

CATSHILL AND NORTH MARLBROOK PARISH COUNCIL
MEETING HELD THURSDAY 28th JANUARY 2010, 7.30PM
CATSHILL VILLAGE HALL, GOLDEN CROSS LANE, CATSHILL

Present : Cllrs G Witcomb (Chairman), P Baker, G Blackmoor, D Carter, A Kelly, M Knight, M Millward, M Owen, M Shephard

In attendance : Clerk - Mrs G Lungley

Prior to the start of the meeting Claire Felton (District Monitoring Officer) and Debbie Warren (BDC Senior Solicitor) had presented a short seminar to members relating to the Members' Code of Conduct and the Register of Interests. All those shown as being present above attended except for Cllr M Knight who tendered apologies for absence from the seminar.

09/144 Apologies

Apologies for absence were accepted from Cllrs J Brown (ill health), P Masters (annual leave), and M Tingle (work commitments)

09/145 Declarations of Interest

As per attendance book – relevant interests declared:- Cllr M Shephard declared a personal interest regarding min. no. 156 (relating to the posting of non-parish council notices on the parish council notice boards)

09/146 Open Forum

The meeting was adjourned for Open Forum, comments as appended.
Apologies received from District Council representatives A Blagg and G Lord.
A written report had been received from County Cllr S Blagg.

09/147 Minutes of previous meeting

The minutes of the Parish Council meeting held 26/11/09 were approved and signed.

09/148 Chairman's Report

The report was circulated and included regret that ill health had necessitated Cllr Anne Glendenning's resignation; it was agreed to send a message of thanks and a token of appreciation for her contribution to the parish council (funded via Chairman's Allowance).

09/149 Council Vacancy, Catshill Village Ward

The statutory notices had been published advertising the vacancy caused by the resignation of Cllr A Glendenning. Members agreed that if there was no call for a by-election by the due date of 09/02/10 then further adverts would be displayed regarding co-option.

09/150 Position of Vice-Chairman

Cllr M Knight had relinquished the position of Vice-Chairman; members agreed to appoint Cllr A Kelly to the position of Vice-Chairman for the remainder of this term of office.

09/151 Communications received

The list of miscellaneous communications was circulated: recently received items included-

- BDC – U Decide, extended closing date now 05/02/2010
- BDC – copy of Recycling Information Pack that is to be sent to all householders.

09/152 Councillors' Questions

Chairmanship of the committees to which Anne Glendenning had been chair will be decided by those committees.

09/153 Reports from Committees etc.

- Environment & Highways Committee:** meetings held 03/12/2009 and 21/01/10, minutes circulated. It was mentioned that Lengthsman attention is required along Stourbridge Road.
- Planning Committee:** meetings held 17/12/2009 and 21/01/2010, minutes circulated. It was noted that a further application had been notified and a committee meeting would take place on 11/02/10.
- Events Committee:** meeting held 14/01/2010, minutes circulated.
Members agreed on the costs for the next issue of the newsletter which including delivery would be in the region of £820.
- Youth Committee:** meeting held 14/01/2010, minutes circulated.
- Parish Plan:** it was agreed to incorporate a Village Design Statement in the Parish Plan; all those involved previously to arrange to meet to follow up.
- IT and Website:** the newsletter has been added to the website in audio format.

There was general approval for the purchase of a laser printer (<£100) to be used in the parish council office to enable faster printing and save on costs of travel and photocopying.

- BDC 'Overview and Scrutiny' seminar:** attended 10/12/2009 by Chairman and Clerk. It was agreed to write to BDC asking for better liaison with the district representatives.

h) **FACT:** meeting held 11/01/2010, poorly attended due to snow and possibly due to lack of publicity. The new sergeant Tim Harper was introduced; no new problems were reported – those mentioned related mainly to anti-social behaviour and parking. Information is available on the website, including date of next meeting.

09/154 Parish Council representative to North West Ward Association

It was agreed to appoint Cllr G Blackmoor to represent the Parish Council on the management committee of the NWWA.

09/155 BDC Draft Policy 'Sports and Leisure Services and Facilities Access for Trans-people'

Cllr Baker agreed to review this draft policy and report to the next Parish Council meeting.

09/156 Request to display advertisements on parish council notice boards

Cllr M Shephard declared a personal interest in this item.

It was agreed to refuse the request from the Artrix to display posters advertising forthcoming events on the parish council notice boards; there was no objection to use being made of the newsletter or website for the circulation of such information.

09/157 Finance report

The latest finance update was circulated and the bill payments as advised by the Clerk were accepted and signed. The Lickey End branch of the Royal British Legion expressed thanks for the recent donation of £50 and donations received for November's bonfire fireworks display amounted to £678.51.

09/158 Community Information

- Black Country Evening to be held in aid of NWWA, 12/02/2010
- Congratulations to Cllr D Carter for being appointed Chairman to Lickey End branch RBL

09/159 Date and time of next meeting

The next Parish Council meeting is to take place on Thursday 25th February 2010 at 7.30pm.

This meeting ended at 9.15pm

Signed.....
Chairman of Catshill & North Marlbrook Parish Council

Date.....
25th February 2010

Appendix

Minute no. 09/146 – Adjournment for Open Forum / Public Question Time

County Councillor Mrs S Blagg : in addition to the written report had provided the following information-

- Via District Cllr A Blagg, regarding the Marlbrook Tip committee meeting had considered the application for the golf club building and an extensive number of parking spaces.
- Comment relating to stocks of WCC road gritting materials following recent bad weather.
- Highways pothole problems should be highlighted via The Hub; work to repair them is progressing well due to dry spell.
- In response to question, would look into the situation at The Dock regarding parking and untidy weeds.
- The Youth Activities Grant was available – suggestions for spending it required; members of the council suggested kit for boxercise sessions.

Carl Knowles, Fiona Knowles and Lorraine Sweryda – Catshill Cub and Scout leaders:

In response to this council's request for the appearance of the scout hut in Lingfield Walk to be improved, including improvements to the surrounding grounds, Carl Knowles advised of the costs involved in maintaining the existing building, that work is ongoing to improve it and any offer of help with funding for materials and equipment would be appreciated.

The local contact with the probation services may be of practical help and funding for Youth Activities via the County Councillor would be looked into. It was agreed that parish council representatives would meet on site to assess requirements.

Don Prust, NWWA

Advised of the Black Country Evening to be held 12/02/2010.