

# Markyate Parish Council

## MINUTES OF MARKYATE PARISH COUNCIL MEETING HELD ON TUESDAY 1 JUNE 2010 AT 7.30PM IN THE JONES ROOM, MARKYATE VILLAGE HALL, MARKYATE

**Present:** Councillor: Cllr E King, Chairman, Cllr P Bunyan, Vice Chairman, B/Cllr H Chapman, Cllr I Crawford, Cllr R Peterson, Cllr S Pilkinton,  
Mrs J Bissmire (Clerk)

**In attendance:** 2 members of public

### 31/10 APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Apologies were received from Cllrs S Deacon and C Bennett due to personal commitments and PCSO M Taylor.

### 32/10 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

Cllr E King declared a personal interest in item 60/10 Registering of Peggy's Field, due to living in close proximity. B/Cllr H Chapman declared a personal interest in item 54/10 Cutting of Grass Verges and item 56/10 Green Space Strategy Consultation as these fall within his portfolio  
Cllr P Bunyan declared a personal interest in item 41/10 A5 M1 Alternative Routes due to family living within close proximity of this proposed route

### 33/10 MINUTES OF THE ANNUAL MEETING OF THE COUNCIL

It was **RESOLVED** that the minutes of the Annual Meeting of the Council held on 4 May 2010 as circulated, were a correct record and was signed by the Chairman. This was proposed by B/Cllr H Chapman and seconded by Cllr S Pilkinton.

### 34/10 MINUTES OF THE HALLS COMMITTEE MEETING

It was **RESOLVED** that the minutes of the Halls Committee meeting held on the 9 March 2010 as circulated, be received and adopted.

### 35/10 MINUTES OF THE ANNUAL GATHERING OF MARKYATE

It was **RESOLVED** that the draft minutes of the Annual Gathering of Markyate held on 11 May 2010, as circulated, be received as a true record.

### 36/10 CHAIRMAN'S REPORT

The Chairman's Report was approved for publication.

### 37/10 PUBLIC COMMENTS AND QUESTIONS IN ACCORDANCE WITH STANDING ORDER 68

It was **RESOLVED** that Standing Orders be suspended in accordance with the provisions of Standing Order 68 so that members of the public might speak.

One member of public said he had spoken with B/Cllr David Lloyd at the Annual Gathering regarding blocked drains but he had not contacted him further since that date.

The Parish Council agreed to look in to this.

Standing Orders were reinstated

### 38/10 POLICE REPORT

No report at this meeting.

### 39/10 PLANNING DECISIONS FROM DACORUM BOROUGH COUNCIL

1. 4/00383/10/FHA, Feveralls Lodge, Roe End Lane, Garden Shed. Granted
2. 4/00421/10/TPO, 10 High Street, Fell Tree. Granted
3. 4/00476/10/FUL, Baptist Church, Buckwood Road, Single storey front extension. Granted.
4. 4/00441/10/FUL, The Red Lion public House, High Street, change of use from Public House to one Residential Dwelling. Granted.
5. 4/00467/10/FHA, 74 Pickford Road, Two storey side and rear extension. Granted
6. 4/00515/10/FHA, Clovelly, Dammersey Close. Raising of roof with front and rear dormers to provide first floor accommodation and single storey rear extension. Granted.

### 40/10 PLANNING APPLICATIONS

1. 4/00654/10/LDE, Broomhills Leys, Broomhills Shooting Ground, Windmill Road. Retention of existing garage for existing private dwelling. For information only

**41/10 A5 M1 ALTERNATIVE ROUTES**

This consultation, for which the Parish Council were not formally invited to respond, sought views on Alternative Routes for the A5-M1 Link, Dunstable Northern Bypass. A Public enquiry into the proposals will be held before an independent Inspector, commencing on 29.06.10 in Dunstable.

1. Alternative Routes No. 1 and 2 are not supported by Luton BC or South Bedfordshire Council. The proposal which is not supported is the road between the Manshead complex and Blows Down at Caddington and round back to the school, enabling all traffic to bypass Dunstable on to the A5.

The following was agreed:-

2. The Parish Council object to these routes because this will result in more traffic through Markyate. The A5 is already overloaded, this route will result in more traffic on the A5.
3. If a new road is to be built, as much traffic as possible should use it, and avoid the A5.

It was

**RESOLVED**

To submit the above response to the Highways Agency

**Action: Clerk**

**Action: Clerk**

**42/10 MEMORIAL BENCH SEAT**

Correspondence received asking the Parish Council to consider a Memorial Bench for Harold Stephen Lupton and Joan Alberta Lupton was circulated to all members prior to the meeting. Mr Lupton was Clerk to the Parish Council during the 70s and 80s and also taught at the Green School.

