

# Martin Parish Council

## Minutes of the MEETING OF MARTIN PARISH COUNCIL held at THE BLANDFORD HALL, MARTIN on Monday 17<sup>th</sup> July 2017 commencing at 7.00pm.

Present: Cllr S Sampson, Cllr H Lawes, Cllr S Hooper, Cllr B Hapke, Cllr M King,  
Cllr E Heron (HCC and NFDC), Mr E Hale (Interim Clerk)

1. Apologies for absence. Cllr J Richards
2. Declarations of interest from Members. Cllr Hooper declared an interest in grass cutting items  
  
Members were invited to declare disclosable pecuniary interests and other interests in items on the agenda as required by the Code of Conduct for Members and by the Localism Act 2011
3. Approval of the minutes of the meeting held on 30<sup>th</sup> May 2017. The minutes were approved by all Councillors and signed by the Chairman
4. Matters arising from the Minutes. The Lengthsman has cut back vegetation on footpaths 21, 29, and 34, but not 13b yet. The fallen tree in Angel Lane had been cleared by the owner
5. Standing Orders. Councillors had previously looked at the Model Standing Orders on the HALC website. The Chairman proposed these should be adopted by Martin Parish Council and all Councillors agreed with this proposal
6. Payments. The Chairman had obtained a bank statement which shows the current balance is £10,300.76. Payments of £280 for insurance, £185 for internal audit, and £88.20 to Play Safety for the playground inspection, had been made since the last meeting. Councillors approved further payments of £49 for hall hire and £54 for grass cutting in the Community Orchard
7. Lengthsman Scheme. The Clerk said the Fordingbridge Town Council, who administer the Lengthsman, had invited parishes to submit more work as some parishes are not using their quota. Councillors agreed some other footpaths needed cutting and it was agreed to consult Cllr Richards on which should be submitted on the next jobsheet.
8. Grounds Maintenance. Mr Hooper had carried out an extra cut of the Community Orchard following a request from a parishioner. This was carried out after the flowers had died back, and there would still be another cut later in the year
9. Playground. The Chairman had obtained quotations for re-instating the large swings of £1,245 from Just Outdoor Toys and £2,730 from Handmade Places. Cllr Lawes proposed and Cllr King seconded that this work should be awarded to Just Outdoor Toys at £1,245. The Parish Council has already received £592.56 from NFDC and Cllr Heron offered to contribute £300, so the Parish Council will only pay around £350 towards this  
  
Cllr Lawes asked about replacement of the portable goalposts which had fallen apart. These are not Parish Council property but Cllr Lawes suggested some could be bought on Amazon for around £100 including delivery. Cllr Heron offered to contribute £100 for this, in addition to his £300 towards the swings. Councillors agreed to investigate goalpost options further including whether it would be better to buy wooden goalposts
10. Exhibition of Local Flowers and Butterflies, and Memorial to W H Hudson. The Chairman said there could be a blue plaque on the house where W H Hudson stayed when writing his book. Cllr Heron said the Parish Council would need to apply to English Heritage. Cllr Hooper agreed to investigate how this could be arranged and what it would cost

11. Closure of Bottle Banks. Most local bottle banks have closed and the only local one now is in Fordingbridge main car park. Bottles had collected outside Martin Club but these bins are no longer available for public use. Cllr Heron said most residents now use their glass boxes and they can ask for extra boxes if required. It was agreed the village website should include details of these changes. Cllr King asked if the village could request a village glass bin, but Cllr Heron said there would be a charge as there is no longer a profit on glass

12. Planning Applications.

17/10706. St Georges Cottages. Hardstanding and outbuilding Application to create a hardstanding at the far end of the garden, and build an adjacent outbuilding. Councillors agreed to PAR1 to recommend PERMISSION but accept the decision of NFDC. The proposed works are not visible from the road and neighbours have similar buildings and accesses at the rear of their properties

17/10741. Drove End Farm. Storage barn

Application to build a barn in the field at the rear of the new house. Councillors agreed to PAR2 to recommend REFUSAL but accept the decision of NFDC. The proposed barn is too large and is not justified by the limited agricultural activity on the site. There are also concerns about its appearance in relation to existing buildings

17/10778 and 9. Sweetapple. Chimney pot

Application to add a chimney pot onto an existing chimney on a listed building. Councillors agreed to PAR1 to recommend PERMISSION but accept the decision of NFDC. There were no concerns about this proposal

13. Response to HM Inspectorate on Maple Field Farm. The Chairman and Cllr Richards had prepared a response to the Inspectorate which had to be submitted by a short deadline. This was shown Councillors who were satisfied with the details. There was discussion about whether the livestock was permanently on site and if the accommodation was really temporary

14. Clerk Vacancy. The Chairman had arranged an advert on the HALC website and is approaching clerks on the HALC locum list. Cllr King asked if the role would be more attractive with more hours. The Clerk said the number of hours was probably correct and it was more important for the new Clerk to be flexible as more work is required at certain times of year. Cllr Heron said the Council should check if anyone from Wiltshire or Dorset could apply

15. Meeting with Police Officers at 7pm on 27th July at Martin Club. Councillors agreed it was important to advertise this. The Community Association would be asked to email details

16. Date of Next Meeting. 7pm on Monday 4th September 2017

There was discussion about the impact of the History Festival on local roads and it was agreed this had not been as bad as expected due to better traffic management. Councillors said the A354 Martin junction could be improved but Cllr Heron said the accident statistics did not justify the large expense which would be involved

Councillors agreed to discuss a village defibrillator and Village Hall wi-fi at the next meeting

Meeting closed at 8.25pm

Edward Hale - Martin Parish Council Interim Clerk – 21.07.17

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