

## Marhamchurch Parish Council

Tuesday 21<sup>st</sup> February 2017

A meeting of the Parish Council was held in the Methodist Sunday School on the above date at 8.00pm.

(It was preceded by a presentation by Jane Stewart and Paul Thompson from Qila Energy about their proposals in relation to an agricultural anaerobic digestion plant at East Helscott Farm Marhamchurch)

**Councillors present:** Chairman Mr R Hockin, Messrs J Petherick, R Blewett, S Colwill, T Perry, T Edwards, Mrs I Waterhouse & Mrs J Walter.

Also in attendance Cllr N Chopak and the Clerk Mrs B Heathcote

Approximately 12 members of the public were present for part of the meeting

**Apologies** Mr M Grills and Mrs F Hunt

### Declarations of Interest

17/24 Mr S Colwill PA17/00125/PREAPP

### Dispensations.

17/25 Mr S Colwill existing dispensation to stay for the discussion re the above was approved.

### Public Open Session to receive questions and answers from the public on an agenda item.

17/26 Two members of the public commented about details relating to PA17/00125/PREAPP and PA17/00979 respectively. The Chairman advised these comments would be considered when discussing the applications

### Confirmation of the Minutes of the Meeting of the Parish Council held on January 17<sup>th</sup> 2017.

17/27 It was unanimously resolved to approve the minutes which were signed by the Chairman.

### Matters Arising.

17/28a **Para 17/05c Marhamchurch C of E VC Primary School** – Mr S Colwill confirmed that the School Commissioner has approved the application to join the Saints Way Multi Academy Trust.

17/28b **Para 17/05a Sharlands Footpath Bridge** - CC have inspected the bridge and confirmed the decking needs replacing, it's safe to use without closure and warning notices have been erected. The repairs involve working at height and are not appropriate for the parish council to do and it's been added to CC's work programme.

17/28c **Para 17/21b & c Finance** – after the January meeting, the Clerk emailed the councillors with the income and balances details as follows:

b) Income	Cemetery	Cremation Interment & Memorial (May)	£ 40.00
	Cemetery	Cremation Interment & Memorial (Chidley)	£100.00
	Cemetery	Burial (Sparks)	£ 50.00
	Cemetery	Burial Double Plot Reservations x 2	£380.00
	Cemetery	Burial Single Plot Reservation x1	£140.00
	Cemetery	Burial 2nd interment reservations x2	£100.00
	Cemetery	Double Cremation Plot Reservation x2	£120.00
		Playpark grant from Marhamchurch Parish Council	£200.00
c) Bank Balances.as at 12.01.17		Monmouthshire B/Soc	£18,080.79
		TSB Int Acc	£ 5,948.49
		TSB Current	£ 1,992.05
	Playpark	TSB Int Acc	£ 1,000.62
	Playpark	TSB Current Acc	£ 2,192.27

### Correspondence.

17/29a The following items (most of which had been emailed) were placed for circulation on 03.02.17

- i) CALC Weekly News Round up 20.01.17, 27.01.17 & 03.02.17
- ii) Plunkett Foundation Call to Action.
- iii) Cornwall 4 Change response to CC Stakeholder Survey.
- iv) CC Communities and Devolution (6th) Planning Newsletter.

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- v) Cornwall Community Flood Forum (CCFF) Resilience Manager + copy of letter to the Secretary of State from CCFF Chairperson.
  - vi) Response from Cornwall Air Ambulance re the enquiry about night lighting landing sites.
  - vii) Bude Community Network Panel Notes 09.01.17.
  - viii) Healthwatch January 2017 newsletter.
  - ix) War Memorials Trust
  - x) Neighbourhood Planning Update January 2017.
  - xi) CC Communities and Devolution – Jan 2017.
  - xii) SLCC - Smaller Council Group notes and attachments.
- 17/29b The following items (most of which had been emailed) were placed for circulation on 21.02.17.
- i) Cornwall Air Ambulance information letter.
  - ii) The Environmental Growth Challenge 2017.
  - iii) Marhamchurch Playpark 11.01.17 meeting minutes for approval.
  - iv) Vital Venues Winter/Spring Newsletter.
  - v) CC Communities and Devolution Bulletin – Save our Hedgehogs.
  - vi) CALC Weekly News 17.02.17.
  - vii) CC Communities and Devolution Special Bulletin 15.02.17 - Additional road safety and drainage schemes.
  - viii) Letter of thanks for the grant from Friends of Bude Sea Pool.
  - ix) Letter of thanks for the grant, and an update from Marhamchurch Christmas Tree Committee.
  - x) Letter of thanks for the letter of appreciation from the Parish Council from Marhamchurch Village Shop Committee.
  - xi) Parish Council Balance sheet/Bank Reconciliation and income and expenditure updated to January 2017. (Not yet checked by the Chair)
- 17/29c The following correspondence was dealt with at the meeting:
- i) CRHA – 31.01.17 notification that CRHA has offered this property to Cornwall Homechoice so they can consider any eligible applicants, for this type of property, in the neighbouring parishes and the former North Cornwall District Council area.