The following suggestions for a bench were proposed:-

1. Parkfield going up to green
2. Cowper Rise by Wesley Road
3. Outside the chemist by the door in Wesley Road, a 2 seated bench would fit under the notice board
4. Middle/back Peggy's Field

The following was agreed:-

1. Cowper Rise, on left by garages, this land is owned by DBC
2. To delegate Cllrs King, Peterson and Pilkinton to look at this and agree actual position before consultation letters are sent out

**Action: EK/RP/SP/Clerk**

**43/10 ACCOUNTS FOR PAYMENT**

To approve the schedule for payment as attached.

It was proposed by Cllr S Pilkinton and seconded by Cllr E King 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	£ 4351.24
MPC Savings	£ 57615.27
MPC Investment	£ 40,460,78
Petty Cash	£ 40.60
Luncheon Club	£ 2,021.11
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>£ 104,489.00</b>

**44/10 CLERKS REPORT**

The Clerk reminded all members, if their financial or other interests have changed, to complete Form 2 of The Local Authorities (Model Code of Conduct) Order 2007, Registration of Members' Interests, to ensure these are kept up to date.

**45/10 ANNUAL AUDITED ACCOUNTS FOR YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2010**

It was

**RESOLVED**

The Annual Audited Accounts for year ended 31 March 2010 were presented to the Parish Council for signature by the Chairman and Clerk

**46/10 ANNUAL RETURN FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2010**

The Clerk had circulated copies of the completed Annual Return for the year ended 31 March 2010. It was

**RESOLVED**

That Section 1 Accounting Statements and Section 2 Annual Governance Statement

were correct and signed by the Chairman and Clerk for submission to the external auditor.

- a) The Clerk presented the Parish Council accounts for the year ending 31 March 2009 to the Parish Council for approval, and the accounts were signed as representing fairly the financial position of the Parish Council as at 31 March 2010  
It was proposed by Cllr P Bunyan and seconded by B/Cllr H Chapman and **RESOLVED**: that the **Annual Return figures for year ended 31 March 2010** be approved.
- b) It was proposed by the Cllr I Crawford and seconded by Cllr P Bunyan and **RESOLVED**: that the **Accounting Statements for the Annual Accounts for year ended 31 March 2010** be approved

**Action: Clerk/FO**

**47/10 NOTICE OF APPOINTMENT OF DATE FOR EXERCISE OF ELECTORS RIGHTS TO VIEW ACCOUNTS**

It was confirmed the Notice of Appointment of Date for the Exercise of Electors Rights for Accounts for the year ended 31 March 2010 has been placed on notice boards for display for 14 days the legal requirement being fulfilled from 17 May 2010 to 30 May 2010.

The records are to be made available from 1 June 2010 to 28 June 2010.

**48/10 DAVE RUTHERFORD**

It was with sadness the sudden and untimely death of Dave Rutherford on the 8 May 2010 was reported. Mr Rutherford had been the Quickbooks support for the Parish Council for 3 years, during which time had tutored staff and set up the amalgamation of accounts. The Parish Council were represented at Mr Rutherford's funeral and a letter has been sent to the family offering condolences at this very sad time.

**49/10 CRICKET CLUB LEASE**

B/Cllr Chapman said he had spoken with the chairman of the club who said they are electing a new committee at their next meeting. The chairman of the club said he is not sure whether his solicitor is still operating but promised to contact B/Cllr Chapman after the meeting.

It was noted the clause in the draft lease to include the clubhouse is still being disputed by the cricket club but the Parish Council confirmed this must remain as the clubhouse was built 25 years ago.

It was reiterated the Parish Council are willing to discuss an amicable agreement as the new lease would be to the advantage of the cricket club as funding could be obtained through various sources to help bring it up to date. On going

**Action: HC**

**50/10 CORRESPONDENCE FOR INFORMATION ONLY**

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

**51/10 CHRISTINA MOSAIC PLAQUE**

The brass plaque was displayed at the meeting on the wooden plaque, it was noted the colour of the wood was lighter than requested by the Diocese of St Albans, confirmation to be obtained on this.

Cllr Peterson asked for assistance when installing the plaque and it was agreed members of the PCC would be contacted.

Specific instructions from the Diocese for the installation to be forwarded to Cllr Peterson and it was noted the Petition expires on the 10 June 2010.

The Parish Council asked for details if a Dedication Service is to be held.

