

MAIDS MORETON PARISH COUNCIL

Clerk to the Council – Jacky Dale-Evans
Serendipity, Main Street, Maids Moreton, Bucks, MK18 1QS
Tel: 01280 814483 Email: maidsmoretonclerk@gmail.com
www.maidsmoreton.co.uk

MINUTES of the meeting of the parish council held on Wednesday 3rd June 2020 at 7.30pm via Zoom.

Present: M Byrne, A Mohandas, P Hardcastle, C Cumming, G Maw, J Withnell.

Clerk: Jacky Dale-Evans

Members of the Public: 10

96/20 **To receive apologies for absence and welcome.** None received.

97/20 **Public Open Forum 1:**

- a) Cllr Sir Billy Stanier introduced himself to the meeting and explained that, in his new capacity as a Councillor for the Buckingham Council covering Thornborough area, he was available should we need any help or support.
- b) Nigel Norman introduced himself and explained that he was in talks with a food vendor who was hoping to come to the village with his food trailer. Watch out for news on social media and around the village.
- c) Kevin Robinson introduced himself and made it known that he wished to speak during the agenda item relating to dog walking/fouling.

98/20 **Members' Interests:** Members are invited to declare disclosable pecuniary interests and other interests in items on the agenda, as required by the Maids Moreton Parish Council Code of Conduct for Members and by the Localism Act 2011. None declared.

99/20 **Approval of minutes:** To agree the minutes from the Parish Council Meeting held on Zoom on 6th May 2020. Approved by all councillors. Signed by MB.

100/20 **Clerks Report** – See attached report.

JDE summarised the clerks report and explained that in future meetings this report would be distributed prior to the meeting and this agenda item would be a question and answer session for councillor to clarify information only.

AM asked for clarification on authorisation of the clerks ILCA training. JDE & MB explained that this was authorised by MB directly as it was under the amount needed for full council authorisation.

Late invoices approved for payment:

Date	Detail	Amount
1/6/2020	Clerk Salary	£497.84
	Clerk Expenses	£20.00
	Total	£517.84
3/6/2020	SLCC – The Clerks Manual	£47.50
	Postage	£4.80
	Total	£52.30

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101/20 Finance and Accounts

- a) **To agree financial statements of accounts and bank reconciliations for the end of May 2020.** Agreed.
- b) **To review and act on invoices, quotes and grant applications received and bank payments to be made from May 2020.**

All invoices were authorised for payment. JDE to check the remedial work carried out by CJM Fencing.

Quotes were noted and will be discussed in the appropriate agenda item 108/20.

Invoices – Inc VAT

Date	Details	Amount
28/4/2020	GM Outdoor Services Ltd – Verge Grass Cutting	£190.00
4/5/2020	CJM Fencing Ltd – concrete paths in park*	£1,080.00
14/5/2020	John Marshall – Internal Audit	£100.00
15/5/2020	GM Outdoor Services Ltd – Playing Field Grass Cutting 14/5/2020	£110.00
15/5/2020	GM Outdoor Services Ltd – Playing Field Grass Cutting 28/5/2020	£110.00
19/5/2020	GM Outdoor Services Ltd – Verge Grass Cutting	£190.00
29/5/2020	TEEC Ltd migration of data one off cost.	£360.00

*27/5/2020 I have spoken with CJM Fencing regarding the remedial works needed to bring the path level with the surrounding area. I am awaiting their response.

Quotes for approval – Ex VAT

Date	Details	Amount
22/12/2019	CJM Fencing - Repair potholes in playing fields car park. They have confirmed this quote is still current.	£1,000.00
27/5/2020	CCL Surfacing – Repair potholes in playing fields car park. Footpath (beside playing area) repair road surface Line mark 17 bays (1 disabled), 3 areas of no parking hatching.	£2,000.00 £1,500.00 £1,100.00

GM Garden Services were asked for a quote in relation to the repairs needed to the car park at the playing fields but have declined due to their current workload.

102/20 Bank Balances

	Treasurers Account (Current)	Business Bank Instant (Savings)
Opening Balance 27/4/2020	£17,227.27	£11,423.13
Paid in May 2020	£25,102.78	£2500.52
Paid out May 2020	£5,588.24	£910.86
Closing Balance 27/5/2020	£37,652.67	£13,012.79

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Reserves/Earmarked Funds	Playground/Playing Field	£8,010.34
	Elections*	£5,000.00
	NP Grant 2019/20 now refunded	£0
	Interest	£2.45
Total Reserves		£13,012.79

*We hold reserves for 2 elections currently as the 2020 elections were cancelled and the full amount for the 2024 elections was collected in the 2020/21 precept.

