

Markyate Parish Council

MINUTES OF MARKYATE PARISH COUNCIL ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING HELD ON TUESDAY 5 MAY 2009 AT 7.30PM IN THE JONES ROOM, MARKYATE VILLAGE HALL, MARKYATE

Present: Councillors: E King, Chairman, P Bunyan, Vice Chairman, Cllr C Bennett, B/Cllr Chapman, Cllrs I Crawford, S Deacon, S Pilkinton, Mrs J Bissmire (Clerk)
In attendance: 0 member of public

01/09 ELECTION OF THE CHAIRMAN OF THE COUNCIL

The outgoing chair called for nominations for chairman, and it was proposed by P Bunyan, seconded by S Pilkinton and **RESOLVED** that Councillor E King be elected Chairman of the Council for the forthcoming year. Councillor E King read and signed the Chairman's Acceptance of Office and agreement to abide by the Code of Conduct. The Chairman thanked the meeting for electing her for the forthcoming year.

02/09 ELECTION OF THE VICE CHAIRMAN OF THE COUNCIL

It was proposed by E King, seconded by S Pilkinton and **RESOLVED** that Councillor P Bunyan be elected Vice Chairman of the Council for the forthcoming year.

03/09 APPOINTMENT OF COMMITTEES AND REPRESENTATIVES TO OUTSIDE BODIES

The Clerk had circulated a report to all Councillors showing the current committee structure and representatives. It was proposed by P Bunyan and seconded by S Pilkinton and

RESOLVED

That the following was **AGREED**:

Committee

Member

The Chairman and Vice Chairman, ex officio shall be voting members of every committee unless specified they do not wish to serve. (Standing Order 47)

BUDGET AND FINANCE COMMITTEE
Meetings per year: 2 - June and October

E King, P Bunyan, R Peterson, S Pilkinton

HALLS COMMITTEE
Meetings per year: 6

P Bunyan, E King, C Bennett, G Bottrill, S Deacon, R Peterson, T Hodgson, S Pilkinton

ALEY GREEN CEMETERY COMMITTEE
Meetings per year: 2

E King, H Chapman, I Crawford

YOUTH MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE

P Bunyan, C Dullea

It was noted the Chairman did not wish to sit on this committee due to other commitments

REPRESENTATIVES TO OUTSIDE BODIES

Watling Neighbourhood Action

E King/S Pilkinton

HAPTC

S Pilkinton

School Governor

I Crawford (As ratified by School Governors)

AREAS OF SPECIFIC INTEREST

Airport	C Bennett/J Gower	Health	P Bunyan
Elderly Welfare	S Pilkinton	Environment	C Dullea
Planning	I Crawford	Schools	P Bunyan/I Crawford/S Pilkinton
Police	C Bennett	Emergency/Disaster Plan	C Bennett
Village Green (Registering of)	E King	Newsletter	Articles C Bennett/J Gower Editorial R Peterson

04/09 CLLR GOWER'S ABSENCE

The chairman reported a meeting had been held with Cllr Gower to discuss his continual absence from meetings due to business commitments which were approved by the Parish Council in minute 309/09. Cllr Gower stated, although he may only be able to attend one in three Parish Council meetings, he felt he would be able to contribute in other ways, for example reading through documents and presenting a précis at meetings for consideration. Disappointment was

expressed at Cllr Gower's non attendance at today's meetings. After discussion it was **agreed** to defer this item to the next meeting.

Action: Clerk

05/09 APPOINTMENT OF BANK SIGNATORIES

It was **RESOLVED** that the following would continue to be parish council bank signatories for all Markyate Parish Council's bank accounts:-

CATEGORY 'A' (2 REQUIRED PER CHEQUE)
Cllr E King
Cllr P Bunyan
Cllr I Crawford
Cllr S Deacon
Cllr C Dullea
Cllr J Gower
Cllr R Peterson
Cllr S Pilkinton
CATATORY 'B' (1 REQUIRED PER CHEQUE)
J Bissmire
C Blanchflower

06/09 APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Apologies were received from Cllr Peterson due to personal commitments.

07/09 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

Cllr E King declared a personal interest in item 19/09 picnic tables in Peggy's Field due to living in close proximity.

Cllr S Pilkinton declared a personal interest in planning application 4/02083/07/MFA, Land at Manor Farm due to living in close proximity.

08/09 MINUTES OF THE LAST MEETING

It was **RESOLVED** that the minutes of the Meeting of the Council held on 7 April 2009, were a correct record and was signed by the Chairman. This was proposed by Cllr S Pilkinton and seconded by Cllr C Bennett.

09/09 PUBLIC COMMENTS AND QUESTIONS IN ACCORDANCE WITH STANDING ORDER 68

No public questions at this meeting

10/09 MEETING DATES FOR 2009/10

The Clerk had circulated a draft 1 schedule of Meeting Dates for 2009/10. It was **agreed** the meeting dates for the Budget and Finance Committee should be changed due to these coinciding with councillor annual leave.

A draft 2 will be presented at the next meeting.

Action: Clerk

B/Cllr D Lloyd arrived at 8pm.

