

**Minutes of the Parish Council Meeting
Wednesday, 7 June 2023 at 19:30
The Parish Hall, Elmdon Road, Marston Green**

Present:

Cllr Clive Hill – Chairman
Cllr Leigh Trevis
Cllr Mark Noblet
Cllr Mike Kay
Cllr Paul Powell
Cllr Carole Pearce

Clerk: Julie Brennan

Public: 5

4551. Chairman's welcome

The Chairman welcomed everyone to the meeting.

4552. The Public

4524.1 A member of the public raised the issue of the 20 mph speed limit that had recently been introduced to certain areas of Marston Green. Following discussion the Clerk was asked to contact SMBC to ask if the area could be extended to encompass more roads within the village, to invite the PCSO team to attend a future PC meeting to discuss the problem of speeding in the village and to request that 'speed watch' sessions (where hand held devices were used to check the speed of vehicles driving through the village) are arranged.

Action item: Clerk to contact SMBC to enquire if the 20mph zone could be extended and to request 'speed watch' events take place in the village. Clerk to also contact the PCSO team to ask them to attend a future meeting to discuss the problems with speeding in the village.

4553. Apologies

Apologies had been received and accepted from Cllr Sue Rogers, Cllr Wayne Hadley and Cllr Jon Horton.

4554. Declaration of Pecuniary Interests and Dispensations

None

4555. To co-opt a new member

Proposed: Cllr Leigh Trevis proposed that Claire Kelly be co-opted to the Council on the Marston Green ward.

Seconded: Cllr Paul Powell

All in favour

Cllr Claire Kelly signed the Declaration of Pecuniary Interests form, the Declaration of Acceptance and the Code of Conduct.

4556. Minutes of the Annual Parish Meeting held on 10 May 2023

The Chairman asked those members present at the 10 May 2023 meeting if they had read the minutes and if they could confirm these as a true and accurate record.

Proposed: Cllr Mike Kay

Seconded: Cllr Carole Pearce

All in favour

It was resolved that the minutes were a true and accurate record.

4557. Minutes of the Annual Parish Council Meeting held on 10 May 2023

The Chairman asked those members present at the 10 May 2023 meeting if they had read the minutes and if they could confirm these as a true and accurate record.

Proposed: Cllr Mark Noblet

Seconded: Cllr Mike Kay

All in favour

It was resolved that the minutes were a true and accurate record.

4558. Minutes of the Parish Council Meeting held on 10 May 2023

The Chairman asked those members present at the 10 May 2023 meeting if they had read the minutes and if they could confirm these as a true and accurate record.

Proposed: Cllr Carole Pearce

Seconded: Cllr Leigh Trevis

All in favour

It was resolved that the minutes were a true and accurate record.

4559. Matters arising from the Parish Council Meeting – 10 May 2023

4524.2 – Broken Bollard on Station Road - it was noted that the broken bollard had been made safe.

4529/4479.2 – Parking in the area of the footbridge at the bottom of Church Lane - Cllr Mike Kay confirmed that he and Cllr Jon Horton were still dealing with this matter which was on Skanska's to do list.

4530.1 – Wet pour surface on the Playground at the Recreation Ground - The Clerk confirmed that the works to replace the wet pour surface on the playground at the Recreation Ground carried a three year warranty.

4530.3 – Football Rules and Regulations - The Clerk confirmed that the Groundsmen advised that the litter left by football teams varied. Some weeks were worse than others but it was not too bad overall.

4534 – Letter to Saqib Bhatti MBE MP - The Clerk confirmed that the letter had been sent and the response was due to be covered under Correspondence at item 25.1.

4541 – Meeting with Push on Wellbeing – the meeting was confirmed as taking place on 14 June 2023.

4546 – Discount offered to football club - the Clerk confirmed that the football team were very happy with the £200 discount offered by the Parish Council.

4547 – letter to the Airport regarding property owned in Bickenhill village – the Clerk confirmed that the Airport had responded to the letter to say that they are currently formulating a plan to bring the properties up to standard.

