

Marhamchurch Parish Council

Annual Parish Meeting – Tuesday 15th May 2018

The above meeting was held in Marhamchurch Methodist Sunday School on at 7.00pm

Councillors present were: Chairman J Walter, Vice Chair T Perry, Cllrs R Blewett, S Butler, S Colwill, F Hunt, T O’Sullivan and I Waterhouse

Apologies – Cllr R Bray, Cllr T Edwards, R Corney, D Hoare and S Short.

PCSO C Krolick had been invited but there had been no response.

Also in attendance The Clerk, Mrs B Heathcote and Cornwall Cllr N Chopak

5 members of the public were present.

Minutes

Copies of the previous year’s minutes held on Tuesday 18th April had been circulated, were on display, were approved by the meeting and signed by the Chairman.

Matters Arising.

The Toddler and Baby Group is no longer running due to funding.

Guest Speaker: Cornwall Cllr N Chopak

Cllr Chopak praised the Parish Council for all they did and for their hard work and diligence in dealing with so many matters. Cllr Chopak confirmed that funding continues to place Cornwall Council under huge budgetary pressure, with ongoing reviews of all types of services and, as a consequence, life in rural communities has become challenging. Cllr Chopak spoke of the pressures to maintain and improve Adult and Social Care services due to financial pressure. Cllr Chopak highlighted some of the CC matters affecting parishes in general and thanked the parish council and parishioners for their support. This was followed by the opportunity for a a short question and answer session.

Chairman’s Report

This year has been a very busy and changing one. Unfortunately, the Chairman, Councillor Petherick resigned from council in early November and although resigning as Vice Chairman in late November Cllr Colwill kindly chaired each meeting until January.

This is when I was elected as Chairman and Councillor Perry as Vice chair. It has been a steep learning curve for us both but with the support of all the councillors and the Clerk we are where we are today. Councillor Bray was co-opted 2 months ago and we are now back to 10 councillors.

I would sincerely like to thank all the councillors for their support and extend a huge thank you to our clerk, Bobbie Heathcote, who works so hard, to ensure that our meetings are run in a correct and efficient manner.

The Clerk’s workload has increased exceptionally, this includes:-

- the introduction of General Data Protection Regulations which has necessitated additional training and the need to incinerate unessential documents
- changes in financial regulations
- updating policies and protocols introduced by the government
- corresponding with organisations in administering grants
- looking into Public Works Loan protocol and land transfer protocol

Bobbie we cannot thank you enough for your professional manner and positive attitude to whatever demands we put on you.

We must also extend our thanks to Nicky Chopak, our representative on Cornwall Council. She has attended most of our meetings and listens to our concerns. She has supported our various highway concerns and is always willing to support the parish with any matter however small or large.

Achievements and projects this year are:-

- The village planters, 2 which Cllr Perry kindly crafted and others which we have been bought and donated by members of the parish and planted by members of the parish and councillors – they look lovely and brighten the many entrances to the village
- Armistice plans are underway for November
- Training has been accessed by many councillors – courses include, Code of Conduct, Good Chairmanship, How to be a Good Councillor
- All Cllrs now have parish council designated email accounts
- Defibrillator training was organised and run in the village
- The Neighbourhood Development plan which unfortunately stalled for a while is due to gather momentum again
- A Parish Emergency Plan is due to be discussed and put together in the next few weeks
- The Marhamchurch Village shop is nearing the stage when the toilets and land can be transferred
- The playpark and parish cemetery continue to be well cared for – thank you to those involved in their upkeep

Moving to planning - since our last Annual Parish Meeting in May 2017 there have been 24 planning applications including some preapplication proposals. The parish council have recommended approval for 17, refusal for 4 and resolved to make no recommendation for 3 proposals and 1 was withdrawn. CC responses have been to recommend approval of 15 of the proposals including the preapplication responses, refusal of 4 and there remain 4 pending a response. Finally we must thank the members of public who attend our meetings, their input during the open public session is greatly appreciated.

Presentation to Good Neighbour Award.

The Chairman expressed thanks to the recipient of the award and was pleased to present it to Peter and Mary Jones for all they have done over many years.

It was suggested that there should be an award each year which should be presented at the Annual Parish meeting.

Informal Questions and Answers

The green waste had not been collected and there was a query about maintenance in St Marwenne's Churchyard and Cllr Chopak offered to investigate both matters. There was also a note sent from a parishioner about the amount of dandelions growing in the grass in the Parish Cemetery; it was noted that there are more dandelion than usual everywhere which must be a result of the weather and it was also noted that they are especially good for bees. A question was asked about the poor state of the path between Pinch Hill Estate and Old Canal Close and who is responsible for it. The council were able to confirm that the poor state of the path has already been notified to CC and 2 site meetings have already taken place; work is planned but is delayed due to the bird nesting period. Cllr Chopak mentioned that some parishes are employing a local person to undertake parish work – such as weed treatment and grass cutting. The Clerk agreed to place it on the agenda.

Groups/Activities in the Parish

Reports from the following were on display and will be placed in the Village Hall for one Coffee Morning session on 16th May and on the website.

St Marwenne's Parochial Church Council Including Children & Vulnerable Adult Protection. Electoral Role	Report from Peter Jones
St Marwenne's Church Handbell Ringers	Report from Eileen Burnard
Marhamchurch Village Hall Committee	Report from Peter Jones
St Marwenne Bell Ringers	Report from Robert Corney
Marhamchurch Revel Committee	Report from Val Landricombe
Marhamchurch Playpark	Report from Fran Hunt
Marhamchurch Christmas Tree Group	Report from Cathy Bowley

Rector' Report
Marhamchurch WI
Marhamchurch PFSA
Marhamchurch Primary School
Marhamchurch Revel Field Trustees
Haven Art Group
Marhamchurch Community Village Shop
Marhamchurch Food Fair
Marhamchurch Methodist Chapel
Marhamchurch Pre-School
Line Dancing
Not Strictly Yoga
Chairman's Report
Marhamchurch Parish Council 17/18 Balance Sheet
Marhamchurch Playpark 17/18 Balance Sheet

Report from Father David Barnes
Report from Yvonne Haining
Report from Emma Horrell
Report from Darren Hoare
Report from Peter Jones & Robert Corney
Report from Yvonne Goodwin
Report from Peter Hillenbrand
Report from Peter Green
Report from Mary Bromell

Report from Jackie Walter

Reports were invited from Wednesday Coffee Morning Team, Marhamchurch Snooker Club, Marhamchurch Parish Newsletter, Marhamchurch Neighbourhood Watch, Marhamchurch Brownies, Marhamchurch Branch - Royal British Legion and Marhamchurch Baby & Toddler Groups. P Jones advised that the Coffee Morning takes place each Wednesday between 10.30 and noon and is appreciated by many.

The meeting ended at 7.40pm and was followed by the Annual General Parish Council Meeting.

Signed.....Chairman Date.....