11/09 CHAIRMAN'S REPORT FOR 2009/10

The Chairman's Report with one minor amendment was approved for publication.

Action: Clerk

12/09 PLANNING DECISIONS

Planning Decisions received from Dacorum Borough Council

1. 4/00360/09/TCA, Works to Trees in the Conservation Area: The Grange, 8 High Street. Granted.
2. 4/00250/09/LBC, Loft Conversion, Restoration House, Pipers Lane, Withdrawn.

13/09 PLANNING APPLICATIONS

4/00568/09/FUL, Buckwood House, Buckwood Road, Demolition of Building and construction of new dwelling (AMENDED Scheme).

The Parish Council object to this application for the following reasons:

The proposed dwelling is too big

This is outside the core of the village in area of Chiltern's Area of Outstanding Natural Beauty

Entrance on to dangerous narrow country lane.

4/02083/07/07/MFA, Land at Manor Farm, Dunstable, (AMENDED)

Residential Development to provide forty dwellings with associated parking, major retaining structures on A5 boundary and landscaping. Extension to existing cemetery with associated parking.

The Parish Council object to this application for the following reasons:

The sewage/drainage system can not cope (if a report is available to state otherwise we would appreciate a copy of this)

Concerns are as follows:

Considered dangerous if vehicles hit the boundary wall

The solar panels will not be effective because the houses have changed position and will not get the sun

4/00583/09/LDP, 18 London Road, Porch

No objection

4/00575/09/FHA, Hillside, 1 The Ridings, Two storey front/rear extensions and internal alterations

The Parish Council object to this application for the following reasons:

This exceeds the permitted percentage increase of actual area of property

The following application was received after publication of the agenda

4/00687/09/ROC, 71-73 High Street, Removal of condition 3 (Ventilation) of planning permission 4/12221/02 (Change of use from Class A1 to Class A3 and construction of single storey rear extension.

No objection

B/Cllr D Lloyd reported he will sit on the Development Control Committee

14/09 CLERKS REPORT

The Clerk reported the internal audit will be carried out on Wednesday 13 May 2009 by Clubfinance as **agreed** by the Parish Council, minute 276/09.

15/09 ACCOUNTS FOR PAYMENT

To approve the schedule for payment as attached.

It was proposed by Cllr P Bunyan and seconded by Cllr I Crawford and **agreed** unanimously to approve the schedule for payment.

RESOLVED: that the schedule of payment be signed as circulated.

The schedule of accounts listed the balances of the Parish Councils accounts as at today's date as follows:

MPC Current Account	£ 2973.02
MPC Savings	£ 57174.80
MPC Investment	£ 53028.51
Petty Cash	£ 12.78
Luncheon Club	£ 495.68
TOTAL	£110.684.79

16/09 EXTERNAL AUDIT

B/Cllr Chapman reported there had been no further contact since the report given at the Annual Gathering on 21 April 2009; this is now in the hands of the external auditor and complainant.

Cllr Pilkinton suggested a letter should be sent to the external auditor asking why we were not told about these issues in 2005, but it was **agreed** no action should be taken at this stage.

On going.

17/09 CRICKET CLUB LEASE

B/Cllr Chapman reported a letter had been received and circulated to all members from the Parish Council's solicitor stating a response had been received to their letter dated 22 July 2008 which lists comments to clauses in the draft lease. A draft response was circulated prior to the meeting and it was

RESOLVED

To forward this response to the solicitor immediately.

Action: Clerk

18/09 HICKS ROAD INDUSTRIAL AREA

In absentia Cllr Gower, this item is deferred.

19/09 ACTIONS FROM ANNUAL GATHERING

It was reported the winners of the prize draw have been notified and are happy for their names to be published in Markyate Monthly.

It was **RESOLVED** that the two picnic tables in Peggy's Field should be moved slightly further from the houses Cllr Deacon confirmed he will be hiring the Jones Room in July in anticipation of forming a Christmas Lights Committee following requests from parishioners and Cllr Bennett **agreed** this is a good idea.

In conclusion, it was **agreed** the Annual Gathering was a good meeting.

Action: SD/SP/Clerk

20/09 THAMES RIVER BASIN DISTRICT CONSULTATION

Cllr Dullea considered this document on behalf of the Parish Council.

The Water Framework Directive (WFD) gives an opportunity to make significant improvements to the water environment.

WFD sets high standards for improving how the rivers, lakes and estuaries are managed.

In absentia Cllr Dullea it was reported she had reviewed this document and whole heartedly agrees with all the comments from HAPTC, all of which apply to Markyate (except Stansted expansion but the concept still applies).

The comments are in line with the original comments on the September 2008 consultation document and summarise the response well.

It was **RESOLVED**

To approve the response made by HAPTC.

Cllr Dullea was thanked for her contribution

Action: Clerk

21/09 PLANNING AND REGENERATION SEMINAR

Documents were previously circulated on the Planning and Regeneration Seminar held on 9 April 2009 which was attended by Cllr King who reported this related to the regeneration of Hemel Hempstead town centre and does not affect Markyate.

