



CATSHILL AND NORTH MARLBROOK PARISH COUNCIL

MEETING HELD at CATSHILL VILLAGE HALL

GOLDEN CROSS LANE, CATSHILL, B61 0JZ

THURSDAY 30th SEPTEMBER 2010, 7.30PM

Present : Councillors G Witcomb (Chairman) A Kelly (Vice-Chairman) G Blackmoor
 F Cook J Gray P Masters
 M Owen M Tingle (* see below)

In attendance : Clerk - G Lungley

10/075 Apologies

Apologies for absence were accepted from Cllrs P Baker, M Millward and M Sheppard (family commitments), M Knight (work commitments)

10/076 Declarations of Interest None: as per Declarations of Interest book

10/077 Open Forum

County Councillor S Blagg and District Councillor A Blagg had sent apologies and would not be present to report; Mrs Blagg had provided a written report that was circulated to all members.

10/078 Minutes of previous meeting

The minutes of the meeting held 29/07/2010 were approved and signed.

10/079 Co-option

No valid applications had been received. **It was agreed** to continue to consider co-option if interest was shown over the next 6 months despite drawing near to the 6-month abeyance period prior to the local council elections.

10/080 Chairman's report

The Chairman's report had been circulated and included comment on:

- Awaiting the Comprehensive Spending Review
- Thanks to those involved in the Hanging Basket/Front Garden competition
- Need to be vigilant concerning vandalism in the parish.

10/081 Clerk's update and list of correspondence received

- a) Insurance update was ongoing.
- b) 3-Parish Meeting (with Lickey & Blackwell, Bournheath) – no date yet been agreed; members suggested proceeding without Bournheath if necessary.
- c) A booklet on 'Localism' had been circulated via e-mail and the Clerk would print out copies if required;
- d) BDHT were keen to speak to Parish Councils about the provision of affordable housing. It was agreed to direct this query to the Planning Committee in the first instance.
- e) WCC had produced the first draft submission consultation document on their Waste Core Strategy. Members agreed to forward this to the Environment & Highways committee for comment.

*MT arrived with apologies for lateness.

- f) WCC Bus Bulletin – the timetable was available to view and is accessible online via the parish council website.
- g) BDC Disabled Access Awards – nominations invited (form circulated to those interested)

Other correspondence received, not otherwise mentioned, was listed and available to view.

10/082 Reports from Committees etc.

All written reports were circulated.

- a) **Planning Committee:** meetings held 05/08/2010, 26/08/2010, 02/09/2010, 23/09/2010. The committee is to meet informally with CALA Homes on 07/09/2010; this meeting is open to all parish council members.
- b) **Events Committee:** meeting held 26/08/2010. Regarding the Children's Halloween Bash it was suggested that the Parish Council should act as facilitator rather than organiser and members agreed to ask the Catshill Youth Club if they would take it on if funding of up to £200 was provided.
A meeting of all involved had been held regarding this year's Remembrance Sunday.
 - bi) **Communications Sub-committee**
 - A draft of the Autumn edition of the newsletter was circulated and approved with corrections to be notified by 03/10/10 latest.
 - The Parish Council's laptop security had been updated.
 - The Village Hall / parish council office wi-fi router had been replaced.
- c) **Parish Plan Group:** FC provided an update relating to the group's meetings on 05/08/2010 and 10/09/10; consideration would be given to their budget requirements for 2011/12.
- d) **Environment & Highways Committee:** meeting held 02/09/2010. AK provided an update as follows:
 - Braces Lane Recreation Ground car park – now extended and being used successfully in most cases.
 - Plans ongoing regarding Marlbrook Ornamental Garden
 - Agreement to donate £15 to the Milestone Society (Worcestershire)
 - Agreement to purchase poop-scoops up to £50 for free distribution in the parish
 - Agreement to re-paint the Ivy Gardens notice board up to £150.

- e) **Finance Committee:** meeting held 16/09/2010. MT reported as follows:
- Changes to the Council's Finance Regulations to allow for an overspend via council or committee resolution and inclusion of the Assets Register;
 - An outline of the new Reserves and Balances Policy;
 - An outline of the new Investment Policy;
 - Participatory Budgeting has been considered and is currently on hold;
 - Risk Review log partially completed.
 - The next meeting will include preparation of the 2011/12 budget.
- f) **Staffing Committee:** meeting held 23/09/2010. The Clerk's appraisal had taken place and the committee had agreed to adopt the Lone Worker Policy and Risk Assessment Record. Findings relating to the notice board at Marlbrook would be passed to the Environment and Highways Committee.
- g) **Representation on other bodies:**
- gi) NWWA – GB reported from the recent NWWA meeting's minutes, including the date of the next Fun Day will be 18/06/2011
- gii) Worcestershire Parish Conference – GW reported on this event held 07/09/2010.

10/083 Consultations

- a) BDC consultation on Polling Stations. It was agreed to comment that members were content with the use of Catshill Village Hall as a polling station for the Catshill Village Ward and Barley Mow Ward; with reference to the use of St Luke's Centre as polling station for Marlbrook Ward, members commented that the use of the limited car parking by polling station staff was not helpful to traffic flows on polling day.
- b) WCC consultation on Shared Services. It was agreed to forward this to the next meeting of the Environment and Highways Committee.

10/084 Royal Mail / 'Keep the Post Public Coalition'

It was agreed that the Parish Council is in favour of keeping Post Offices open and against privatisation of the Royal Mail but is not keen to join the CWU's proposed coalition due to its political overtones.

10/085 Catshill Library – use of Parish Council notice boards

It was agreed that the Catshill Library could make use of the parish council's notice boards for local information and events.

10/086 Catshill Library – Funding Request

It was agreed to provide £25 to be put towards the awards for the Summer Reading Challenge.

10/087 PACT – appointment of Parish Council Representative

It was agreed that AK would attend PACT meetings on behalf of the Parish Council and that this would not preclude other members from attending.

10/088 Meeting Schedule

With the time being 9.25pm it was agreed to consider this item another time.

10/089 Financial Report

The report showing current financial status and the bills for payment was circulated.

10/090 Community Information and items for the next meeting

Not discussed.

10/091 Date and time of next meeting

The next Parish Council meeting is to take place on Thursday 28th October 2010 at 7.30pm.

This meeting ended at 9.35pm

Signed..... Date.....
Chairman of Catshill & North Marlbrook Parish Council 28th October 2010