

Markyate Parish Council

MINUTES OF MARKYATE PARISH COUNCIL HELD ON TUESDAY 1 APRIL 2008 AT 7.30PM IN THE JONES ROOM, MARKYATE VILLAGE HALL, MARKYATE

Present: Councillors: E King, Chairman, P Bunyan, Vice Chairman, Cllrs I Crawford, S Deacon, J Gower, R Peterson, S Pilkinton, Mrs J Bissmire (Clerk)

In attendance: 1 members of public

459/07-08 APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Apologies were received from B/Cllr Chapman due to business commitments and Cllr Patel due to ill health.

460/07-08 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

Cllr E King and Cllr P Bunyan declared a prejudicial interest in the Brownie Sleep Over due to sitting on these Committees.

Cllr S Pilkinton declared a prejudicial interest in planning application 4/00465/08/LBC due to family connections and therefore left the room during debate.

Cllr S Pilkinton declared a personal interest in proposed changes to airspace in Chilterns and Luton Area due to living within the proximity of the proposed changes.

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

461/07-08 MINUTES OF THE LAST MEETING

It was **RESOLVED** that the minutes of the Meeting of the Council held on 4 March 2008 were a correct record, with one adjustment, the spelling of the website name www.nats.co.uk omitted the 's', after correction this was signed by the Chairman. This was proposed by Cllr P Bunyan and seconded by Cllr S Pilkinton

462/07-08 PUBLIC COMMENTS AND QUESTIONS IN ACCORDANCE WITH STANDING ORDER 68

No public questions at this meeting

The Chairman proposed to move forward item 484/07-08 after planning applications, to allow the member of public to observe the discussion on proposed changes to air flight paths.

463/07-08 PLANNING DECISIONS

Planning Decisions received from Dacorum Borough Council

- 1 4/00214/08/FHA, 10 Summer Walk, Single Storey Side and rear Extension (Amended Scheme), Granted
- 2 4/00181/08/FHA, GOOSEACRE, Buckwood Road, detached Garage (Amended Scheme) Granted
- 3 4/03077/07/FHA, 38 Farrer Top, Single Storey Front Extension, Granted
- 4 4/01764/07/FUL, Land opposite School House Farm, Old Watling Street, Demolition to existing sheds/barns and construction of bungalow and double Garage, Granted.

Cllr S Deacon arrived at 7.40pm

46437/07-08 PLANNING APPLICATIONS

The Parish Council considered the planning applications which had been referred by Dacorum Borough Council for observation. The Parish Council requested the Local Planning Authority to take the following comments in to consideration when determining the under mentioned applications.

- 1 4/02083/07/MFA, Residential Development to provide Forty Dwellings, associated parking and landscaping and extension to existing cemetery and associated parking for the cemetery.

Land at Manor Farm, Dunstable Road,

This applications was received on 05.03.08, the deadline for response was 14 days.

Notification of this was placed on our website and on our notice boards.

The Parish Council asked for the original objections to be upheld with the following addition:

- Concern regarding access to flats where the entrances are dark and could be vulnerable to residents, it is considered this is open to security problems.

- 2 4/00546/08/FHA, Garage Conversion, Ambersgold House, 49a London Road
Objection, The Parish Council feel it is essential this garage remains as this was taken in to consideration and was an essential criteria in the original application.

The following three planning applications were received after publication of the agenda.

- 3 4/00465/08/LBC, 48 High Street, Remove Window and replace with Softwood Door Frame
No objection.
- 4 4/00607/08/FHA, 52 Long Meadow, Two Storey Front Extension
No objection

- 5 4/00632/08/FUL, 17 Cheverells Close, Detached Bungalow with car parking (Amended Scheme)
No objection.
Action: Clerk

Item moved forward

484/07-08 PROPOSED CHANGES TO AIRSPACE CHILTERN AND LUTON AREA

The Chairman proposed a response is formulated after the Annual Gathering on 22 April 2008 in order for the parishioners to observe the presentation from Mr Alford on the proposed airspace changes.

Agenda item for next meeting.

Action: All

465/07-08 CLERKS REPORT

- 1 It was reported interviews had been held for the post of Financial Officer and this post was awarded to the Halls Administrator. The job title will now be Financial Officer/Halls Administrator with immediate effect and will consist of a 22 hour working week.
- 2 It was reported a letter had been received from the Markyate Methodist Church advising of a Flower Festival in the church over the weekend of 26/27 April 2008 to celebrate the 200th anniversary of Methodism in Markyate and inviting the Parish Council to share in this event by providing a flower display. It was agreed a flower arrangement to the value of £20 to be presented on behalf of the Parish Council.

466/07-08 ACCOUNTS FOR PAYMENT

To approve the schedule for payment as attached.

