

CATSHILL AND NORTH MARLBROOK PARISH COUNCIL
MEETING HELD THURSDAY 31st JULY 2008, 7.30PM
CATSHILL VILLAGE HALL, GOLDEN CROSS LANE, CATSHILL

Present : Cllrs: G Witcomb (Chairman), P Baker, Mrs G Blackmoor, Ms J Brown, D Carter,
Mrs A Glendenning, M Knight, M Shephard

In attendance : Mr Alan Kelly, Mrs Margaret Owen
Clerk : Mrs G Lungley

08/036 Apologies

Apologies for absence were accepted from Cllrs P Masters (Vice-Chairman) & A Pugh - holidays
M Tingle - work commitments

08/037 Declarations of Interest Cllr D Carter – member of NWWA

08/038 Adjournment of Meeting for Open Forum

Points of discussion as attached.

08/039 Approval of minutes of previous meeting

The minutes of the meeting held 26/06/2008 were amended to show apologies had been
received from Cllr Mrs A Glendenning, approved and signed.

08/040 Co-option of members to the Marlbrook Ward

It was agreed to co-opt Mr Alan Kelly and Mrs Margaret Owen to represent the Marlbrook
Ward. They duly signed their Declarations of acceptance of office and joined members at the
council table.

08/041 Chairman's Report

The Chairman reported on the requirement to produce a newsletter, the local highways, parish
council vacancies, Parish Plan and successful hanging basket competition with so many gardens
helping to improve the appearance of the parish.

08/042 Questions from councillors

None put forward

08/043 Committee / Group / Representation Reports

a) **Finance Committee:** No report – to meet in September.

b) **Planning Committee:** Meetings held 17/07/08 and 31/07/07 had considered the latest
notifications and received notice of the planning authority's decisions including refusal of
permission for the proposed restaurant and takeaway at 129 – 131 Golden Cross Lane.

- c) **Environment & Highways:** As per minutes 28/07/08; recommendations for approval:
- Expenditure of £952.15 + VAT for permanent electricity connection at the War Memorial - **approved**;
 - Letters would be sent to residents on both sides of Golden Cross Lane (no's 15 – 53) requesting they do not park on the grass verges – **action approved**;
 - **It was agreed** to abide by the decision of the small group (Cllrs Mrs A Glendenning, P Masters and A Pugh) regarding the winners of the Hanging Basket/Container competition and not as reported in the Environment & Highways Committee minutes.
 - Concerns about the Church Road pavement obstructions would be reported to the local police and the highways authority – possible solutions could be to block off the road or to make it one-way.
 - Action was required on the overgrown footpaths.
- d) **Youth Group:** A meeting of the council members only to this group would be arranged.
- e) **Personnel:** Cllr Baker was to arrange to meet in due course.
- f) **Website & IT Support:** No update
- g) **Parish Plan Group:** There had been no feedback to the draft Parish Plan. Cllr Ms J Brown announced new work commitments would cause prolonged absences from the parish reducing her availability to work on the Plan; Cllr Mrs G Blackmoor was unanimously supported in her thanks to Cllr Ms J Brown for her work to date. Consultation days had been planned for Saturdays 20th and 29th September.

08/044 Events Committee Appointments and Terms of Reference

It was agreed the members of this committee would be Cllrs Mrs G Blackmoor, D Carter, Mrs A Glendenning, M Knight + the Chairman *ex officio* with terms of reference as circulated. It was noted that this council's role on Remembrance Sunday was to co-ordinate the event managed via Cllr P Baker.

08/045 Councillor Training

It was agreed to attend training on Thursday 18th September at 6.30pm at Catshill Village Hall.

08/046 SmartWater Kits

It was suggested that information on this new anti-burglary initiative should be included on the website and provided for parish residents; also mooted to provide all residents who had been burgled with a kit, no decision made.

08/047 Parish Newsletter

It was agreed to work towards two issues per year, Spring and Autumn, using existing pdf format and the printed copies to be delivered via delivery service previously used.

08/048 Annual Bonfire Event at the Meadow

Mr D Prust was invited to speak on this issue – tentative proposals had been made to re-instate the annual bonfire for 2009; it was agreed to delegate discussions to the Events Committee.

08/049 BDC Consultation on Local Neighbourhood Partnerships

This would be considered at the next parish council meeting; a representative from BDC would be asked to attend to speak to the item.

08/050 Finance Report As circulated

Current status of bank account (Unity Trust) to 27/06/2008 £46,274.12

Vno	Chq no	Payee & reason for payment	Net	VAT	Total
025	300216	Mrs J Hallett – expenses May '08, 16 miles + black bags	7.81}		
026	300216	Mrs J Hallett – expenses June '08, 18 miles + blackbags	8.77}		16.58
027	300217	C B Mowers – Ivy Gardens & War Memorial, May	80.00	14.00}	
028	300217	C B Mowers – Ivy Gardens & War Memorial, June	80.00	14.00}	188.00
029	300218	James Warren – Parish Plan artwork, £30 per page	240.00		240.00
030	300219	Thomas Horton LLP – village hall agreement	500.00	87.50	587.50
031	d/debit	Orange – office mobile phone	28.07	4.04	32.11
032	s/order	Mrs J Hallett – July salary paid 28/07/08	114.50		114.50
033	s/order	Mrs G Lungley - July salary paid 28/07/2008	313.38		313.38
034	300220	Staples – office equipment and stationery	226.51	36.98	263.49
035	d/debit	Severn Trent Water – half yearly charges at Ivy Gardens	11.50	2.01	13.51
036	300221	E.ON UK Energy Services Ltd – War Memorial instll ⁿ	952.15	166.63	1118.78
037	300222	Littleheath Garden Centre – vouchers for garden comp	50.00		50.00
038	300223	Mrs G Blackmoor – vacuum flasks	20.00		20.00

08/051 Items for consideration at next meeting not already mentioned None

08/052 Date and time of next meeting

The next Parish Council meeting will be held on Thursday 25th September 2008 at 7.30pm.

This meeting ended at 9.10pm

Signed.....

Chairman of Catshill & North Marlbrook Parish Council

Date.....

25th September 2008

Notes relating to the Open Forum

One member of the public was present and comments were made regarding the current whereabouts of the damaged Public Rights of Way noticeboard and that various footpaths were now very overgrown and even if they are cut back there are problems associated with removal of the arisings.

County Councillor Mrs S Blagg sent her apologies for not attending this meeting and had provided an update which was circulated to the meeting; headings included:

- Planning for Natural Resource Papers
- Pitt Review – learning lessons from the 2007 floods
- Flood costs – restoration fund bid submitted to government
- Transforming adult social care with ‘choice and control’
- Changes to the mobile library service
- Carers’ New Emergency Respite Service
- Worcestershire County Council is re-launching their Severn Card
- Bike loan scheme
- Bogus callers warning
- Policing matters group
- Positive Activities grants

Copies of the scheme providing grant funding for Positive Activities for Children and Young People were circulated.

To amend comments from the last meeting:- no date has been specified for the re-surfacing along Braces Lane.

District Councillor A Blagg (Marlbrook Ward) - apologies for absence received with Mrs Blagg’s.

District Councillor Dr G Lord (Marlbrook Ward) sent apologies for absence and verbal comments put forward via the Clerk included:

- Resurfacing of Braces Lane footpath to be carried out in due course;
- WCC is to spend £2,000 on planters at corner of Braces Lane/Old Birmingham Road;
- Funding is available from WCC on environmental improvements in the area;
- Primary Care Trust funding is to be made available on schemes to improve and promote good health.