One point of relevance noted with the present system if planning applications go to appeal they have to be represented to the Parish/Town councils for further objections or comments. In future 95 percent may come back but don't have to, so if an objection is given it must be ensured every aspect is covered as it may not come back for comments.

22/09 2009 ASSET REGISTER

A copy of the updated 2009 Asset Register was circulated to all members prior to the meeting and it was

RESOLVED

To accept the updated register with a total of £629049.16, assets, a difference of £6370 from the 2008 register due to various purchases made during 2008/09.

23/09 INTERPRETATION BOARDS

A draft was presented to the meeting for approval and it was

RESOLVED

To accept the draft 1 with the exception of the village clock which needs to be moved 90 degrees anti clockwise. It was reported a meeting is being held on 7 May 2009 with HertsCC to discuss the outcome of this meeting.

Action: EK/Clerk

24/09 LUNCHEON CLUB

It was reported no changes are expected to the Luncheon Club before the end of September 2009.

25/09 NO COLD CALLING ZONE IN MARKYATE

Cllr Bennett **agreed** to look in to implementing a No Cold Calling Zone in Markyate which would take approximately 2 years to introduce. It is a joint venture involving the Trading Standards, police etc. It is not enforceable but makes it unusual to see callers selling at doors and it makes contracts unenforceable on doorsteps.

Action: CB

26/09 HAPTC EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE THREE YEAR APPOINTMENT

As Cllr Pilkinton already serves on the committee until 2011, voting could not take place.

No action.

27/09 ACTIONS IN THE VILLAGE

- Lamp post No. 30 has been knocked down in Roman Way by a milk float (Herts Highways)
- The grass in the cemetery needs cutting (VGS)
- The new trees planted by the cemetery need more protection from rabbits (VW)
- Asbestos has been disposed of in Buckwood Road by Gooseacre (Cupid Green)
- The lamps in the High Street are dirty (Herts Highways)
- Advertising Boards on the A5 and Estate Agents (Environmental Health)
- Where the River Ver opens this needs cleaning (VW)
- Litter in the High Street/A5 bank (VW)
- Telephone box and Letter box need painting (BT)
- Speeding in Buckwood Road, a raised crossing/flashing sign/meeting was suggested (Herts Highways)

B/Cllr D Lloyd left the meeting at 9.20pm

- The blocks on the foot path in Wesley Road are uneven (bricks round Water Board)
- Lighting/road signs unlit, all signs unclear (Watling Neighbourhood Action Meeting)

28/09 CHILTERN BUILDINGS DESIGN GUIDE REVIEW 2009 CONSULTATION

Cllr Pilkinton reported this supports the Management Plan and **agreed** to formulate a response on behalf of the Parish Council.

Action: SP

29/09 CHRISTINA MOSAIC PLAQUE

It was confirmed the Public Notice giving notice of the application to the Consistory Court of the Diocese of St Albans for permission to carry out the introduction of the plaque to commemorate one hundred years of the Civil Parish of Markyate as described in the letter from the Parish Council dated 6 November 2008 together with a drawing, has been displayed from 28 April 2009 to 28 May 2009 on the notice board in Cavendish Road and on the notice board of St John The Baptist, Markyate Street.

It was noted the completed Petition and other relevant documents had been forwarded to the Diocese of St Albans. On going

30/09 EROSION OF COMMON LAND AT CHEVERELLS GREEN

In absentia Cllr Peterson, this item is deferred to the next meeting.

Action: Clerk

31/09 THE BIG LUNCH IN JULY 2009

The Parish Council requested further information on this item. On going.

Action: Clerk

32/09 PERCENTAGE STAFF SALARY INCREASE

It was proposed by Cllr King for all Parish Council staff to receive the annual percentage increase as recommended by NALC, in line with the Clerk and Financial Officer, and it was

RESOLVED

And **agreed** unanimously to implement this when the new percentage increase is announced by NALC

Action: Clerk

33/09 REPORTS

Finance Committee. No report.

Halls Committee. Next meeting to be held on 18 May 2009

HAPTC.

A meeting was held and the minutes were circulated, eplanning and how this will work was noted. It was also noted G Stevens is leaving HAPTC.

School Governors. Next meeting to be held on 12 May 2009

Youth Management. It was confirmed a meeting is being held with Mr M Fawzi, HertsCC on 11 May 2009 to discuss the way forward for this committee which is not part of the Parish Council, councillors are representatives only.

B/Cllr H Chapman left the meeting at 9.40pm

Local Working. Next meeting 6 May 2009 in Markyate

34/09 ITEMS FOR MARKYATE MONTHLY

- Councillor areas of specific interest
- Notes on the Annual Gathering
- Winners of the Tates and HMV Voucher for completion of the Parish Plan questionnaire
- Building legislation
- No Cold Calling Area
- Special Skip

35/09 GENERAL CORRESPONDENCE

The Clerk had circulated the list of general correspondence which was duly noted.

There being no other business the meeting closed at 9.50pm

Next meeting: 2 June 2009

Signed: _____

Date: _____