It was proposed by Cllr P Bunyan and seconded by Cllr J Gower 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 on 5 February 2008 as follows:

MPC Current Account	£ 411.02
MPC Deposit Account	£ 5988.55
National Savings Account	£ 48845.82
Village Hall Current Account	£ 14489.73
Warden Account	£ 501.44
Luncheon Club	£ 54.05

467/07-08 EXTERNAL AUDIT

In absentia B/Cllr Chapman, it was reported Lubbock Fine had been contacted and this item is progressing satisfactory. On going.

468/07-08 WALKING MAPS

It was reported the final meeting had been held and the launch date confirmed as Monday 28 April 2008.

This will be publicised in the village and other outlets.

469/07-08 NEWSLETTER

To date no articles have been received. It was confirmed work would start on the newsletter after the 21 April 2008.

It was **agreed** the following items to be included in the Spring/Summer Newsletter:-

- Security at the Halls, support from Hertfordshire Police and Dacorum Community Safety Partnership
- New Sets in the High Street
- Airport changes
- Chairman's Report presented at the Annual Gathering
- Annual Accounts
- Walking Maps
- Welcome Signs
- Parish Plan
- Date for Special Freighter in Hicks Road
- Findings from the Local History Group/Bomb Scare/Property Prices in Markyate

Action: RP

470/07-08 ANNUAL GATHERING 22 APRIL 2008

It was confirmed Mr Ted Alford from LLATVCC has **agreed** to give a short presentation at the Annual Gathering.

The doctor's surgery had been approached but to date no response received.

PC Mo Coregan and PCSO D Dawson to be invited to attend.

On going.

Action: Clerk

471/07-08 GREEN SPACE STRATEGY SUPPLEMENTARY PLANNING DOCUMENT

It was **agreed** concern exists regarding further erosion of green space in this area. Furthermore any suggestion that there be any plans for new housing encroaching on existing green space or adjacent to Markyate Parish boundaries would be opposed.

Action: IC/Clerk

472/07 PLANNING FOR GYPSY AND TRAVELLER ACCOMMODATION IN THE EAST OF ENGLAND

It was **agreed** to resubmit the previous response objecting to further sites as this may cause clustering. The Parish Council **agreed** there is no evidence further sites are needed.

Action: Clerk

473/07-08 HEDGE AT CEMETERY

A meeting was held at the cemetery hedge to discuss replication or reinstatement of the hedge to fill the existing gap. It was confirmed Claire Covington, DBC, had been contacted and will be kept informed as this hedge is on Dacorum land. Tree sponsorship is being looked in to. On going.

Action: SP

474/07-08 LOCAL GOVERNMENT PENSION SCHEME

It was reported Hertfordshire CC hold a consultation and review of the Local Government Pension Scheme every three years. The employer's contribution for 2008/09 will increase to 20%, 2009/10 will increase to 21.6%.

475/07-08 ENTERTAINMENT COMMITTEE

The possibility of an Entertainment Committee was discussed to enable the halls to be hired to full capacity in order for vacant slots to be filled.

It was **agreed** this should be presented as an agenda item at the Halls Committee Meeting on 13 May 2008 and this should not be restricted to the Halls.

Action: Halls Administrator

476/07-08 BROWNIES SLEEP OVER

As Cllr King and Cllr Bunyan declared a prejudicial interest in this item, a short report was made and both councillors left the room at 8.50pm.

Cllr Pilkinton took the chair.

The Brownies will hold a National Giant Sleep Over and the Y2K is being looked at as the venue. The hours will be from 7pm to 10am, approximately 15 hours. This is a sponsored event and all proceeds will go to the Save the Children Fund. After discussion it was **agreed** a charge will be made for three hours at the standard rate, possibly to be reimbursed by funding.

Insurance is being covered by the Brownies.

Cllr King and Cllr Bunyan rejoined the meeting at 8.55pm and Cllr King took the chair.

Action: Halls Administrator

477/07-08 PARISH PLAN

The possibility of a Parish Plan display at the May Fayre was discussed. It was **agreed** the May Fayre would be contacted to ask if space is available in the Village hall on this day. The Jones Room is considered the most appropriate venue for this display.

A preliminary meeting is being held with Revd Dawn Brown.

On going.

Action: SP

478/07-08 CARE OF THE VILLAGE

- 1 The wall at the Take Away in the High Street is down and the area is reported as being disgraceful. Although Dacorum are aware of this as this is listed, no action has been taken. DBC to be contacted with a copy to the Take Away.

Action: Clerk

- 2 Reported: Police Mobile Van on fire station forecourt (action already taken)
- 3 Reported: Caravan parked at Church End containing cylinders (action already taken)
- 4 Fly tipping in Roe End Lane

Action: Village Warden

- 5 Fly tipping in Fullerton Close

Action: Village Warden

- 6 DBC Notice Board outside the Fire Station in need of repair
- 7 The trailer on the Village Warden's vehicle needs mudguards.

