

# **Martley Parish Council**

## **Minutes of the Parish Council Meeting held on Monday 6<sup>th</sup> August 2012 in the Village Hall**

Present: Cllr. D. Goodyear (Chairman), Cllr S Cumella, Cllr T Gale, Cllr M Gardner, Cllr M Nott,  
Cllr T Studer, Cllr M Walker and Mrs J Dale (Clerk)

There were 24 members of the public present.

### **Democratic Period/ Public Question Time: -**

1. Members of the public raised their concerns about the number of houses being planned on Grade 2 agricultural land and also their opposition to a large housing estate being planned in the centre of the village. It was pointed out that a development of over 20 houses is contrary to Parish Council policy. The view was that any scheme planned in the short term should be a small scheme.
2. Longside Radio explained their email to the PC about their wish to use the weighbridge as a recording studio. They are keen to engage with the local community and have already created a link with Chantry High School. This topic will be discussed further under item 7.

**52.12 Apologies** – The Clerk reported that Cllr McHugh had tendered his resignation and a letter of thanks had been sent to him from the Chairman.

**53.12 Declarations of Interest** – Cllr Walker declared a personal interest in item 8.

**54.12 Minutes:** The minutes of the meeting held on 2<sup>nd</sup> July were approved and signed accordingly.

**55.12 Co-option of Councillor:** One application for co-option had been received and Mrs Gail Dawson was duly appointed. The Declaration of Acceptance was signed and Mrs Dawson joined the meeting.

### **56.12 County & District Councillor Reports:**

County Councillor Davies reported that he had received 10 applications for footpath repairs which were currently under consideration. He urged parishioners and Council to respond to the Broadband survey currently taking place. He reported on the Community Transport provision and expressed concern that there was no real indication of the use this service would have. The service would need to be sustainable for longer than a year or so. He reported on the census figures from 2011 which showed Worcestershire had grown by 4.4% in 10 years as opposed to the West Midlands figure of 3.6%.

District Councillor Williams mentioned the SWDP Significant Change Consultation taking place on 13<sup>th</sup> August. She pointed out that the Worcester Road site is not a preferred site in the SWDP. She also pointed out that The Jewry and Longstone Cottage were listed buildings as is the Smithy Cottage on Worcester Road. The converted buildings by the Court are a Conservation Site.

Cllr Gardner reported on a course she had attended on the Localism Act and that the tutor was happy to come and advise the Council. Council agreed with this suggestion.

Signed .....

Date .....

County Cllr Davies pointed out that the Neighbourhood Plan should be how we want Martley to look like in 20 years time.

**57.12 Planning:**

12/00451/FUL & 12/00452/FUL – This is ongoing. Clerk to give information to CC Davies.  
12/00917/HOU – Three Acres, Willow Green. 2 storey extension to side and rear – Council support this application.

12/00472/FUL – Berrow Farm. Clerk to write to MHDC with Council's comments re NPPF Rural Activities policy.

**58.12 Weighbridge:** Council discussed the proposal by Longside Radio that the weighbridge be used as a recording studio. Council had previously discussed the weighbridge could be used for tourist/walking information. WCC will be consulted to ascertain whether internal alterations could be made. All councillors are in favour of this proposal. Ongoing.

**59.12 Recreation Association/Playing Field:**

- Cllr Walker's report about dogs on the playing field was read out and discussed. The Clerk will check with the Parish Footpath Officer about any footpaths on the field and then new signs will be erected giving clear information.
- A letter was read out about noise from the new play area. Consultation did take place before the area was erected and Council felt unable to pursue this matter.
- Grass Cutting – resolved by MRA.

**60.12 Neighbourhood Plan Committee:**

Cllr Cumella gave a brief report on the first meeting. He requested assistance on the preparation of this plan. The public consultation session will take place on September 8<sup>th</sup> in the Village Hall from 10am until noon.

**61.12 Correspondence:**

WCC – Broadband speeds. Council requested that the Clerk complete one form on behalf of the Parish.

Email received from West Mercia Constabulary offering funding for security cameras for the Pavilion/Village Hall. Council in agreement.

MHDC Vacancy on Standards Committee – noted

Bayhill Properties request for Consultation event. Clerk to inform Bayhill Properties that they can make arrangements for this event but that the development does not have the support of the Council at this stage.

WCC – Winter Service Questionnaire. Clerk to complete.

**62.12 Progress Reports:**

Library electricity costs – a letter from the Chairman of the village hall committee was read out. Council to suggest that they consider an insulation survey along with a survey to ascertain if the current heating was the most cost effective.

Drainage – Aqua Cleaning – no report had been received. Ongoing.

Affordable Housing Survey – no update had been received.

Evening Transport Provision – WCC awaiting the results of a survey they had instigated.

**63.12 Finance:**

- The payments as presented were approved and cheques signed accordingly.

Signed .....

Date .....

- It was agreed that Cllr Gardner would replace Cllr McHugh as the 3<sup>rd</sup> cheque signatory.

**64.12 Lengthsman Duties:**

Discussion took place on how the lengthsman's work was monitored. It was agreed to allocate areas of the parish to each councillor for reporting/monitoring.

Work for August:

- Path opposite Old Smith – grass cutting required fortnightly basis.
- Grips cutting Hillside
- Admiral Rodney to Hillside the drains blocked.
- Footpath from Laugherne Park to Masons Arms. Grass requires trimming and moss clearing off tarmac.
- Drains in centre of village plus Jury Lane.

**65.12 Clerk's Urgent Decision:** None

**66.12 Councillors reports:**

Cllr Studer asked if any replacement recycling facilities had been offered. Awaiting news from MHDC.

Cllr Nott reported that the area of land between the pumping station and the Crown car park looked a disgrace. Clerk to write to landlord.

**51.12 Date of next meeting:** The next meeting will take place on Monday September 3rd in the Village Hall.

The meeting closed at 9.45 pm.

J C Dale  
10<sup>th</sup> August 2012

Signed .....

Date .....