Markyate Parish Council

MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF MARKYATE PARISH COUNCIL

Tuesday 3 December 2024 at 7.30pm

Present: Cllr P Bunyan (Chair), Cllr R Peterson (Vice-chair), Cllr H Chapman, Cllr S Hakki, Cllr M McCann, Cllr S Pilkinton, Cllr H Renvoize.

In attendance: Mrs V Tilley (Clerk), B/Cllr J Timmis, B/Cllr E Barradell, PCSO Peira, PCSO Cook.

154/24 Apologies

Cllr K Johnson, Cllr C Ononye, County Cllr T Douris

155/24 Declarations of interest.

None

156/24 Minutes of last meeting

To confirm the Minutes of the Meeting of Markyate Parish Council held on Tuesday 5th November 2024 as an accurate record of proceedings.
Resolved, proposed by Cllr S Pilkinton, seconded by Cllr R Peterson that these minutes be agreed as a true and accurate record of the proceedings and be duly signed by the Chairman. Unanimously agreed.

157/24 Public Questions

PCSOs Peira and Cook reported that PCSO Peira became the Watling Officer 2 months ago and has been patrolling, getting to know the area, intelligence gathering etc. They have been forming a relationship with the management of Holiday Inn and have begun educating residents on behaviour and road safety, work continuing. Drug use and dealing will be an area of focus. In January PC Sanderson will become the PC for the area as well, working closely with PCSO Peira.

158/24 County Councillor Report

None

159/24 Borough Councillor Report

B/Cllr Timmis encouraged everyone to respond to the Local Plan consultation. Parking charges are going up in Dacorum, B/Cllr Barradell informed the meeting St Albans and Harpenden are also introducing or increasing parking charges. No charges at Hicks Rd car park. Green bin collections have finished for the winter. Secretary of State decision on Luton Airport expansion is now expected in January.

137/24 Planning decisions:

1	**24/01976/LBC and 24/01975/FHA**	**Replace existing single glazed sash windows with replica sash windows, replace stormproof casement windows with double glazed flush casement windows and replace fascia with hardwood timber to match existing.**	**9 Albert Street**	**Granted**

2	APP/A1910/D/24/3347160	Single storey rear extension	Lower Farm End, Luton Road	Appeal Dismissed
3	**24/02125/LBC**	**Removal of external paint covering to facade brickwork. Redecorate using Keim breathable mineral paint.**	**101 High Street**	**Granted**
4	24/01727/FUL	Replacement stable block	Willow Tree Farm, Pipers Lane	Refused

161/24 Planning applications:

1	**Lower Farm Luton Road**	**Swing Board sign**	**24/02592/ADV**	**Object – current enforcement case as no permission for change of use to business.**
2	Land Rear Of Gooseacre, Buckwood Road	Details required by Condition 4 (Landscaping) attached to planning permission 4/01283/19/FUL.	24/02617/DRC	For information only

162/24 Planning applications in last 6 days

None

163/24 Bank reconciliation

The bank reconciliation for November 2024 was received and signed by the Chair.

164/24 Accounts for payment

To authorise the signing of cheques for payment and the signing of the Accounts schedule.
Resolved, proposed by Cllr M McCann, seconded Cllr S Pilkinton to approve these payments. Unanimously agreed.
The schedule of accounts listed the balances of the Parish Council's accounts as follows:
As at 30th November 2024

MPC Current Account	£ 17,096.05
HSBC [Precept Account]	£ 9,218.23
MPC Investment [NS&I]	£ 66,622.48
Petty Cash	£ 153.25
TOTAL	£ 93,090.01

Schedule of Monthly Payments – please see attached document.

165/24 Draft Local Plan consultation response

The parish council's objections to the development of 150 dwellings are all related to the lack of infrastructure: waste water, school places, volumes of traffic, the proposed access bridge, poor public transport leading to high private vehicle ownership. Also noted is the recent announcement of Vauxhall's closure of the Luton plant and associated loss of jobs. Representations must address whether the policy/paragraph etc is legally compliant, sound, and complies with duty to co-operate.
ACTION: Clerk

166/24 SLCC membership

It was proposed by Cllr R Peterson, seconded by Cllr S Pilkinton and unanimously **agreed** to renew the Clerk's membership of SLCC at £240 for the year 2025. **ACTION: Clerk/FO**

167/24 Updated Financial Regulations

It was proposed by Cllr M McCann, seconded by Cllr S Hakki and unanimously **agreed** to adopt the updated Financial Regulations without amendment.

168/24 Budget and Finance Minutes

The draft minutes of the Budget and Finance Committee meeting held on 12th November 2024 were received and noted. To be formally approved at the next B&F committee meeting.

169/24 Budget 2025/26

It was proposed by Cllr R Peterson, seconded by Cllr H Renvoize and unanimously **agreed** to approve the proposed budget for 2025/26. **ACTION: FO/Clerk**

170/24 A5183 safety consultation

It was felt that signalled pedestrian crossings at Hicks Road and High Street are not necessary as the footbridge and underpass already allow crossing. Support London Rd/A5183 junction, signals will allow traffic to exit onto A5183, not just be pedestrian controlled, to alleviate traffic queues towards village centre in rush hours. Roundabout at M1 Jnct 9 is already busy, forcing Chequers Hill and truck stop traffic to use it to turn then travel north questionable. Support informal crossing at Holiday Inn/Gym.