479/07-08 SEATS IN PEGGY'S FIELD

As the seats in Peggy's field are in need of repair/restoration, it was **agreed** DBC should be contacted to ask if any spare seats are available.

It was also **agreed** quotations should be obtained for replacement. On going. Agenda Item for next meeting.

Action: Clerk

480/07-08 PARISH COUNCIL STALL AT MAY FAYRE 2008

It was **agreed** the Markyate Millennium mugs commissioned in the year 2000, should be sold on the stall at four for £3.00 or £1.00 each.

Action: SP

481/07-08 PARISH PATH PARTNERSHIP (P3)

A representative from P3 and Dacorum Borough Council had a meeting with the chairman in order to look at all the footpath signs in and around the village, in order for funding to be obtained for replacement. All the footpath signs are to be renewed and it was confirmed the cheque for £1140.00 had been received from Hertfordshire County Council

482/07-08 VILLAGE CLOCK

It was reported a letter had been received from Allianz Insurance plc confirming payment of £3660.85 in settlement of the claim for the work carried out to the Village Clock caused by vehicle impact.

The policy excess had been deducted from the settlement, as has a figure of £600.00 for repairs which do not form part of the claim.

The Parish Council **agreed** this was an acceptable payment. Complete.

483/07-08 REPORT ON ANNUAL SERVICE TO VILLAGE CLOCK

Smiths of Derby have confirmed they recently carried out the annual service of the Village Clock. It was reported the rechargeable battery which activates the automatic winding of the clock is now giving a low reading and should be replaced at the next annual service due in January 2009.

It was proposed by Cllr Bunyan and seconded by I Crawford and

RESOLVED:

That the rechargeable battery should be replaced at a cost of £54.00 plus VAT, to include extra time on site to install during the annual service.

Action: Clerk

484/07-08 PROPOSED CHANGES TO AIRSPACE CHILTERN AND LUTON AREA

This item moved forward on agenda

485/07-08 MARKYATE MAY FAYRE

It was reported a letter had been received from Markyate Village Fayre asking if the Parish Council would consider supporting this event by placing an advertisement in the programme.

It was proposed by Cllr Pilkinton and seconded by Cllr Deacon and

RESOLVED

To place a half page advert of the Village Halls at the rate of £25.00

Action: Clerk

486/07-08 VILLAGE OF THE YEAR

Due to other commitments, It was **agreed** this item should be deferred to next year. Complete.

487/07-08 PATIENTS PARTICIPATION PANEL

It was reported an article has been placed in Markyate Monthly giving a progress report. The next meeting is to be held on 16 April 2008, any comments for consideration to be passed to Cllr Pilkinton. Agenda item.

Action: SP/Clerk

488/07-08 REPORTS

Finance Committee.

It was confirmed, the new Financial Officer has been appointed and training has already commenced and will continue on the new accounts package by Mr and Mrs Rutherford, specialists in the Quickbooks accounting system.

Halls Committee.

The meeting scheduled for 16 April 2008 has had to be cancelled. A new date for the 29 April 2008 has been confirmed.

HAPTC.

No meeting but all councillors were reminded of the service provided by HAPTC and made aware of their website.

School Governors.

Cllr Crawford confirmed he had attended the first meeting and the following was reported:

- Initial meeting of parents/Council. Policies were discussed and set up. 18 attendees
- One place has been denied at secondary school but it is anticipated this will be resolved.

Youth Management.

No meeting. Concern was expressed at the lack of interest from young people and parents. The committee lacked members, particularly as one existing member will shortly be moving out of the village.

It was agreed an urgent appeal should be made in the newsletter and the Youth Club to ask attendees what activities they would like in order to encourage attendance.

The Youth Club is presently being funded by Hertfordshire CC through youth workers but it is not known how long this will continue.

Action: PB

Local Working.

It was confirmed the minutes have been circulated and noted.

457/07-08 AGENDA ITEMS FOR NEXT MEETING

- Proposed Flight path at Luton Airport
- Parish Plans
- Seats in Peggy's Field
- Patients Participation Panel

458/07-08 ITEMS FOR MARKYATE MONTHLY

- We are pleased to support 200 hundred years of Methodism in Markyate
- Cemetery Hedge, we are looking in to this
- Parish Plans
- Youth Management Committee
- Markyate Millennium 2000 commemorative mugs
- Sets in High Street
- Response on Gypsy and Traveller Sites Consultation
- New street light in Pickford Road/High Street
- CCTV/Grids/Shutters

There being no other business the meeting closed at 9.50pm

Next meeting: Annual General Meeting 6 May 2008

Signed: _____

Date: _____