

Minutes of the Marksbury Parish Council (MPC) Meeting

Tuesday 30th July 2024 Venue: Stanton Prior Village Hall 7:30pm

Attendees: Cllr Sally Collins (chair)
Cllr Philip Evans
Cllr Sandra Harding (acting Clerk)
Cllr Richard Lord
Cllr David Roberts
BANES Ward Cllr Matt McCabe
(3 members of the public were present, Matt, Lisa and Sally)

1. To accept Apologies for Absence

None received. It was noted that Cllr Andrew Bendall was not in attendance.

2. To Approve minutes of the previous meeting held on 19th March 2024

Approved, proposed by Cllr Alistair Hardwick and seconded by Cllr Richard Lord.

3. Matter Arising

- Nat West action - completed
- Hunstrete Speedwatch is on hold as PCSO seconded elsewhere until Oct 24
- Fix My Street Verges reported - actions on this portal in the Parish remain outstanding - MM reported public rights of way (PROW) are currently not a priority at BaNES.
- Village Hall in Marksbury has addressed the tree query.
- Youth club funds query is now actioned.

4. Declarations of Interest from any members of any items to be discussed

None.

5. To Adjourn for Public Participation

Matt from Marksbury School PTA provided a slide presentation updating the PC on the energy project at the school and the next steps. (Slides will be available on the MPC website.)

1. 8 successful grant applications totalled £15.2k, PTA fund raising, and direction donations added a further £14,8K = £35k total raised
2. Predicted a 50% reduction in the £3k a month energy costs
3. The next plan is to build the solar and battery capacity - more funds are to be raised from Autumn onwards

Action: Slides onto MPC website

Lisa from European Energy, (EE)

1. The solar farm is going to plan and on schedule to GO Live end Sept/early Oct
2. Panels will start arriving over the next few weeks
3. Testing will take place once hooked up to the National Grid.
4. The testing outcome determines the grant then awarded.
5. Estimated to be around £40k.

www.marksburyparishcouncil.gov.uk

6. EE creates a legal agreement with criteria with MPC and develops application forms for awards from the grant.
 - I. The application form will be published on the MPC website, and a notification made locally.
 - II. Forms go through an application review process.
 - III. The shortlist from MPC goes to EE.
 - IV. EE assesses against the agreement criteria, does necessary due diligence, and then pays directly to the award recipients.
 - V. EE keeps MPC updated on awards made and the number of monies still available.

Action: MPC to work with EE legal representative on the awards process and criteria. MPC to create a working party

(Quartet Foundation and Chelwood Community Fund have information to be reviewed.)

6. Planning

6.1 No new planning applications were received during this period

7. Finance

7.1 To Approve Invoices for Payment

Discussion regarding the defib payments -

Action: Councillor Harding to follow up on a query for servicing with Trimbio
Councillor Harding and Councillor Evans to review the website defib information

7.2 Finance Report

An update of expenses versus the planned budget was discussed at length,

- The new format is clearer and more useful for all
- The budget is becoming increasingly tight showing a decline in revenues year on year (YOY) possible steps to consider were discussed including lighting and defib costs.

Action: To all review future costs and bring thoughts to next meeting.

8. Maintenance, Highways, Rights of Way and allied matters

8.1 Additional information to earlier matters arising.

BaNES asked if we could review clearing the Stanton Prior bridleway and the Tucking Mill bridleway.

Church Farm Marksbury - overhanging trees have been reported.

Action: Councillor Hardwick to review and feed feedback at the next MPC Meeting
Councillor Harding to pass on Tucking Mill to Compton Dando Bridleway clearing to Compton Dando PC.
Councillor Lord to review overhanging trees.

8.2 Traffic Management on the A39

Traffic island in Marksbury is scheduled for Q3 2024 - report from BANES Ward

9. Special Matters for Attention

1. **Vice Chair election:** Alistair Hardwick: Proposed Councillor Roberts, Seconded Councillor Evans, Accepted.
2. **Cross Wall Orchard** - areas used no concerns noted
3. **EE Update** - delivered earlier in the meeting.

10. To receive reports of meetings attended.

None.

11. Reports from District Councillors

Ward Cllr Matt McCabe requested

- Comments are added to the BANES website on the now active travel consultation regarding routes between villages. These are walk, cycle or bridleway suggestions.
- Push on clear paths for walking comments.
- An initial proposal to approximately double the new house to be built in the area.
- Awaiting associated green belt boundary information
- Anna Sabine is the new MP
- Local plan now must be reviewed considering the new build numbers
- Officers had started discussions, now on hold as they gather more information

12. Matters of Interest Raised by Members

Please let Councillor Evans know of any items for the website as the viewings are steadily rising. Averaging over 30 hits a day.

13. Items Raised for Future Meetings

Review of EE Grant – agenda item for next meeting.

14. Date of Next Meeting

Tuesday 24th September 7:30pm Stanton Prior Village Hall.

Minutes taken by Cllr Sandra Harding