171/24 Bags of Kindness

SH to contact warden at Sursham Court for nominations of suitable recipients.

172/24 Tree Survey at Peggy's Field

It was proposed by Cllr M McCann, seconded by Cllr R Peterson and unanimously **agreed** to gather quotes to have the High Priority work (5 trees) and G4 area (south east corner) carried out as recommended in the report. **ACTION: Clerk**

173/24 Grants from Dacorum

It was noted that the concurrent services grant will be maintained at £7,442.71, and the warden grant maintained at £12,138.91 for the year 2025/26.

Clerk's Report

Scrub clearance at Peggy's has been completed, as well as the hedge cutting in the new cemetery. Work on the central path in the cemetery has finished, and the ramp from village hall car park to footpath 13 giving step free access from car park to cemetery. The metalwork has been removed from the war memorial for mending at the forge, expected to complete work mid-January. Christmas tree was delivered from Hillier, and beautifully decorated by cllrs Bunyan and Hakki with help from fire fighters. Anonymous complaint about out of date posters, post in Facebook group reminding to remove after events. Warden will remove out of date if finds in course of duties. Final unit of CiLCA submitted.

There being no other business the meeting closed at 21.10pm.
Next meeting: 7th January 2025

Signed: _____ Dated: _____

Markyate Parish Council
General Ledger
November 2024

	Date	No.	Name	Memo/Description	Amount
HSBC - Precept Account					
	Beginning Balance				
Total for HSBC - Precept Account					
MPC Current a/c					
	Beginning Balance				
	05/11/2024		Sarah Farr		250.00
	06/11/2024	bt	Hertfordshire County Council (1)	Stationery & cleaning materials	-330.26
	06/11/2024		Rising Stars		3,368.50
	06/11/2024	dd	Dacorum Borough Council (1)	Garage rental	-70.07
	06/11/2024	bt	Minster Cleaning Services	Cleaning contractor	-1,084.79
	06/11/2024		Linda Kevin		93.40
	06/11/2024		Kudakwashe Marimbe		325.80
	15/11/2024	dd	Jam Crackers Ltd	IT Support	-46.46
	19/11/2024	dd	Bright HR	HR Contractor	-50.40
	19/11/2024		Alex Johnston		6.00
	19/11/2024	dd	Intuit Ltd	IT Support	-55.08
	19/11/2024		Chrissie Hiller		217.19
	19/11/2024		Victoria Horsnall		486.00
	19/11/2024		Samantha Carter		92.25
	19/11/2024	dd	EDF Energy	Electricity Nov	-1,732.09
	19/11/2024		Tom Stonelake		637.00
	19/11/2024		Templar Martial Arts		82.20
	21/11/2024		Corinne Schurink		135.15
	21/11/2024		Samantha Carter		123.00
	23/11/2024	dd	HSBC UK	Bank charges	-9.00
	25/11/2024		Flexercise		50.00
	25/11/2024		Kudakwashe Marimbe		271.50
	25/11/2024	bt	Hillier Garden Centres	Christmas tree	-350.00
	26/11/2024		Jane Angel		235.50
	26/11/2024	bt	Alex Johnston	Deposit refund	-56.00
	26/11/2024	bt	Neil Shadbolt Tree Surgery Ltd	Clearance of footpath and brambles at Peggies Field	-960.00
	26/11/2024	bt	Village Garden Services	Warden & Grass cutting	-2,333.84
	26/11/2024		Jayne Simmonds		20.55
	26/11/2024		Jane Angel		40.65
	28/11/2024		Alys Ettenfield		100.00
	28/11/2024	dd	Intuit Ltd	IT Support	-55.08
	29/11/2024		Josie Reeder	Deposit refund	-50.00
	29/11/2024	bt	Firelec Controls Ltd	Fire extinguisher service	-124.80

	29/11/2024	bt	LGPS Hertfordshire CC	Pension Nov	-1,450.60
	29/11/2024	bt	Neil Shadbolt Tree Surgery Ltd	Cemetery Tree and Shrub clearance	-840.00
	30/11/2024	bt	HM Revenue & Customs(Payroll)	Tax & NI Nov	-1,521.26
	30/11/2024	bt	Firelec Controls Ltd	Firelec alarm service	-136.80
	30/11/2024		Staff	Payroll Nov	-4,066.07
	30/11/2024		Linda Kevin		46.70
					-£ 8,741.21
Total for MPC Current a/c					
MPC NS & I Investment a/c	Beginning Balance				
Total for MPC NS & I Investment a/c					
MPC Petty cash	Beginning Balance				
	12/11/2024	509	Dunstable Discounts Ltd		-10.22
	26/11/2024	512	Vicki Tilley		-9.20
	26/11/2024	508	Dunstable Lock and Safe		-6.00
	26/11/2024	507	The Range		-72.88
	26/11/2024		Mothers & Toddlers Group		196.41
	26/11/2024	513	Post Office		-10.10
	26/11/2024	511	Dunstable Discounts Ltd		-2.99
	26/11/2024	510	Dunstable Lock and Safe		-9.00
	29/11/2024	515	Eurotrade (w) Ltd		-13.59
	29/11/2024	514	amazon uk		-10.98
					£ 51.45
Total for MPC Petty cash					