Balances were noted. It was clarified that no amount would be collected for elections in the precept for the next 3 years and the money collected in the precept for 2020/21 would be held in reserve for the election planned in 2024.

103/20 Planning

a) Report from PH

PH reported on the current planning applications. It was agreed to support planning applications 20/01638/ALB & 20/01637/APP.

PH reported on the new planning procedure for Buckinghamshire Council. There has been significant changes to the constitution for planning which include automatic delegation to planning officers, a 7 day period where an objection to a decision can be logged and a large reduction in time available for representatives to speak at planning meetings. All councillors are disappointed in this new system and the lack of opportunity for Parish Councils to voice their opinions and those of local residents.

PH explained that Warren Whyte, as both our representative at Buckinghamshire Council and the Cabinet Member for Planning and Enforcement was supportive of a review of these terms.

The meeting was closed for public comment.

- *Cllr Sir Billy Stanier re-iterated that WW was in favour of a review of these terms.*
- *Kevin Robinson outlined his views on the timings for speaking at planning meetings and that he believed the time offered was just for the presentation. Any question and answer session was added to this time.*

The meeting was re-opened.

Application Number	Details	Progress
19/02912/APP	<p>Foscote Hill Farm Foscote Road Maids Moreton Buckinghamshire MK18 1QQ</p> <p>Relocation of a farm business to include temporary residential accommodation for a period of five years and construction of agricultural buildings .</p> <p>This application has been withdrawn by the applicant.</p>	<p>New (reapplication)</p>

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20/01638/ALB 20/01637/APP	The Old Manor House Duck Lake Maids Moreton Buckinghamshire MK18 1RG Rebuilding of garden wall Commented: supported.	New
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104/20 **Neighbourhood Plan Update:** The Neighbourhood Plan in its draft form has been emailed to all parish councillors and comments which have been received have been incorporated into the draft document. This draft has been sent to Dave Chetwyn for comment. MB thanked all who have contributed to the Neighbourhood Plan to date.

105/20 **Annual Governance & accountability Return 2019/20**

- a) Members to consider the findings of the review.
The Clerk reported that the council's internal auditor, John Marshall carried out his end of year audit remotely via email and phone on 14th May. The report will be posted on the website as required by the transparency code. All councillors acknowledged receipt of this report and noted the contents.
- b) Members to consider & approve Section 1 - Annual Governance Statements 2019/20
The clerk took the councillors through the Annual Governance Statements for 2019/20 and all unanimously approved the resolution "that the accounting statements that form part 2 of the Annual Return for the year ended 31 March 2020 be approved".
- c) Members to agree the Bank reconciliation for 31 March 2019.
Unanimously approved.
- d) Members to agree the explanation of variances.
Unanimously approved.
- e) To consider & approve Section 2 -Annual Accounting Statements 2019/20
Unanimously approved.
- f) Members to ensure that the Accounting Statements are signed and dated by the Chairman.
Duly signed by the Chairman, MB.
- g) Members to agree the dates of the period for the Exercise of Public Rights.
The dates were unanimously agreed for 15/6/2020 – 24/7/2020.

Action: JDE to submit the AGAR and associated information to PKF Littlejohn for the External Audit.

106/20 **The Scout Hut**

See 107/20

107/20 **Costs and Revenue for Parish Buildings.**

108/20 In light of the proposed draft S106 being published there was a discussion regarding how much to invest in improvements to the Scout Hut and the Cricket Pavilion. It was agreed that only essential maintenance would be carried out until such time as any agreed sum within the S106 document was activated.

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109/20 **Maids Moreton Playing Area Car Park.**

Quote from CJM Fencing for repairs to the potholes was approved for £1000 + VAT.

Action: JDE to speak to CJM Fencing.

110/20 **Newsletter**

It was agreed to produce a newsletter focusing on dog fouling, support available during Covid 19/Lockdown and a reminder for residents to trim any hedges or trees that overhang pavements and areas of public access. Help is available for those unable to carry out maintenance independently.

The meeting was closed for public comment.

- *Bernard Page suggested that as some of the dog fouling was the responsibility of Buckingham residents, could we distribute the newsletter to a wider audience? It was felt that this was not feasible at the present time.*

The meeting was re-opened.

