	Marchwood Parish Council

☐ I confirm that there are no conflicts of interest with BDO LLP.

☐ I confirm the following conflicts of interest (please detail below:

This was confirmed and minuted at the following meeting:

Date of Meeting	Minute Reference

Signed (Clerk/RFO)

Print Name

Signed (Chair)

Print Name

The Ditch Cork Lane

1. **Background**

Residents of Cork Lane contacted MPC to raise concerns relating to flooding along the lane caused by an overflowing drainage ditch on the side of Cork Field which they believe had exacerbated near flooding of their homes.

Neither NFDC nor HCC would take responsibility for clearing the ditch.

NFDC stated the responsibility of clearing the ditch was that of MPC as the ditch was on the land bordering Cork Field, MPC have a 99-year lease on the site.

Historically, HCC had cleared the ditch, however, due to financial constraints they were no longer willing to do this. Cork Lane is unadopted.

The residential homes along Cork Lane were in danger of flooding throughout the winter 2023/2024. They were understandably very frustrated with all three local authorities, all of which were refusing to take responsibility for the maintenance of the ditch. I refer the Council to appendix A the map of Cork Field and the areas we are responsible for.

Following an onsite meeting with NFDC it was thought that responsibility for the ditch did in fact sit with HCC.

The understanding is that water runs off Tavells Lane down into Cork Lane where the water then has nowhere to go due to the ditch not being cleared, the water should drain along the whole of Cork Lane through the culverts and drains running along Normandy Way.

It is believed the Highways Authority cleared the drains on the highway along Normandy Way in the early spring of this year.

A more permanent and longer-term solution is required to prevent this problem reoccurring as it has done for many years with the residents having the same battle each and every time and getting no response from local authorities except to say the problem sits with the parish.

The Highways Authority were contacted by residents, NFDC Councillors, HCC Councillor and the Parish Council to try and resolve the issue.

The following communication was received.

2. **Communication from Hampshire Highways**

Ownership and maintenance of ditches along Cork Lane.

Hampshire County Council generally does not **own** the land on which highways are built. The land is merely subject to highway rights, as is the case for Cork Lane. The County Council has a policy which is common to most highway authorities to consider ditches to be the responsibility of the owner of the land beneath the highway, or if there is none, the adjoining owner. In the case of Cork Lane, being a historic road, there is no recorded owner of the land beneath the highway and as such the legal presumption of ‘ad medium filum viae’ applies, this essentially says that each of the adjoining landowners have a rebuttable claim to land beneath their respective half width of the highway adjoining their boundary up to the centre of the road.

The adjoining owner would not have a riparian responsibility if the County Council (or a predecessor authority), had acquired the land on which the ditch lies for a road improvement either by conveyance (in which case the County Council would be the landowner), or dedication, or had excavated the ditch itself. In this instance, the County Council has not widened Cork Lane and therefore has no ownership of the subsoil to the road.

Any maintenance carried out previously by Hampshire County Council would have been undertaken using its Highway Authority powers to undertake work to prevent flooding of the highway. In more recent years, due to funding cuts and reduced resources, the Highway service has been unable to tackle these issues which would divert resources from matters for which the Highway authority is responsible.

Responsibility for maintenance of historic ditches remains with the riparian land owner. Further guidance on responsibility of water courses (which includes diches) can be found on our web site - HCCFloodRiskManagement-Landowners.pdf (hants.gov.uk).

3. **Legal Advice to the Parish Council**

Riparian owners do have certain rights and responsibilities.

In the case of ditches, streams and rivers, it is the landowners on each side of the watercourse who are responsible for the maintenance of the watercourse itself and the flow within it.

It should also be noted that it is not just those who have a watercourse flowing across their land that are affected, but also those with land where the watercourse forms a boundary with another landowner. Their rights and responsibilities also apply where a watercourse passes immediately adjacent to a boundary, even if it is outside the landowners’ ownership, as the flow of the watercourse has the potential to affect this land. This may be relevant here as I suspect originally the ditch did form the boundary.

If an ‘ordinary watercourse’ or a ‘main river’ runs through land or along the boundary of a property, the landowner is likely to be the riparian owner or joint riparian owner, unless the watercourse is known to be owned by someone else. Unless you are aware of any other ownership, I suspect the ditch falls within the Council’s demise and forms part of the lease. I have looked at the freehold title, attached and this does not indicate anything different.

If the land on the other side of the watercourse is not owned by the same landowner, they are presumed to be the joint riparian owner together with the landowner on the other side. In the case of joint riparian ownership, each party is presumed to own up to the centre line of the watercourse and therefore is responsible up to this point.

Attached is an image of a typical riparian ownership situation.

