MARSTON MORETEYNE PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of the Finance & General Purposes Committee meeting of Marston Moreteyne Parish Council held at Church End Lower School, Church Walk, Marston Moreteyne on Tuesday 2nd January 2018, commencing 8.00pm.

Present: Parish Councillors: Peter Neale (Chairman), Robert Morris, Hugh Roberts & Terry Hyde.
Officer: Mrs Hazel Trustam – Parish Clerk

18/01/012 Apologies for absence
Apologies for absence were received from Cllrs Mrs Janice Green & Mrs Carole Yates. Reasons given was noted.

18/01/013 Declarations of interest
No declarations were made.

18/01/014 Dispensation Requests
No requests had been submitted.

18/01/015 Public Participation
No matters were raised.

18/01/016 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 5th December 2017. Proposed Cllr

18/01/017 Matters arising from the minutes
17/02/69 Village Christmas Tree Cllrs Neale & Banks had with the clerk placed the lights on the tree. The lights will be turned off by A. Muskett on Sat 6th Jan and will be removed during the following week. Cllr Banks will place a notice on the Marston Facebook page stating that anyone who wishes to retrieve their bauble(s) from the tree should do so asap. Any baubles left will be donated to Church End Lower School.
17/03/117 Millennium Floodlighting: A. Muskett will quote for a meter in the New Year.
17/04/167 Community Emergency Plan: Cllr Neale and parish clerk to collate a list of community buildings and contacts.
17/11/490 Grass-cutting contract 2018-2021: The clerk advised that she has a meeting scheduled at Central Bedfordshire Council for 11th January, where updated maps will be available together with the new Service Level Agreement.

18/01/018 Invoices for payment
A list of receipts and payments was circulated. **It was resolved** to approve the following invoices for payment

3CD Group	Jan edition diary delivery	£ 403.20
Copykatz	Dec edition of village diary	£ 192.00
Bedford Borough Council	Dec payroll	£ ** DD
Warners of Bedford	Grass cutting	£ 1,032.00
Hiscox Underwriting Ltd	Refund of unused sum following insurance claim	£ 100.00
Beds Rural Communities Charity	Neighbourhood Plan – Housing Needs Survey.	£ 2,690.58
Society of Local Council clerks	Membership renewal	£ 233.00
Assn of Local Council Clerks	Membership renewal	£ 30.00
FJ Beddoe	Litter Picking	£ 154.00

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

18/01/019 Play/Skate Park Areas

019.1 *Inspection reports*
Reports of inspections carried out by CPM Playgrounds on 15th December 2017 were duly accepted. No new matters had arisen.

019.2 Overhanging branches/vegetation – Footpath to Shelton Play area
Following a request for assistance from Shelton & Southill School Federation, members considered the costs for cutting back overhanging branches/vegetation along the footpath access to Shelton play area. The clerk had obtained a quotation of £80.00 + VAT from Warners of Bedford Ltd. Whilst the area was not the responsibility of the Parish Council, it was felt that the Parish Council did have a duty of care to those who used the play area and its access footpath. For this reason, **it was resolved** to undertake the work at a cost of £80.00 + VAT. It was agreed that in the future the Parish Council expected the school to fulfil its maintenance responsibilities.

18/01/020 Budget 2018/19

The clerk advised that Council tax referendum principles have not been extended to parish & town councils for 2018/19. The Secretary of State for Communities and Local Government, Sajid Javid MP announced that the government intends to defer the setting of referendum principles for town & parish councils for three years.

The draft budget incorporating all adjustments had been circulated to members prior to the meeting. In preparing the budget, members had been advised that the number of Band D properties in Marston Moreteyne for 2018/19 had increased from 2038 to 2168.
With no further amendments being made, **it was resolved** that the draft budget proposals be submitted to Full Council for consideration and approval.

18/01/021 Finance correspondence

No matters were raised.

There being no further business to transact, the meeting was closed at 9.06pm.