

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 16 September 2024 at 7.30pm

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

In Attendance: Tina Dudley, Parish Clerk.

Apologies

PC/24/033 – Apologies for absence were received from Cllr Leath, (work), Cllr Mballa would join the meeting following a Council meeting a NFDC.

Resolved – to approve apologies for absence from Cllr Leath.

Declarations of Interest

PC/24/034 – There were no declarations of interest for this meeting.

Public Participation

PC/24/035 – No members of the public attended for this item.

Minutes

PC/24/036 – Resolved – To accept the minutes of the Council meeting held on Monday 22 July 2024 as a true and accurate record and duly signed by the Chairman.

Reports from NFDC (New Forest District Council) Councillor

PC/24/037 – Apologies for absence were submitted by Councillors Harrison, Cllr Young, would join the meeting following the Council meeting at NFDC.

Members were provided with their written statements as part of the agenda pack.

Council registered their discontent with the lack of progress at Trotts Lane and Tavells Lane and questioned the wisdom of Hampshire Highways Authority concerning works in the vicinity of Twiggs Lane.

The current highway work around Twiggs Lane was considered dangerous, putting the lives of the children in danger from lorries using the road and their exhaust emissions.

They considered the roadworks currently underway would have been better timed to take place during the school holidays and not at the start of term time. Consequently, parents dropping their children off at the infant school find it more challenging because of this work.

Members raised concerns with the Highways department and asked for a meeting to be raised with Councillor Harrison to discuss the issues raised.

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

Outside Organisation

PC/24/038 – Cllr Hindle reported as a member of the Marchwood Community Association. He explained that there had been a lot of maintenance taking place on the building recently to prevent squirrels getting into the roof.

Cllr Buckett stated that he had only attended one meeting of the Scout and Guide Management Committee since being appointed as the Council's representative. No further communication had been received.

Members raised concern that the lease required a member of the Council to be invited to all meetings of the Scout and Guide Management Committee and also that he should be provided with a copy of the minutes.

The Clerk was asked to contact the Committee and raise the issue and breach of lease conditions.

Cllr Case had attended meetings of the Handy Trust. He raised concern with the planned expansion of the Trust to outside of the Waterside. Further concerns were raised with what was considered to be the disproportionate sums paid to the Trust in comparison to larger Councils using the service, he questioned if the SLA was value for money for the Council.

A meeting with the Trust had been arranged to discuss the issues. All Councillors were invited to attend the meeting.

External Auditor Report and Certificate 2023/2024

PC/24/040 – Resolved Councillors praised the hard work of the Responsible Finance Officer.

The issues of the minutes not confirming the Internal Auditors independence was highlighted, the Clerk stated that the confirmation was omitted from the minutes however, the report had confirmed the Internal Auditors independence.

Going forward the independence of the Internal Auditor was confirmed.

Application for Councillor

PC/24/041 –

Several Councillors confirmed the good character of Mr Petty; he had previously been a member of the Council and was known to be very efficient with financial matters.

Resolved – to appoint Mr Keith Petty as a Councillor of Marchwood Parish Council.

The Clerk would arrange for Mr Petty to sign his acceptance of office declaration following his holiday.

Exempt Business

PC/24/042 - Resolved to exclude the press and public from the meeting.

Larkspur, RNAD and Footpaths

PC/24/043 –

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

The Clerk and Chairman attended a meeting with NFDC Officer regarding the works required at Oak Park prior to the land being transferred to MPC.

Concerns were raised with the proposed tree works omitting the number of trees along the side of the railway as it was thought there were about 20 Ash trees with Ash Dieback, these trees had not been included in the schedule of tree works.

MPC currently had a lease on the RNAD land, it was thought that an administrative error on the part of NFDC was the reason the land had not been transferred to MPC. The process had now begun to transfer the freehold to MPC.

The mitigation project (paths) through the village had taken a considerable amount of time to be resolved, S106 monies was to be utilised for the project that was now due to go out to tender.

Members agreed the proposed works and requested that if any monies were left over the path through Crooked Hays Copes are also included within the project.

Close of meeting and Date of next meeting

PC/24/044 – the meeting closed at 8.30pm. The next meeting was on 16 December 2024.