Under the common law, the owner of land forming the bank of a natural watercourse has the benefit of the following:

- the presumption that a landowner owns the land up to the centre of the watercourse, unless owned by someone else. (Property Deeds should detail whether the boundaries of the property are marked by the watercourse or a wall/hedge/fence – although the deeds here are silent)

- the presumption that a landowner owns any stretch of natural watercourse that runs through or underneath their land.

- water flow—water should be allowed to flow onto or under land in its natural quantity and quality. Water should not be abstracted without required permission or polluted

- flood protection—landowners have the right to protect their property from flooding, and from erosion; providing such plans/measures are approved by the risk management authority prior to installation.

Whether the Council owns the riparian rights and therefore has the obligation / liability really turns on the exact location of the boundary, the Land Registry title is only an indicative boundary.

My initial advice would be to resist Highways request that the Council maintain the ditch / culverts on the basis that the ditch does not form the boundary and the ditch lies outside of the Council's land and if they will not accept this to instruct a surveyor to determine the boundary. The Council could either to this of its own initiative, and on the assumption, it reports positively, rely on that to go back to Highways, or to agree with Highways to instruct a joint surveyor with the parties agreeing to accept the findings.

Unfortunately, in my view this all turns on the location of the ditch. I slightly fear that it probably was intended to and therefore the Council may have joint liability with Highways.

<u>Recommendation:</u>

In view of other authorities and legal advice that the parish council has responsibility for maintaining the ditch along Cork Lane:

A quote for the work required for £5,000 has been received.

Council are being asked to fund the works from the Councils reserves.

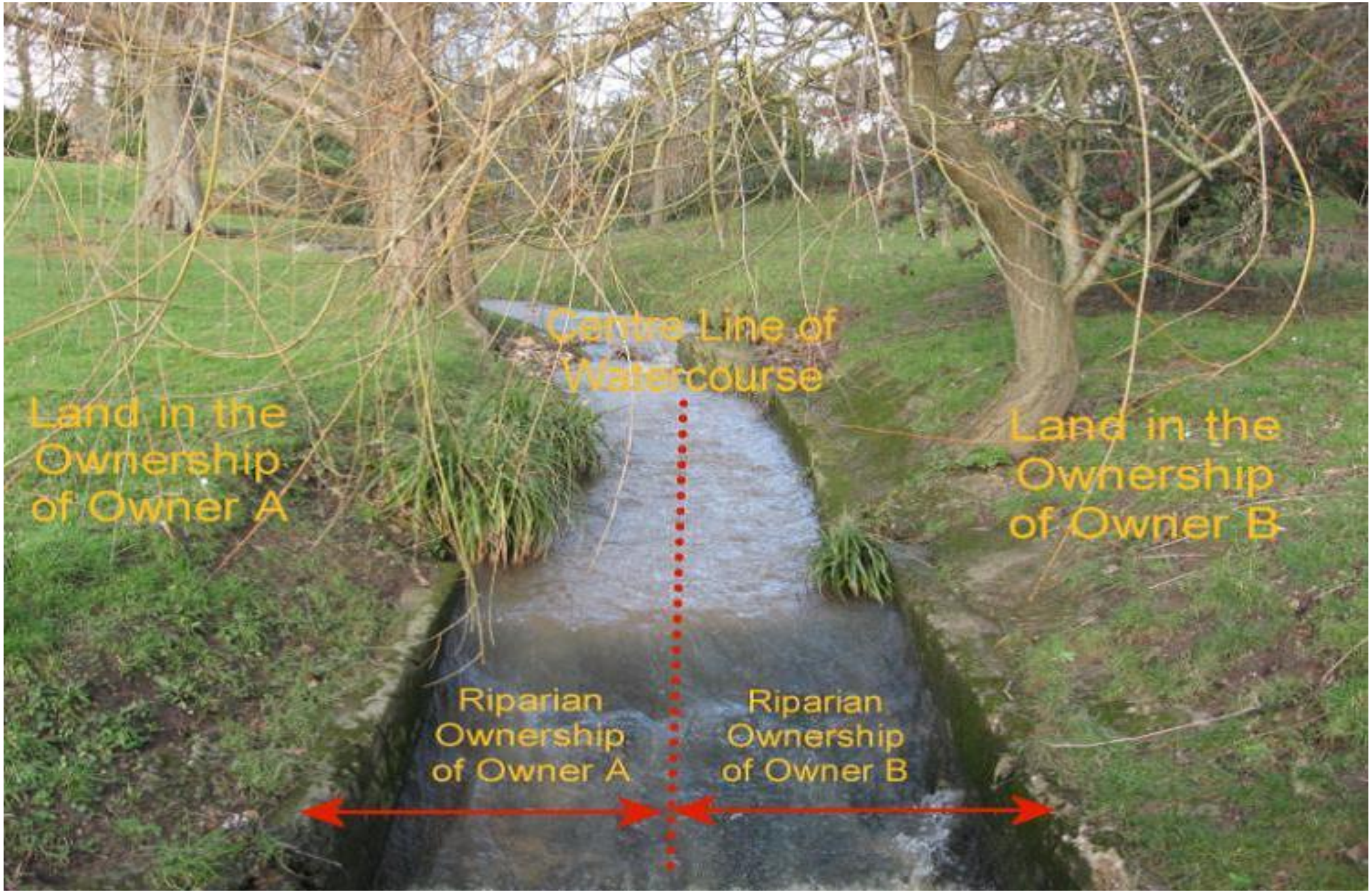
Council agrees to fund the works to clear the ditches along Cork Lane to alleviate further potential flooding of residents’ homes and that yearly maintenance of the ditch is undertaken.