AM to put a draft Newsletter together.

111/20 **Dog walking path on the playing fields.**

There was a discussion regarding the option to provide a dog walking path including fencing along the east and south sides of the Maids Moreton playing fields. Comments made were:

- In favour of the idea but worried about a concentration of walkers in the winter creating a muddy path.
- In favour of solving the problem but worried about losing the open aspect of the playing field and the view across the playing fields to the trees and beyond.
- Concern regarding the overall visual effect of a fence on a playing field.
- Concern regarding health and safety of a low fence.
- Concern regarding cost of the project and the overall benefit to the local residents who it is felt were not a major contributor to the dog fouling issue.
- Concern that the majority of dogs walking off lead in this area were coming from the 2 paths leading from Buckingham/Page Hill and they would not use a designated path on the opposite side of the playing fields.
- Comments that the playing fields are a general sporting facility and should dogs and their owners not be included as users of this, is a fence needed?

The meeting was closed for public comment.

- *Bernard Page commented that he felt Buckingham dog walkers contributed to the issue of exercising dogs on the playing fields and more signs were needed near the 2 paths leading from Buckingham onto the playing fields area.*
- *Kevin Robinson commented that if dog owners were leaving dog faeces and not picking them up then they would be unlikely to use a designated dog walking path either, and he suggested putting up signs with more information on Toxocara canis to influence their mindset.*

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- *Stevie Lishman commented that she has challenged dog walkers on the field and they are generally of the opinion that their dogs would not foul the area and therefore they were allowed to exercise there. A permitted path may help to alleviate the issue.*
- *Lyn Robinson asked why the idea for a dog walking path alongside the bridleway was not being considered any more?*

The meeting was re-opened.

It was agreed that whilst not all were currently in favour of the idea, more information was needed on the views of local groups and costings.

Actions:

MB would investigate the views of the Rugby Club and the Cricket Club.

MB would make enquiries regarding costs of different fencing ideas.

AM would email all councillors with her suggested fencing idea.

112/20 **Community Right to Bid**

PH and Jane Wood continue to move this project forward.

113/20 **Update on S106 Walnut Drive/Foscote Road.** The draft S106 document has been received and emailed to all councillors.

CC, PH and Jane Wood have put together a draft comment for councillors to comment on. The summary of this draft comment is:

There do not seem to be any penalty clauses for the builders should they not comply with the planning consent.

NEAPS and LEAPS need to be separate to give all age groups a designated area.

Traffic calming measure and public transport provision is not satisfactory.

Any further comments must be with PH by midday on Thursday 4th June 2020.

Action: PH to forward comments to the clerk for submitting to BC.

114/20 **Maids Moreton Parish Action Plan:** Moved to Clerks Report.

115/20 **Play Area Grant:** Moved to Action Plan.

116/20 **Dog Fouling:**

Also see comments in agenda item 110/20.

The meeting was closed for public comment:

- *Bernard Page suggested that more signs could be put up around the playing fields mentioning specifically *Toxocara Canis* (a type of roundworm found in dogs) and the effect this has on children (blindness).*

The meeting was re-opened.

Action: JDE to speak to the Parish Council Handyman, Andy Gibbs, regarding the placing of signs.

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117/20 **Speed Sign**

It was agreed that Andy Gibbs would be given responsibility for the short-term maintenance of the speed sign on the A413 at the entry point to the village from Whittlebury.

In the long term it is hoped a solar panel can be purchased to power this unit.

Action:

JDE to speak to Andy Gibbs.

JW to pass on the box of speed sign related items to JDE

JDE to investigate quotes for solar power chargers for the speed sign.

118/20 **Councillors Open Forum:** Councillors to bring items forward for the next agenda.

None.

119/20 **Public Open Forum:** members of the public may make further comments and suggestions for agenda items for the next meeting having heard the discussions at this meeting.

Bernard Page introduced himself and expressed his opinion that, as of 2 days ago, the state of the area beside the new concrete paths in the playing fields were not acceptable.

120/20 **Date, time and venue of the next meeting:** The next meeting will be held on 1st July 2020 at 7.30pm at Maids Moreton Village Hall or via Zoom if the current COVID 19 based regulations are still in place.

Jacky Dale-Evans

Clerk to Maids Moreton Parish Council

Members of the public: if you would like to see any of the attachments please contact the clerk at maidsmoretonclerk@gmail.com