**Action: RP/Clerk**

**52/10 SPEEDING IN HIGH STREET**

In absentia Cllr Bennett, his report was circulated at the meeting which outlines discussions with M Penning MP, C/C D Lloyd, B/Cllr Chapman, Mike Jarrett Herts Highways and a member of public. Mr Jarrett agreed it would be worthwhile to try a monitoring device on the High Street, during term time. The results of the study would inform Herts Highways, County and the Police on the suitability of a 20mph speed limit and other traffic measures in the High Street. A decision would then be made.

It was

**RESOLVED**

The Parish Council wholeheartedly endorse the need for a speed survey preparatory to planning and implementing safety measures in the High Street.

Thanks was given to those involved in the discussions.

**Action: CB/Clerk**

**53/10 AIRSPACE POLICY**

Cllr Bennett's report was circulated at the meeting stating the third runway at Heathrow and another runway at Stanstead had been scrapped by the new Government, which it is considered would put pressure on existing airports to take more traffic and to streamline flight paths around all London airports.

The question was asked if the flight path between Markyate and Flamstead is acceptable given the swathe either side. It was noted there is nautical equipment now available to avoid this and perhaps we should force this to be used.

It was

**RESOLVED**

To fully endorse the need to remain informed of trends in air traffic over Markyate and to support the pressure group LLATVCC.

**Action: CB**

#### **54/10 CUTTING OF GRASS VERGES**

In absentia Cllr Deacon, his concern was expressed regarding the cutting of grass hedges. When the hedges are long, it becomes the habitat for wildlife, this is then cut and the wildlife are destroyed.

Cllr Deacon proposes the following:-

1. The grass verges are cut regularly to avoid long growth
2. The grass verges are left to grow naturally

The Parish Council agreed the grass should be cut regularly therefore avoiding wildlife settling and asked for DBC to note this concern.

**Action: Clerk**

#### **55/10 WALKING MAPS**

It was proposed the Walking Maps are reprinted after amendments have been made. All the walks are at present being re-walked to ensure detail such as kissing gates, etc are correct.

It was

#### **RESOLVED**

1. 8 Walking Maps to be reprinted.
2. £190.76 remains in the Walking Map Account from funding through the Chilterns Conservation Board
3. 8 different coloured paper to be purchased, 250 sheets each
4. Printing/folding

Any shortfall in the amount required will be met by Markyate Monthly.

**Action: EK/RP**

#### **56/10 GREEN SPACE STRATEGY CONSULTATION**

Cllr Pilkinton considered this document entitled Green Space Strategy. Comments on the consultation are invited by 1 June 2010 an extension on this date was confirmed.

The consultation sought views on green open spaces and DBC to buy a piece of land in Markyate which the Parish Council consider suitable, the following comments were made:-

2. 11 villages are deficient in play equipment for older children.
3. This equates to 2.5 deficient leisure spaces in Markyate.
4. It was proposed a piece of land is added to the lease held by the Parish Council, as suggested by DBC, as it is sensible to bring ownership in line.
5. Electricity cables should be underground
6. Access to Peggy's Field to be improved
7. Improve biodiversity, hedges should be left uncut

It was

#### **RESOLVED**

To approve the full consultation as attached to these minutes

**Action: Clerk**

#### **57/10 FUTURE PROJECT FOR VILLAGE**

In response to this item which was discussed at the Annual Gathering on 11 May 2010, the following suggestions have been put forward:-

1. Car park could be purchased opposite the Red Lion and used as parking facility. (Not possible)
2. Skate Park
3. Tennis Court

It was reported funding maybe available for a Skate Park from Big Spend money, which has to be applied for by the group itself. Unfortunately this is on hold at the moment until the emergency budget of the new government in June but it is hoped this will continue.

On going

#### **58/10 PARISH PLAN**

It was reported some costs will be recuperated by potential advertisers in the plan, together with the selling of the plan itself.

Cllr Pilkinton said there is a massive problem in getting support.

A meeting to be agreed as soon as possible.

**Action: SP/EK/PB/RP**

#### **59/10 AGENDA ITEMS FOR NEXT MEETING**

1. Parish Plan
2. Memorial Bench
3. Cell Wall which is broken in a third place.
4. Internal Audit Report

**60/10 REGISTERING OF PEGGY'S FIELD AS A VILLAGE GREEN**

Notification dated 14 May 2010 has been received from HertsCC that a decision has been made to formally register Peggy's Field as a Village Green.

