

Present : Cllrs G Witcomb (Chairman), P Baker, Mrs G Blackmoor, D Carter, Mrs A Glendenning, A Kelly, P Masters (Vice-chairman), A Pugh, M Shephard, M Tingle (arrived late*, with apologies)

In attendance : Clerk - Mrs G Lungley

09/031 Apologies

Apologies for absence were accepted from Cllrs Ms J Brown, M Knight (work commitments), Mrs M Owen (annual leave)

09/032 Declarations of Interest Cllr Pugh declared a personal interest regarding min. 09/038(e)

09/033 Adjournment of Meeting

County & District Representative Reports – County Councillor Mrs S Blagg (Woodvale) and District Councillor A Blagg (Marlbrook) were present – comments recorded in appendix to these minutes. Dr G Lord, District Councillor (Marlbrook) had sent apologies for absence.

Public Question Time – no members of the public were present. The meeting was reconvened:

09/034 Approval of minutes of previous meeting

The minutes of the meeting held 26/02/2009 were approved and signed.

09/035 Chairman's Report

The report was circulated.

09/036 Correspondence

Items received as per list previously circulated were available at the meeting; letter received 26/03/09 from WCC warned of closure of Meadow Road on 19/04/09 for Severn Trent works.

09/037 Questions from councillors

Had apologies been received from the District Council's Catshill ward representatives?

Response: neither member had been in contact with the Clerk.

09/038 Committee / Group / Representation Reports

- a) **Finance Committee:** meeting (inquorate) held 05/03/2009. (*Cllr M Tingle arrived)

Chairman's Chain of Office : members voted on the question of whether the Parish Council should have some form of regalia such as a Chairman's Chain of Office to provide official recognition of the Chairman's position. The motion was passed, majority in favour, and the Clerk was asked to seek further quotes. **Local Government Act 1972, s137**

Grant to Citizens' Advice Bureau : **it was agreed**, majority vote in favour, to grant £250 to the Bromsgrove branch of the CAB. **Local Government Act 1972, s142**

The Donations Policy is to be referred to the next meeting of the Finance Committee for review.

- b) **Planning Committee:** meetings held 12/03/2009 and 26/03/09. A letter outlining this council's concerns with the Planning Inspector's decision to allow the appeal regarding BDC's refusal for change of use to restaurant & associated take-away at 129 – 131 Golden Cross Lane, would be sent to the BDC, Planning Inspectorate, MP etc.

- c) **Youth Group:** Cllr Mrs A Glendenning reported on the group's last meeting relating to various projects that could be undertaken such as locating and establishing a skateboard facility, 13+ disco's, summer holiday projects; networking with the various youth workers, neighbourhood wardens and CSO's. The group's next meeting is to be held 16/04/2009. Cllr Mrs A Glendenning left the meeting.

- d) **Website & IT Support:** meeting held 16/03/2009. Cllr P Masters explained improvements to the website eg PACT website now linked, the parish council icon appears in the address bar; website address, although long, will usually appear high on any website search.

A plea for photo's of the parish to be stored on the website is being launched via the newsletter.

It was agreed to purchase wi-fi broadband connection for the office; Clerk to progress.

- e) **Events Committee:** meeting held 12/03/2009 included representation from Ian Prust (NWWA) regarding this year's Fun Day to be held 13/06/09 (a request for funding assistance had been received 26/03/09 and would be considered at the next Parish Council meeting).

Newsletter **It was agreed** to have 3000 copies of the original Spring issue draft newsletter printed (rather than use the copy provided with artwork from the printing contractor).

Local Government Act 1972, s142

- f) **Bromsgrove Area WorcsCALC meeting 04/03/09:** Cllr G Witcomb reported that Emma Barton from the Primary Care Trust had spoken about health and wellbeing issues in the District. This provoked comment regarding this council's County Council Woodvale ward representative's allocation of funding that is to be spent on health-related improvements in the ward – the Clerk was asked to enquire how this was to be spent.

- g) Catshill and Marlbrook PACT meeting held 09/03/09:** issues included anti-social behaviour in the general area and continuing problems with car parking at Marlbrook (Tesco Express). The police will provide samples of SmartWater and personal alarms at the next meeting to be held 08/06/09.
- h) Bromsgrove District Parish Councils' Forum meeting held 24/03/09:** Cllr G Witcomb reported on the talk concerning Bromsgrove town centre redevelopment.

09/039 Finance Report and bills for payment

The report as circulated, including bills for payment, was noted.

09/040 Items for consideration at next meeting not already mentioned + information

Information -

- The next meeting of the Staffing Committee (07/04/09) would cover the council's Health and Safety Policy, revision of staff salaries following the recent pay agreement, and lone worker protection scheme.
- The new notice board at Marlbrook is now in use.

The Clerk was asked to advise of progress relating to the Shelley Close play area lighting, the Church Road alleyway retaining wall, bus shelters, lengthsman's duties; also to consider the provision of public conveniences (all to be considered at the Environment & Highways Committee meeting on 02/04/09 and reported to this Council's next meeting).

09/041 Date and time of next meeting

The Annual Parish Meeting is to take place on Thursday 23rd April 2009 at 7.30pm.

The next Parish Council meeting will be held on Thursday 30th April 2009 at 7.30pm.

This meeting ended at 9.25pm

Signed..... Date.....
 Chairman of Catshill & North Marlbrook Parish Council 30th April 2009

Appendix

Minute no. 09/033

Reports from County and District Council representatives

County Councillor Mrs S Blagg

Bromsgrove Highways Forum – all relevant county councillors now attend this forum, chaired by District Cllr A Blagg. At the last forum meeting Mrs Blagg had raised the issue of this council's concerns of poor workmanship to the repair of the manhole cover and broken paving slabs on Milton Road footway.

In the future members of the public and parish councils can advise the Chairman they wish to attend the Highways Forum by giving at least one week's notice. The next meeting is to be held at Bromsgrove DC on 01/07/09 at 4pm.

Scheduled road works for Woodrow Lane etc are currently taking place.

The most recent PACT meeting included anti-social behaviour issues. Neighbourhood wardens were to be asked to patrol the area and to take issues to the tasking group.

The new footpath light in 'Jakes Alley' (between Golden Cross Lane towards Lingfield Walk) had been repositioned twice; it was thought a sensible compromise had been reached.

District Councillor A Blagg

The last Marlbrook Tip meeting had heard that electrical wiring was to be moved by the contractors in April; drainage pipes had been installed under Marlbrook Lane and although not matching in size would be joined up to the those draining from the tip. WCC and BDC are working together to ensure the regulation of drainage and water flow along the brook.

With reference to the Tesco Express parking problems this had been identified as a PACT priority and a particular type of planter was to be installed outside the shop to prevent parking on the pavement.

Mr & Mrs Blagg were thanked for their reports and they left the meeting.