Appendix A – Cork Field, land ownership.

Appendix B – Riparian responsibility.


Works
Collects
FB
Slowhill Copse
BURY ROAD
8m
FB
Iss
Recycling
Site
ESS
10m
Path
Cork's Farm
CORK LANE
Track
ADMIRALTY WAY
ORDNANCE W
MAGAZINE LANE
NORTH ROAD
Sluice
3m
Mast
NORMANDY WAY
Recreation
Ground
Path
18m
BURY ROAD
SHOREFIELD RD
PEBBLE CT
TIDES
CORK LA
4m
OLD MAGAZINE CLOSE
Drain
GARDINER CL
BYAMS LANE
GAGE CL
8m
7m
Tavells
Solar Farm
Tavells Farm
THE RUSHES
THE TUSSOCKS
Recreation
Ground
Pav

Riparian Ownership



Briar Edge
Park Lane.

Marchwood Parish Council

To the Chairman and councillors,

I have been Marchwood Parish Council's chosen representative on the Waterside Community Fund (formerly Dibden Allotments Fund) for the last four years and am now reaching the end of my current position as a trustee this month.
I am very proud to have been your representative on the charity and it has been one of the most worthwhile and valuable experiences that I have had during my adult life.
I have done my utmost to be compassionate, fair and considered in my involvement with the charity and the decisions on grant aid that I have made on your behalf either from our own parish or the wider Waterside community, whether for an individual or organisation.
Every judgement of requests for help or support is discussed at length by three trustees on a rota basis for weekly individual applications and representatives from all of the parishes and co-opted trustees at the full monthly meeting.
Since COVID and the restrictions imposed on all of us, we have continued our weekly small application discussion via Zoom.
I would be so pleased if you wish me to continue as your Marchwood trustee for the next four years.
I really appreciate my position within the trust and being able to be a part of this local charitable body that helps people experiencing difficult circumstances or organisations that need help within the Waterside community.
I must reiterate how fortunate we are to have the Waterside Community Fund Allotment Fund on our doorstep and be able to provide support to so many people, in a truly altruistic way.

Yours sincerely,

Judy Saxby

Judy Saxby

EV ChargePoint update

Initial enquiries

The Council were contacted in February 2023 by Rural EV Charging and asked if we would consider allowing public electric vehicle chargers to be installed on Parish car park land? This would have been at no cost to MPC, we would have received a rental income for each installed charger.

Rural EV Charging work on behalf of MPC to make sure we get a rental payment at market value from the ChargePoint operator who pays to install, maintain and operate the chargers for the contract term. The Council wouldn't be required to pay for anything. They usually look for at least two car parking bays on land with vehicle access, ideally close to village halls or other amenities.

Update

The main ChargePoint operator who was interested in installing ChargePoints at Lloyd Recreation grounds has now received back the new Point of Connection quote and it was prohibitively high for them to proceed unfortunately.

New proposal

However, Rural EV Charging work with another ChargePoint operator who is more favourable to installing "Fast AC Chargers". They might be able to use an existing power supply where available. Otherwise, they can also look to get a slightly lower capacity Point of Connection quote.

If they were to take power from an existing supply, they would need a few details including a couple of photographs of the incoming supply and the Distribution Board/s within the building/s.

If connected to our supply, they would likely look to install a submeter and then reimburse MPC for our costs of providing the power. Assurance was given that the process was all very transparent with regards to how billing and usage is calculated and reimbursed but does create a little more admin work.

Consideration

Council are being asked to consider the new proposal:

1. Give notice that we are no longer going to pursue the installation of the ChargePoints.
2. Fast AC Chargers connected via MPC connection (MPC would be reimbursed for costs of providing the power.
3. A lower capacity point of connection, a new quote would need to be generated.