4560. Minutes of the Staffing Committee meeting – 17 May 2023

4560.1 It was agreed that the Clerk's probation should be passed with effect from 15 March 2023 and her hours of work would be:

Monday to Thursday – 09:00 to 17:00

Friday – 09:00 to 16:30

Proposed: Cllr Carole Pearce

Seconded: Cllr Clare Kelly

All in favour

It was resolved that the Clerk's probation was passed and her hours of work were Monday to Thursday 09:00 to 17:00, Friday 09:00 to 16:30

4560.2 Members approved the recommendation that the Deputy Clerk's probation should be passed.

Proposed: Cllr Mark Noblet

Seconded: Cllr Leigh Trevis

All in favour

It was resolved that the Deputy Clerk's probation had been passed

4561. Minutes of the Recreation Committee meeting – 17 May 2023

- 4561.1 **Minute No. 1649 – Purchase of the horse field next to the Burial Ground** - Cllr Hill confirmed that a response was awaited from the landowner with regard to the potential purchase of land next to the Burial Ground.
- 4561.2 **Minute no. 1723 – the installation of CCTV and ANPR cameras on the car park at the Recreation Ground** – Cllr Hill confirmed that the cameras has been installed and were working.
- 4561.3 **Minute no. 1812 – concerns raised by residents of Blackfirs Lane** – Cllr Hill confirmed Birmingham City Council had been asked if anything could be done to deter parking on the land it owns on Blackfirs Lane and a response was awaited.
- 4561.4 **Minute no. 1814 – land adjacent to the Recreation Ground** – Cllr Hill advised that the landowner had been contacted and a response was awaited with regard to the potential to lease the fields around the Recreation Ground.
- 4561.5 **Minute No. 1824 – to consider the purchase of a bench to mark the coronation of King Charles III** – Cllr Hill noted that quotes were still being sought for a bench and a recommendation would be made to the next Parish Council meeting.

4562. Update from the Pavilion Working Group meeting 22 May 2023

Cllr Mike Kay advised that the group had met on 22 May 2023 and 6 June 2023 and that a further meeting was being planned to move the matter of the lease forward.

4563. Minutes of the Finance & General Purpose Committee meeting – 22May 2023

- 4563.1 Cllr Mike Kay asked for approval for the transfer of £100,000 from the Treasury account to the BMM account.

Proposed: Cllr Mike Kay
All in favour

Seconded: Cllr Leigh Trevis

It was resolved to transfer £100,000 from the Treasury account to the BMM account

- 4563.2 Cllr Mike Kay referred to the Commentary on Available Funds document that had been circulated in the meeting pack and asked for approval for £100,000 (including CIL monies) to be made available for the Pavilion refurbishment.

Proposed: Cllr Mike Kay
All in favour

Seconded: Cllr Mark Noblet

It was resolved to make £100,000 (including CIL monies) available for the Pavilion refurbishment works.

- 4563.3 Cllr Mike Kay summarised the changes to the Terms of Reference for the F&GP Committee which were recommended for approval.

Proposed: Cllr Mike Kay
All in favour

Seconded: Cllr Mark Noblet

It was resolved to approve the amended Terms of Reference for the Finance and General Purpose Committee.

4564. Note from the Planning Committee

The comments submitted to SMBC regarding the application for a two storey extension at 12 Elm Farm Avenue were discussed due to the potential for a 45 degree infringement.

4565. To approve the Finance Approval List and list of urgent payments made

The proposal to authorise the payments detailed on the expenditure report was approved..

Proposed: Cllr Mike Kay
All in favour

Seconded: Cllr Mark Noblet

It was resolved to approve the expenditure payments detailed in the report.

4566. To approve the Recreation Ground fees for 2023/2024 which have been amended to remove VAT on sports facilities

The members noted that the Recreation Ground fees had been amended to remove VAT on changing rooms following a change in the law.

Proposed: Cllr Mike Kay

Seconded: Cllr Clare Kelly

All in favour

It was resolved to approve the amended Recreation Ground fees for 2023/2024

4567. To consider whether to reclaim VAT paid on sports facilities and repay the amounts to clubs

The members discussed the options to deal with VAT that had been charged incorrectly and agreed that VAT should be reclaimed and, where possible, repaid to the clubs involved.

Proposed: Cllr Mike Kay

Seconded: Cllr Mark Noblet

All in favour

It was resolved to reclaim VAT paid for changing rooms and, where possible, repay to clubs

4568. To approve the closure of applications for grants from CIL monies

The recommendation to close applications for grants from the CIL monies was discussed. It was agreed that, save for the existing MGCC application, no applications would be considered.