## Planning

### 17/30a Decision Notices/Updates.

- i) PA16/11220 - Proposed Porch. 7 Hobbacott Lane Marhamchurch. Mr S Short. APPROVED.
- ii) PA17/00016 - Lifting of agricultural occupancy condition on decision 1288/E (application E/STR/50/1550) dated 16.03.1950. Oakdene Marhamchurch. Mrs S Kirby. Decision pending.
- iii) PA16/03651/PREAPP - Pre-application advice for erection of new-build detached dwelling, with garage or car port. Hillside Helebridge Road Marhamchurch. A & H Covell. Planning Officer does not support the proposal as the site lies within flood Zones 2, 3 and 3b.

### 17/30b Applications/Appeals.

- i) PA17/00125/PREAPP - Pre application advice for proposed erection of 4 dwellings Land South West of Elmsleigh Pinch Hill Marhamchurch. Mr And Mrs I Winks. The Clerk was directed to respond that the site is outside the defined settlement boundary as defined by NCDC 1999 and does not represent infill, backfill or rounding off. There is no provision for affordable housing and does not qualify as a Rural Development Exception site and it is not brownfield land. There is concern that there would be a detrimental visual impact and would set a precedent to further develop onto agricultural land. The parish council are of the opinion that site is not significantly enclosed and that only the east side is adjacent to existing residential property. There is concern about increased traffic resulting and road safety accessing Pinch Hill. Concern was also expressed about whether a 1988 CC letter is still valid or relevant.
- ii) PA17/00497 - Non material amendment in respect of application PA15/06453 - Replace the

false chimney with a steel flue. Village Farm Marhamchurch. Mr C Saxton. It was unanimously resolved to request that, as the building is in a conservation area, that the steel flue is encased in a brick chimney.

- iii) PA17/00979 – Erection of general purpose agricultural building. Land off Hilton Road Marhamchurch. Mr Benjamin Marsh. It was unanimously resolved to recommend refusal for the following reasons. There are serious concerns about the noise and light aggravation that may arise, especially from housing of livestock. The parish council consider that the proximity of the proposed building to existing domestic residences and to the approved residences in Hobbacott Lane is too near. There is concern that the agricultural building is very large and is situated on land which will make it very visible.

17/30c Deal with any Planning Applications or matters received by the date of the meeting.

- i) APP/D0840/W/16/3154072 (PA16/00853). Following the appeal hearing in January, The status on CC website states that it has been called in by the Secretary of State. Cllr N Chopak advised that she thinks the Appeal Decision will be made public very soon.

### **Cllr N Chopak.**

17/31 CC has debated the 2017/18 budget and has included a 2% allocation for Adult Social Care. CC is pressing for more funding for social care from Central Government. Following much discussion, CC is proceeding with their £½ million bid for Cornwall to have a county of culture status which is supported by private enterprise. CC has acquired £2.9 million for the highways budget for major projects.

### **Traffic Speed Sensor.**

17/32 Cllr Chopak has had a conversation with CC officer P Steen who has advised that it will not be possible to have a speed monitor outside the school and that he maintains that previous speed monitors have not shown that there is a problem with drivers in that area. Mr Steen has suggested other ways to reduce speed such as notices on poles and, that as many of the culprits are local to put a notice in the parish newsletter.

### **Update re Community Asset Listing application.**

17/33 The amended application has been submitted to CC.

### **Neighbourhood Plan.**

17/34 Cllr Chopak advised that it would probably be the end of March before Mr C Sims can attend to give advice on a Plan. In the meantime, Mr Petherick will organise an informal meeting with the councillors who had volunteered to be involved.

### **Public Toilets**

- 17/35 a) Light sensor in toilets - Mr P Amos-Yeo has been unable to find anything that can be used to protect the sensor.  
b) utilities updates. – Electricity – the monthly direct debit will be increased from £8 to £9 from March 2017. Water – The Government has introduced changes to create a water retail market and from 01.04.17 SWW will not be a retailer. Retail services will be provided by SWW's sister company Pennon Water Services (PWS). It was resolved to use PWS and no action is required.  
c) Mr Amos –Yeo's holiday dates – Monday 24<sup>th</sup> – Friday 28<sup>th</sup> April; Sunday 30<sup>th</sup> July – Thurs 3<sup>rd</sup> August and Tuesday 3<sup>rd</sup> – Saturday 7<sup>th</sup> October 2017. As usual he will attend in the morning of the first date and the evening of the last date of each holiday.

### **Community Benefit Fund**

- 17/36 a) Update re Revel Field. Mr Corney has submitted the formal application of £420 for the work to clear the vegetation in preparation for the new fence. The grant had been agreed in principle in 2016 and it was unanimously resolved to approve the request.  
b) Update re request from Marhamchurch Baby and Toddler group. Mr Blewett had met with the group and ascertained that it was mainly small toys and art material that are needed. It was

unanimously agreed to approve the request for £150.

c) Request from Marhamchurch Pre-School Group. A grant requesting £500 towards a canopy to cover part of the external space for access in all weathers has been received. A copy of their accounts has been provided and a copy of 1 estimate £3650.00 +VAT. The request was agreed in principle and the clerk will check that the group have been given permission from the Revel Field Trustees for the work.

d) Deal with other CBF matters received by the date of the meeting. Cornwall Air Ambulance has responded advising that their helicopters have been capable of night flying since December 2014. Air Ambulances had been forbidden to fly at night by aviation regulations but the rule has changed and the service is gradually increasing night service hours.

e) Suggestion from a parishioner a) to repair the bridge at the Old Foundry. b) On the lower part of the Hele Valley Trail - to replace the stepping stones with a bridge. Cllr N Chopak advised that the bridge is privately owned. It was noted that both areas are not in the parish. It was resolved that it is not appropriate to use the funds for privately owned areas not in Marhamchurch parish.

Mrs I Waterhouse suggested having planters and plants/flowers in some areas in the village. The councillors agreed this would be a good idea and it was suggested having boxes by the Marhamchurch signs and some in the centre of the village. The Clerk was directed to put a note in the newsletter asking for ideas and suggestions and for any volunteers to help with the planting.

### **Playpark**

17/37 a) It was unanimously resolved to approve the minutes of the meeting on 11.01.17.

b) Feedback re the Annual Safety check. – The check has been covered in the minutes.

### **Millennium Bench Maintenance.**

17/38 It was noted that as the benches have not been treated or maintained since there were installed in 2000 and that there is probably a lot of work involved with getting them up to scratch. Following a short discussion, Messrs R Blewett and R Hockin agreed to look at one bench to ascertain the amount of work involved. The Clerk advised that there is an annual sum allocated for parish repairs and that funds from the Community Fund could be used to cover costs and then it would be advisable to have regular maintenance programme in place for the benches.

### **Broadband Installation.**

17/39 CC has approved the Local Devolution Fund grant of £1,226.80 for the Community Broadband Project. The grant is made on the basis that the parish council meets the terms and conditions of the grant and the fund will be released when the agreement is received from the parish council.

It was unanimously resolved to accept the terms and the agreement was signed. The Clerk was directed to write to the Marhamchurch Methodist group to get permission for broadband to be installed in the Sunday School. The Clerk will find out where BT will make the connection

### **Update from Bude Stratton TC re the areas in the parish they have the contract to maintain.**

17/40 The Clerk has contacted BSTC but still not had any update or information.