Actions agreed:-

1. Thank you letter to Mr Hodgson for his hard work in completing forms.
2. Timescale from HertsCC when the paperwork for the new entry will be received (copy B/Cllrs Lloyd/Chapman)

**Action: Clerk**

**61/10 SIGNAGE FOR PEGGY'S FIELD**

The following was agreed:-

1. Sign on the same post as Public Footpath to Flamstead in London Road worded:-  
(a) **VILLAGE GREEN AND RECREATION GROUND (with pointer)**
2. Board in Peggy's Field worded:-  
(b) **[MPC LOGO]**  
**MARKYATE VILLAGE GREEN**  
**PEGGY'S FIELD AND RECREATION GROUND**

**MARKYATE PARISH COUNCIL**

It was confirmed £140.00 remained in the P3 grant for 2007/2008 (minute 275/09). In agreement with P3 and DBC this can be used for signage for Peggy's Field.

**Action: Clerk**

**62/10 THE POWER OF WELL BEING**

This is an informal name given to the Statutory Power enabling local authorities to pursue a project which is wanted by the parishioners. The measure came into force on the 23 June 2008, it could be relating to the whole of the Council or an individual person in or outside the Parish.

In deciding to use the Power, the Council must be satisfied that the activity is likely to promote or improve economic social or environmental Well Being.

**The criteria is:-**

1. 80% of councillors need to have been on the training course.
2. CiLCA qualified Clerk
3. Two thirds of the councillors must be elected, not co opted
4. It must be something that is wanted by the community.

It was

**RESOLVED**

To defer this to after the Parish Council Election in May 2011, when the Parish Council at that time can decide if training is required to fit the criteria.

**63/10 ITEMS FOR MARKYATE MONTHLY**

1. Peggy's Field as a Village Green, thank you Mr Hodgson
2. Memorial Seat for Mr Lupton
3. Christina Mosaic Plaque
4. Future project for village, any other items

**Action: Clerk**

**64/10 SMALL BUSINESS ACCORD**

It was reported DBC are waiting for representation on this from small businesses in order for this to be set up, to date they have not been approached.

Small businesses must be asked to make representation to form a group.

**Action: SP**

**65/10 NEIGHBOURHOOD POLICING PRIORITIES**

In absentia Cllr Bennett his report was presented to all members which stated there is going to be a 3 month work programme to get neighbourhood policing priorities embedded and effective across the County.

The reported recommended:

1. conclusions are discussed with police representatives
2. Make sure better communications on topics that matter
3. Build a policing priority for Watling Ward
4. Work in partnership to have a more effective police activity for the village and surrounding countryside.

It was

**RESOLVED**

To arrange a meeting in conjunction with Gt Gaddesden PC and Flamstead PC and a senior Police Officer to formulate recommendations and building policing priorities for the Watling Ward.

Dates to be agreed

**Action: CB/EK/PB/RP/Clerk**

**66/10 REPORTS**

**Finance Committee.** The Internal Audit had been carried out, agenda item for July 2010 meeting.

**HAPTC.**

An evening of information is being held in Woolmer Green Village Hall on 16 June 2010 to see what other Councils are doing to serve their community and how they are making a difference to the quality of life for their local people.

Cllr Pilkinton said she was happy to attend on behalf of the Parish Council and give an example of the Interpretation Boards recently installed, the chairman gave her appreciation.

The Parish Council was asked to elect to the HAPTC Executive Committee, the candidate with the most votes will serve for 3 years, and the candidate with the next highest poll will serve for 1 year.

7 candidates were listed on the ballot paper and the Parish Council were invited to vote for up to 6 candidates.

The Parish Council

**RESOLVED**

to vote for:-

1. Cllr John Howley, Aldenham Parish Council
2. Cllr Judith Watson, Woolmer Green Parish Council

The ballot paper must be returned by midday on 16 June 2010.

**Action: Clerk**

**School Governors.**

Cllr Crawford said a site meeting was held on 22 April 2010 for Bizzie Bees but no reminder was sent out.

The next site meeting is being held on 7 June at 10.30am, Cllr Crawford will attend

**Watling Neighbourhood Action.**

1. Cllr J Taunton is now the chairman of Flamstead Parish Council following the resignation of Cllr M Wright.
2. Mrs N McIntyre is looking at a plan, not many recommendations were made at The Gathering in Markyate
3. Litter, fly tipping and speeding are the three points being worked on.
4. Only Action Points are produced following meetings, not minutes.

**There being no other business the meeting closed at 9.55pm**

**Next meeting: 6 July 2010**

Signed: \_\_\_\_\_

Date: \_\_\_\_\_