**1557/JANUARY/2025**

**MINUTES OF ST. MARY IN THE MARSH PARISH COUNCIL**

**THURSDAY 9th JANUARY, 2025, at the Village Hall, at 7.00pm.**

**PRESENT: Cllr. G. Allison, Chairman**

 **Cllr. M. Wilson, Vice Chairman**

**Cllr. H. Carr**

**Cllr. T. Cooper**

**Cllr. D. Evans**

**Cllr. D. Suckling**

 **Cllr. A. Weatherhead**

 **FHDC Cllr. Tony Hills**

Paula Stephens, Clerk to the Parish Council (Minutes)

PC Putland, our Neighbourhood Beat Officer, attended following an invitation from the STMMPC to discuss parishioners concerns regarding various issues including speeding and anti-social behaviour.

The discussion was constructive for both parties and all agreed that lines of communication must remain open between the Parish Council and the Police to enable appropriate action to be taken where necessary.

Finished at: 8pm

**APOLOGIES:**

None.

**Cllr. Allison (Chairman) welcomed Cllr. Doug Suckling to the Parish Council.**

**APPROVE MINUTES OF THE MEETING HELD ON 7TH DECEMBER 2024**

Proposed by Cllr. Evans, seconded by Cllr. Weatherhead, that the minutes be approved. All agreed & Minutes signed.

**RECEIVE ANY DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST:**

Cllr. Allison is council representative on the Village Hall Management Committee and declared interest in items referring to the Village Hall.

Cllr. Carr is Chair of St. Mary in the Marsh Project Fund.

Cllr. Cooper is a Trustee of the Village Hall and is a member of FHDC Planning Committee.

**MATTERS ARISING FROM PREVIOUS MINUTES:**

None.

**CONSIDER CORRESPONDENCE:**

**FHDC:**

Press releases and newsletters have been forwarded to Councillors as received. No issues arising.

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**KENT COUNTY COUNCIL:**

KCC Cllr. Tony Hills delivered his Report for January; copy has been forwarded to Councillors separately.

**CONSIDER PLANNING APPLICATIONS:**

**24/1908/FH** Lawful Development Certificate (existing) for 10 glamping pods.

Marlie Farm Holiday Park **No objections raised.**

Dymchurch Road

TN28 8UE

**24/1929/FH/PA** Determination as to whether prior approval is required – conversion

Wallingham & change of use of two agricultural barns into two (Class C3)

Hope Lane dwellinghouses.

TN28 8TP **No objections raised.**

**Planning Matters In The Parish:**

**MATTERS RELATING TO PLAYING FIELD, GLEBE LAND, 7-ACRE FIELD:**

Clerk advised that, having investigated the process & ramifications for achieving Green (Open) Space Designation, it would not be advisable to pursue this option. All control is passed to local authority and there is no option to overturn/reverse. All agreed that this would not be an appropriate option to pursue.

Cllr. Carr advised that the Church Warden had approached her regarding the issue of dog waste on the field (7-Acre Field) and the churchyard. There are two general waste bins and neither are being used. It was agreed that the Clerk will email PC Putland to report it as Anti-Social Behaviour in the hope that he can take appropriate action.

**MEADSWAY PLAYGROUND:**

The Parish Council wish to bring the playground back to use; one option is to transfer the land over to the PC who can then apply for a grant. Cllr. Cooper asked the PC if we can agree to go back to the District Council and ask what costs will be incurred so that we can look at funding options. All agreed (with the exception of Cllr. Evans) that we should approach District Council. If appropriate, a Community Referendum is a possibility. Clerk to contact Andy Blaszkowicz at DC to request information.

**MATTERS RELATING TO THE SLIPWAY, SEAWALL AND FORESHORE:**

Nothing to report.

**FINANCE:**

Statement of accounts forwarded prior to the meeting.

Payment of accounts: Proposed by Cllr. Wilson, seconded by Cllr. Evans. All agreed that the monthly accounts be accepted for payment.

Current a/c balance: £ 41,611

Business a/c balance: £ 45,663

Cllr. Wilson raised a query regarding the payment to EDF for the Kiosk at High Knocke Car Park as it is believed that the supply has been disconnected due to damage. Clerk agreed to investigate the situation.

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**CHAIRMAN’S REPORT:**

Installation of solar panels on the Village Hall has commenced.

Lunch Club - A Summer BBQ is to be held using the excess profit from the Christmas Lunch. A Parish Council Support Scheme Grant of up to £1k is to be applied for to boost this popular club.

**DISTRICT COUNCILLORS REPORT:**

District Cllr. Cooper delivered his report for January 2025 (distributed to Cllrs.)

**KENT COUNTY COUNCIL:**

KCC Cllr. Tony Hills delivered his report for January 2025; copy has been forwarded to Cllrs.

**VILLAGE BEACON:**

PS and GS have been chasing – nothing received so unable to provide any update. Cllr. Wilson agreed to visit the Forge to chase up.

**COUNCILLOR REPORTS:**

Nothing to report.

**ANY OTHER BUSINESS:**

Star Inn Cottage - Clerk has investigated the possibility of applying for a Blue Plaque on behalf of Mark Higgins. Applications are closed at the moment but will reopen within the next few weeks so will progress accordingly.

Meeting closed at: 8.45pm

Signed: Date: