

Meeting minutes Marton Parish Meeting 31.05.23

Apologies

Veronica Piercy
Sue and Paul Styles
Terry and Lynne Wallis
Mike and Wendy Fielding

Present

2x PCs
Lyn Brierley-Jones (Clerk)
Terry Collins (Chair)
Claudia Brookes
John Brooks (Part Time)
Mike Askham
Andrew Ridley
Martin Dennison
Nick and Allison Crofts-Smith
Lynda Norris
Guy Kennedy (Part time)

Meeting

Agenda item 1 - Minutes from last meeting

Accepted.

Agenda item 2- Crime

Local PCs provided an update on local policing matters.
Marton remains a safe village (as part of Cropton ward – figures quoted are for the whole ward and not just Marton)
Road incidents decreased significantly. Road Traffic collisions (RTCs) last year 56, this year 28 with the vast majority being no injury.
Offences are mainly speeding - 44 last year - 16 this year. (31st March '22/31st March '23). Times when most RTCs occur are summer and rush hour.

Other figures levelled out. There were 60 incidents as was the case last year. In 2021/22 34 crimes were recorded, such as theft, arson. In 2022/23 this was down to 30. Thefts down and violence against person down, fraud down by 1.
Police receive on average 4 calls per month from ward.

Community messaging available - sign up via email alerts for news in area (see information cards on board). Better than social media because comments are not public - can only be seen by team.

Agenda item 3 - Chair's report

The Village Hall still needs more supporters/volunteers to help with events particularly.

Update: River - Environment Agency (EA): met with chair. Bank works. Trees have been left mid-stream. Will be addressed this year. EA will do less each year due to budget constraints.

Chair has new email contact so any issues can be raised directly with Terry. Andrew also has direct contact and can raise issues directly with EA.

Dog bin: This has been requested. Waiting for installation. Should cost approx. £200. Will be serviced by the council. Reports from the farm are that dog fouling has reduced in their field. Posters have been placed to remind people to clear up after their dogs.

Bench re-siting: there was an objection from the family regarding moving the existing bench (near the river) so the second option of a new bench was considered. An alternative site was identified as on the opposite side of the river near the car park/stile.

Installation cost = £815. This does not include the required EA permit (unknown figure as this depends on how much time it takes the EA to assess the site's suitability). So this has not been progressed. Cost is too high given existing funds (see Clerk's report below).

Put to meeting. All voted against a new bench. No abstentions.

Motion to not replace bench carried.

Agenda item 4: Clerk's report

Started the year (as of April 21st 2022) with £2,227 on account (current and savings). Finished the year (as of April 21st 2023) with £1653 on account (current and savings).

Outgoings:

£15 Village Hall hire

£400 Environmental Group

£400 Village Hall Jubilee Celebrations

£50 Phone box refurbishment

£20 Stationery

£64 Yorkshire Local Councils Association (YLCA) membership

£50 Poppy wreath

£65 YLCA membership

Total = £1064 (out)

Income:

£420 Precept

£62 Grass-cutting refund from NYCC

Total income = £482

Balance =£1645 (21st April 2023)

Agenda item 5: Election of officers. Planning Committee

Bill Tweddle has left the village thus there is a vacancy on the planning committee.

In the event of an objection to planning we would, as a village, have to have a separate planning meeting; the planning committee or 'the village' cannot make a representation on behalf of an individual who objects to an application.

The 5-year plan was the last time this was considered (3 plots identified in and around Marton)

The committee is no more powerful than a single individual but does provide a degree of scrutiny.

There are no other positions to be filled.

Agenda item 6: For consideration

Condition of road between Marton and Normanby. A complaint was lodged last year, and further correspondence has been received suggesting this was dismissed by the parish meeting. This was not the case as NYC was approached and the parish meeting did receive a response. NYC has confirmed that the road is regularly inspected and there are currently no plans to carry out works.

The chair will reply to the village resident concerned.

Agenda item 7: Footway on the bridge

Complaints have been made about the condition of the footpath. NYCC Highways (as was) did inspect it and said that the footway was in its original state. Section 41 of the Highways Act of 1980 states the council has a responsibility to maintain the highway to ensure they are safe, but they are under no obligation to improve the footway. The fact NYCC Highways claim the footway is in its original state is the problem. Individuals can approach the council themselves about this.

The chair will write to the resident concerned.

The meeting attendee claimed the footpath has deteriorated within his lifetime so challenges the council view.

Agenda item 8: Speeding vehicle in village

A speeding vehicle was reported driving over the village green and a resident has requested that a small arrow be placed beneath the 'Marton' sign on entering the village (from Sinnington direction) to indicate the sharp bend.

An advanced warning sign, for a double bend, is in place already just outside the 30mph speed limit signs; this is the correct sign.

The village could request a larger sign (this has to comply with the Traffic Signs Manual, the smallest height is therefore 400mm high and the bottom of the sign must be no less than 1m from the ground) which may be unsightly.

An attendee stated that these incidents need to be reported to the police. They are local drivers in his view and know very well the bend is there. A sign would make no difference.

Agenda item 9: Parking on village green.

Resident has contacted chair to complain about overnight parking on the village green. There is an unwritten agreement that residents will not park on the green overnight. Also, residents are parking 'illegally', i.e. against the flow of traffic at night.

The chair pointed out that with higher permanent occupancy in the village, which is a good thing, more parked cars are inevitable, especially as not everyone has offroad parking facilities.

All agreed.

The chair will write to the resident concerned.

Agenda item 10: Village lighting

A request has been made to approach the council regarding the conversion of streetlights to LED and /or switch lighting off at night (midnight to 5 am).

April 2021 Local council roads innovation group NYCC completed carbon reduction programme to replace over 50,000 streetlights across North Yorkshire with LED. They achieve this ahead of time and at reduced cost.

The focus was on National Parks. Advantages are cost, less carbon, benefits wildlife and comfort of residents. Lights off feasible as low traffic area at night and evidence suggests crime decreases with reduced lighting.

Does the village wish us to approach the council with a view to switching to LED/ reduced night lighting?

Comment from attendee that previous chair questioned temporary council tax rise 4 years ago and was told was to install LED lighting.

The meeting wants the Chair to approach council for LED lighting.

If the council reply that have no plan to change lighting what is view of asking them to turn lights off between midnight and 5 am?

The point was made there is a need to be strategic. Ask for LEDs first and then for lights off between midnight and 5 am otherwise if ask for latter first might only get that as its cheapest option for council as it appears we have adopted position we do not want lighting.

Concerns expressed about 2 x chicane on main road continually being hit by traffic - this may worsen with no lighting.

Motion to approach council for LED lighting carried.

Agenda item 11: Railings on bridge approach

The Chair has been approached about painting the railings adjacent to the bridge for £100. Labour free of charge.

Carried.

Agenda item 12: Poppy wreath

Raise fund to £60.

Carried.

Agenda item 13: Footpath from village to village hall

Requires maintenance. £150.

Carried.

Agenda item 14: Delivery of parish meeting minutes in hard copy to all Marton households

The chair has been asked to revisit this item from last year.

Last year's decision was unanimous, pointed out delivery is not environmental friendly, it is time consuming, there is a disproportionate cost to the village . The parish meeting has not raised portion of council tax this year.

We are obliged only to post on village notice board. We did this last year. Also wallet was placed on notice board with spare copies for villagers to take their own copy if they wanted one. We can do this again this year.

Attendee pointed out that can also go on village website www.martonvillageinfo.co.uk agreed. Most in village are on-line. Also, Marton Village Info Facebook page.

Motion to continue with electronic distribution of Marton parish meeting minutes carried.

Chair will reply to resident. Clerk happy to send electronic copy of minutes by email to anyone requesting them at <martonparishclerk@outlook.com>

Agenda item 15: Increase council tax to contribute to Village Hall Fund

Potential difficulties if village hall is never built, for example, and funds are built up. Village hall is also Normanby's but they have their own parish meeting and may not agree so Marton's contribution may be disproportionate.

This motion was not put forward by anyone in the village hall committee.

Chair will get legal advice before proceeding.

Agenda item 16: AOB.

None.

Note that Ben's work in village has been tremendous and meeting felt money from parish meeting well spent by him.

Meeting close 8 pm.