MARSTON MORETEYNE PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of the Finance & General Purposes Committee meeting of Marston Moreteyne Parish Council held at Marston Moreteyne VC School, Church Walk, Marston Moreteyne on Tuesday 7th December 2021, commencing 8.00pm.

Present: Parish Councillors: Peter Neale (Chairman), Carol Carter, Janice Green & Robert Morris.
Officer: Mrs Hazel Trustam – Parish Clerk

21/12/368 **Apologies for absence**
Apologies for absence were received from Councillors Roberts & Pilbeam. Reasons for absence noted.

21/12/369 **Declarations of interest**
No declarations of interest were received.

21/12/370 **Dispensation Requests**
No requests had been submitted.

21/12/371 **Public Participation**
No matters were raised.

21/12/372 **Minutes of meetings**
It was resolved to approve as an accurate record of proceedings, the minutes of Marston Moreteyne Finance & General Purposes Committee held on Tuesday 2nd November 2021. Proposed Cllr Morris , seconded Cllr Green. Agreed.

21/12/373 **Matters arising from the minutes.**
17/04/167 Community Emergency Plan: Cllr Neale and parish clerk to collate a list of community buildings and contacts.
20/08/196.1 Play/Skate Park Area: Cllr Pilbeam had circulated a suggested approach to the shrinkage issue of the safety surfacing at Bedford Road. The main problem is down clay heave which cannot be prevented, therefore a solution to try to mitigate it is all that can be done. The suggested approach is to dig out the surrounds of the safety surfacing and overlap the join with topsoil. It was suggested that Lisa White be contacted to discuss possible solutions.

21/12/374 **Invoices for payment**
To approve invoices for payment
A list of receipts and payments was circulated. **It was resolved** to approve invoices for payment per Appendix 1 (attached). Proposed Cllr Morris seconded Cllr Green. Approved.

21/12/375 **Play/Skate Park Areas**
Operational Inspection reports were circulated prior to the meeting and accepted by the Committee. It was resolved to cross check which work was a priority between the recent operational inspection reports and the annual inspection report carried out earlier in the year and obtain costs.

21/12/376 **Grass cutting Contract 2022-25**
The clerk advised that she had sought four quotations from local grass cutting contractors in regard to the renewal of the grass cutting contract. Two contractors had not responded, one contractor responded stating that they would not be quoting as had sufficient work with current contracts, and the parish council's current contractor, Warner's of Bedford, had supplied a quotation. A copy of Warner's of Bedford quotation had been circulated prior to the meeting.
After a brief discussion, **it was resolved** that the Committee recommend to full council that it renew the grass cutting contract with Warner's of Bedford for the period 1st April 2022 to 31st March 2025.

Chairman Signature …….

Date …….

21/12/377 **Budget 2022/23**

At the last meeting it was agreed to wait and see what the column Christmas lights looked like before committing to expansion in 2022. Members felt that the column lights were a welcome compliment to the Christmas tree but that more were required to widen the scheme from the village centre. It was resolved to budget another £3,000 for Christmas 2022.

21/12/378 **Finance Correspondence**

The clerk advised that the allotment gate lock had broken. Cllr Banks had taken it to a locksmith who advised that it could not be repaired. Members discussed alternative locking methods and felt that a substantial chain and combination lock would be a better solution going forward. Cllr Neale agreed to obtain some costs.

There being no further business to transact, the meeting was closed at 8.28pm.

Chairman Signature …….

Date …….

Appendix 1.

Invoices approved for payment:

Payee	Invoice No.	Description	Net £	VAT £	Total £
Mrs H. Trustam		November net salary	**	0.00	**
HMRC		PAYE & NIC contributions for November	**	0.00	**
Bedfordshire Pension Fund		Employer & Employee pension contributions for November	**	0.00	**
Warners of Bedford	15279 15337	Grass cutting / litter pick / empty bins Cemetery improvements **Total**	1,512.00 1,975.00 **3,487.00**	302.40 395.00 **697.40**	1,814.40 2,370.00 **4,184.40**
Anglian Water Business (National) Ltd	9737301	Allotment water supply	148.17	0.00	148.17
Lamps & Tubes Illuminations	70351	Hire of Christmas tree lights	352.00	70.40	422.40
CPM Playgrounds	5066	Operational inspections	92.00	18.40	110.40
Cloud Next Ltd	168298	Hosting services	79.99	15.99	95.98
Mrs H. Trustam		Reimbursement of expenses: Memorial plaque for Cemetery from Brunel Engraving Company	236.82	0.00	236.82
White Hart Press	24989	October & November newsletter printing	170.00	0.00	170.00
Zurich Insurance		Buildings insurance cover for the Community Centre			695.93

*(** Note: Salary/expense payments are excluded from publication due to protection by the Data Protection Act).*

Chairman Signature …….

Date …….