MARSHFIELD PARISH COUNCIL TUESDAY 21 JULY 2015

The Marshfield Parish Council held a meeting on Tuesday 21st July 2015 at Tolzey Hall at 7.15 p.m.

Cllrs present: Cllr T Albon-Crouch Cllr A Christie Cllr R Veitch Cllr S Flint

Cllr N Sweet Cllr K Wilkinson

+ approx. 16 members of public

Apologies: Cllr H Finnegan Cllr T Durnell

Confirmation of previous minutes

Proposed by Cllr Sweet, seconded by Cllr Christie, carried unanimously.

Items from the public

See under Local Housing Requirement

Matters arising

- a) Highway Matters With regard to the High Street widening project Chris Harris (South Glos.) is awaiting formal confirmation from the Grant team that funding is in place before instructing the Design team. Clerk has requested the Grant team to advise Highways accordingly. The George Lane sign still needs to be replaced. The Parish Council wishes to thank the person who kindly cleared the verge on the A420.
- b) Marshfield Outdoor Recreation Association –The under 9's and under 15's football teams received the Fair Play awards for Wiltshire
- c) Local Housing Requirement- Cllr Albon-Crouch gave an overview of the situation and reported on latest updates. Colerne Parish Council has been contacted and have said they will keep us informed of their affordable housing situation. They are awaiting a planning application for development on the airfield site. Luke Hall MP has been in touch with us and South Glos. Council. At our request, he has written to the Housing Minister for clarification on the government's Right to Buy policy. The Parish Council have secured a date (28 July) for a working meeting with developer First Step Homes to run through the many questions resulting from consultation. Following these updates several members of the public posed questions relating to the housing proposals and also offered alternative suggestions as to how a community housing scheme might be developed. These included a potential share scheme whereby existing houses were purchased by investors in the village and subsequently let or sold to qualifying people. Discussion ensued and Cllr Wilkinson confirmed the legal position that although the Parish Council is prohibited from building & developing houses, this was not a barrier to a community group doing so. Cllr Albon-Crouch welcomed proposals for a community approach but cautioned that it would depend on the long-term commitment of a volunteer group. Dawn Brooks gave details of her recent social media survey, showing a need for 27 properties. She has also undertaken some research & found at least 10 people in the village willing to get involved in a community led project.

Cllr Albon-Crouch thanked all attending for a positive and measured discussion on the housing issue. He stated that due to the holiday period there was unlikely to be any significant announcements or opportunity for debate at the next (4th August) meeting. He did however give his commitment that any key decisions would be made openly at public Parish Council meetings and that the very best endeavours would be made to ensure that no sudden surprises are landed on the community.

Planning

Planning applications-

- 127 High Street- Erection of single storey rear extension to form additional living accommodation with additional internal & external works (PK15/2927/LB & PK15/2926/F)

No Objection proposed by Cllr Sweet, seconded by Cllr Wilkinson, carried unanimously.

Planning approved: - 89 High Street- Demolition of existing rear extension to facilitate erection of rear garden room. Installation of roof lights to facilitate loft conversion. (PK15/2246/LB & PK15/2245/F)

Correspondence

Letter of thanks from Marshfield Toddler & Baby group for £50 grant. Planning Enforcement News June 2015

Finance

After the following transactions, balances are: C.A. £484.49 D.A. £84384.26 D.A. (14 day) £2209.94.

£115.16	Gas @ Pavilion
£351.43	Grass cutting @ Cemetery & Ponds
£2124.90	Grass cutting @ Withymead
£325.00	Grave Preparation
£29.00	Payroll Administration.
£122.70	Stationery
	£351.43 £2124.90 £325.00 £29.00

Cheque schedule proposed by Cllr Sweet, seconded by Cllr Wilkinson, carried unanimously.

The Audited Annual Return for the year ended 31st March 2015 has been received from Grant Thornton with no comments.

£400 has been received from South Gloucestershire for the inconvenience caused by Filming of 'Golden Years' in the village.

District Councillor Feedback

Nothing to report

Matters for Discussion

The recent electricity problems have been caused by overhanging branches at Tracey Park touching the cables and it is being dealt with.

The web site needs to be reviewed and a meeting will be set up with Hugh Swan.

Cllr Albon-Crouch gave his apologies for the next meeting.

Date of Next Meeting – Tuesday 4th August 2015 (Please note that given that it is the school holiday period, there is unlikely to be a full complement of councillors at this meeting and therefore limited opportunity for discussion of housing issues).

Meeting closed at 8.10 pm