Proposed: Cllr Mark Noblet

Seconded: Cllr Paul Powell

All in favour

It was resolved that no new applications for grants from the CIL monies would be accepted.

4569. To approve the amended Terms of Reference and the allocation of a £2,000 budget for the Planning Committee

4569.1 The Members discussed the proposed budget of £2,000 for 'professional fees'. Expenditure to be reported to the next meeting of the Parish Council.

Proposed: Cllr Leigh Trevis

Seconded: Cllr Mark Noblet

All in favour

It was resolved that a budget of £2,000 for the Planning Committee was approved.

4569.2 The Members discussed the changes to the Terms of Reference which had been amended to reflect the allocation of a £2,000 budget for 'professional fees'.

Proposed: Cllr Paul Powell

Seconded: Cllr Leigh Trevis

All in favour

It was resolved that the amended Terms of Reference for the Planning Committee were approved.

4570. To approve the amended Terms of Reference for the Recreation Committee

The Members discussed the Terms of Reference which had been changed to remove the reference to the approval of CIL applications.

Proposed: Cllr Clare Kelly

Seconded: Cllr Carole Pearce

All in favour

It was resolved that the amended Terms of Reference for the Recreation Committee were approved.

4571. To approve the payment of printing costs (PagePack) by direct debit

The Clerk asked for approval to set up payment by Direct Debit for the PagePack agreement which covered the costs of the office printer (toner, waste toner etc).

Proposed: Cllr Mike Kay

Seconded: Cllr Carole Pearce

All in favour

It was resolved that a direct debit be set up for payment of the PagePack printing costs.

4572. To approve the transfer of the Parish Council's bank accounts to either Lloyds or Unity Trust

The members discussed the options and the Clerk was asked to request forms to transfer the account to Unity Trust Bank.

Action item: Clerk to request forms to transfer the accounts to Unity Trust Bank.

4573. To approve the £4,508 cost of storage/installation/repair of Christmas tree lights by SMBC

The members noted that it was not possible to obtain the same service from another provider and therefore approved the cost of storage/installation and repair of the Christmas lights.

Proposed: Cllr Leigh Trevis

Seconded: Cllr Carole Pearce

All in favour

It was resolved that the £4,508 cost of storage/installation/repair of Christmas lights was approved.

4574. External Committee Reports

Parish Hall Trustees – Cllr Hill noted that the new Hall Manager was in post and interviews were taking place for a new caretaker.

Marston Green Village Charitable Trust – There were no updates to share at this meeting.

Airport matters – It was noted that a meeting was due to take place and an update would be available at the next Parish Council meeting.

HS2/M42 J6 update – Cllr Mike Kay provided an update on the upcoming closures and also issues with the school bus not being able to access the village.

Village Hall, Bickenhill – Cllr Kay confirmed that a meeting had taken place with Highways England and an offer in relation to the work to the Hall was awaited.

Broadband in Bickenhill – Cllr Kay confirmed that Cllr Bob Sleight was still looking into this.

4575. Correspondence

4575.1 **Letter from Saqib Bhatti MBE MP** – members noted the content of the letter and the proposed visit from the MP.

4575.2 **First Mayor's Community Weekend 9-10 September 2023** – members agreed that a working group would look into the options for holding an event to mark the Mayor's Community Weekend and report back to the next Parish Council meeting. Members of the working group were agreed as Cllr Leigh Trevis, Cllr Claire Kelly, Cllr Clive Hill and Cllr Paul Powell.

Proposed: Cllr Mark Noblet

Seconded: Cllr Claire Kelly

All in favour

It was resolved to approve the setting up of a working group to investigate options for a community event on the weekend of 9-10 September 2023

4575.3 **Letter from St Leonard's Church requesting a donation towards the costs of the trip to Weston Super Mare on 22 August 2023** – members agreed to make a £200 donation towards the cost provided that the trip was advertised to the wider community.

Proposed: Cllr Clive Hill

Seconded: Cllr Carole Pearce

All in favour

It was resolved to approve a donation of £200 towards the cost of the coach trip to Weston Super Mare

4576. The Parish Council meeting closed at 21:07

4577. Date of the next meeting: 5 July 2023

Venue: The Church Hall, Church Lane, Bickenhill