### **Weed Treatment.**

17/41 There has been no response from BSTC about the work that was undertaken last year. BSTC have not advised either way if they would do the weed treatment for 3 years for the price agreed last year. CORMAC have sent a quote but they are using the same incorrect map, as last year, which does not include some adopted roads. Their paperwork is dated 2016. The Clerk has queried it.

### **Defibrillator Training.**

17/42 Ms T Spittle has advised that the training has been arranged for 3<sup>rd</sup> April in the Bullers Arms.

### **Review Protocol for dealing with developers in respect of pre-planning developments.**

17/43 Still no response from CALC.

### **Finance**

17/44 a) It was resolved to authorise payments totalling £530.82 as per the schedule plus adjustment of £20 for Mr Amos Yeo, £420 Revel Field Trust, CC £72.50 for Cemetery Garden Waste Collection for 2 years and £150 for Marhamchurch Baby & Toddler Group.

b) Income	CC re LMP Footpaths 2016/17	£380.00
c) Bank Balances.as at 18.02.17	Monmouthshire B/Soc	£18,080.79
	TSB Int Acc	£ 5,948.74
	TSB Current Acc	£ 1,620.10
	Playpark TSB Int Acc	£ 1,000.66
	TSB Current Acc	£ 2,091.01

d) Review TSB – letter from TSB advising that the funds in the account are not covered by the Financial Services Compensation Scheme (FSCS), The Clerk has made several telephone calls and visited the branch. A subsequent email from FSCS has indicated that the parish council should never have received the letter and that small local authorities, provided their total balances do not exceed EUR 500,000 are covered under the scheme. The Clerk has asked for a TSB and/or FSCS for letter confirming that the funds are covered under the FCSC.

Monmouthshire B/Society has advised that wef 01.03.17 the interest rate will decrease again to .20% (from (.70%).

### Revised Financial Regulations.

17/45 The draft document has been circulated and it was agreed to defer until the next meeting.

### Parish Council Elections.

17/46 The Election publication notice day is 20.03.17. All councillors will retire on Monday 8<sup>th</sup> May 2017. 10 x nomination packs for Marhamchurch will be delivered to Bude Library week beginning 6<sup>th</sup> March and the Clerk will collect them. The deadline for nomination papers to be delivered to CC is 04.04.17. (Chy Trevail Bodmin is the closest for Marhamchurch). The clerk has no part to play in this process; responsibility lies solely with the candidate, whether they are existing councillor or are standing for the first time. If there are 10 or fewer nominations – those nominated will, once the other statutory processes are covered, automatically become councillors. If there are more than 10 – there will be an election process. The Clerk is waiting to hear from CC if polling cards are compulsory. If there are less than the full quota of 10 – assuming there is a quorate (4) the elected councillors may co-opt to fill the vacancies. If the power of co-option is not exercised within 35 days – CC may exercise its power to hold a further election or take other action to fill the vacancies. The annual meeting of the council must be within 14 days of the councillors taking office (8<sup>th</sup> May). Not later than 22<sup>nd</sup> May.

### CORMAC Local Maintenance Partnership 2017/18.

17/47 Information not yet received from CC.

### Other Parish Matters

- 17/48 a) **Highways** - The Clerk had reported potholes in Hobbacott Lane, Pinch Hill and the road from Box's Shop to Widemouth Bay.
- b) **Footpaths** - The Clerk received telephone call from a Poundstock resident about dog mess on the footpaths around the Widemouth Viewpoint car park. CC has advised that there was not any on the gravel path from the carpark to the monument and that as they do not have the wherewithal to collect mess from mud paths that these had not been checked. CC will action dog mess offences if reports with evidence or information ie car number plate are given to them.

### Urgent Matters raised with the Chairman since the Agenda was published.

17/49 Annual Parish Meeting – must be held between 1<sup>st</sup> March – 1st June. Due to it being an election year, it was resolved to have hold the APM on Tuesday 18th April.

### Date and Items for next Agenda.

- 17/50 a) March 21<sup>st</sup> 2017
- b) Annual Parish meeting,; LMP Footpaths; Review Standing Orders and Code of Conduct; Annual Review of the council's effectiveness of its system of internal control.