

**Minutes of Marton-cum-Grafton Parish Council held in the Memorial Hall, Marton on
Thursday 2 January 2020 at 7.30 pm**

Present: Mr R Shepherd (RS) Chair; Mr P Gill (PG) Vice Chair; Mr T Cole (TC); Mr A Robinson (AR); County Cllr R Windass (RW); District Cllr A Myatt (AM); Mrs E Gill (EG) Clerk

Apologies: Mrs C Sanderson-Lewis

Members of the Public Present: 6

Declarations of Interest: None

The minutes of the meeting held on Tuesday 3 December 2019 were signed and dated as a true and accurate record by RS.

County Issues: RW acknowledged the recent Government commitment to extra funding for Adult Social Care but noted there would still be a shortfall to address. NYCC budget discussions are in progress and he welcomed the Parish Council's input.

District Issues: AM wished to correct a previous statement in that she would now be unable to call-in a decision (on the sports pavilion) to the Planning Committee. It transpires that in order to call-in a planning application to committee the intention to do so needs to be announced at the start of the planning process. Hence there is a requirement for contentious planning issues to be identified at the start of the process.

Matters Arising:

1. Playing Fields – The planning officer dealing with the application for the new sports pavilion has now left the council and the case is waiting to be reassigned. However Sport England, in consultation with HBC, have agreed to retract their holding objection to the proposal. This is a positive move and removes the main obstacle to gaining planning permission.
2. Village Shop – The new rental agreement is in place.
3. Village Hall – Redecoration work has been carried out in the village hall and the internal walls have been repainted (lower levels). Please note that bookings for the hall will be handled by Jenny Lewis from mid-January onwards.
4. Planning

Decision Notifications

a) 19/04404/FUL – Land West of The Barn, Grafton Manor, Limebar Lane.
Erection of one new dwelling and garage with associated access and hard/soft landscaping. Planning permission has been REFUSED.

b) 6.71.193.B.PNG 19/04580/PNG – Grafton Grange Limebar Lane
Prior notification of conversion of agricultural building to flexible use (Use classes B1 and B8).
Planning permission has been Approved subject to conditions.

Accounts:

Recent transactions:

Out:

Date	Item	Total £
15/11/2019	Clerks Expenses	£107.36
19/11/2019	HBC Annual Safety Inspection Play Area	£132.00
20/11/2019	Parish Online Subscription	£42.00
27/11/2019	Clerks Salary (November)	£130.00
10/12/2019	KC Hire (portaloo)	£404.40
10/12/2019	P Gill - sign for playground	£17.88
13/12/2019	Dalton Enterprises (mowing)	£500.00
14/12/2019	Thomas Clapham (moles)	£100.00
14/12/2019	Dalton Enterprises (mowing)	£140.00
	Total out	£1,573.64

In:

Date	Item	Total £
17/11/2019	Shop Rent (Qtr 4)	£1,200.00
29/11/2019	HMRC VAT repay	£22.49
	Total received	£1,222.49

Current account balance at 14 December: **£26,002.46**

Deposit account balance at 14 December 2019: **£23,696.21**

Payments to be authorised:

Virus Software due on 28 January £30.00

Correspondence:

No correspondence was tabled.

Any Other Business:

- Concern was raised by a resident as to the lack of renewable energy adoption within the new village development sites, particularly in respect to solar and ground/air source heat systems, this appears contrary to HBC's own renewables policy.

The Meeting was then opened to the public:

- No comments from the public.

The meeting closed at 7.50 pm.

Date of Next Meeting: Monday 10th February 2020 at 7.30 pm in the Memorial Hall, Marton.

Signed:

Dated:

**Minutes of Marton-cum-Grafton Parish Council held in the Memorial Hall, Marton on
Monday 10 February 2020 at 7.30 pm**

Present: Mr R Shepherd (RS) Chair; Mr P Gill (PG) Vice Chair; Mr T Cole (TC); Mr A Robinson (AR); Mrs C Sanderson-Lewis (CS-L); County Cllr R Windass (RW); District Cllr A Myatt (AM); Mrs E Gill (EG) Clerk

Apologies: None

Members of the Public Present: 6

Declarations of Interest: None

The minutes of the meeting held on 2 January 2020 were signed and dated as a true and accurate record by RS.

County Issues: RW reported on the progress of setting the NYCC budget where Heads of Department have been challenged to save £19M. Adult Social Care, and Children & Young Peoples needs are a large proportion of the budget. Whilst £9m has been granted by Government towards this in 2019 the risk remains it is a one off payment and funding for care will remain an ongoing issue. In other cost cutting measures mileage allowances for school transport are being offered to parents in more remote areas as a cheaper alternative to the use of buses and taxis. However Council Tax will increased by 1.99% in 2020/21, this being the maximum permissible increase before a referendum is required. It was also noted that the Highways office have been extremely busy following this weekends storm.

TC thanked Highways for their swift action in removing a fallen tree blocking the road in Grafton and also for filling potholes in Marton within 5 working days of being reported. Residents were also reminded that pot holes can be reported directly to North Yorkshire County Council using their Report Online facility. Following the success of the recent Harrogate Borough Council forum RW was asked if there was an opportunity for an open forum at County level for Parishes to attend in order to have queries answered and strategy explained; RW to respond to March meeting. TC also enquired regarding the cost to the taxpayer of the council run care home in Boroughbridge as compared to the equivalent private care home facilities; RW to investigate.

District Issues: AM reported that the Local Plan has now been agreed and this includes a new settlement of 3,000 houses at the Hammertons. The potential major development at Flaxby is still being proposed but this is not included in the Local Plan.

HBC have contacted McG Parish Council to enquire about the possibility of a merger with Upper and Lower Dunsforths in order to create one large parish council. The Chairman of the Dunsforth Parish Meeting is stepping down in May and no one in their parish is yet willing to take on the role. HBC have therefore suggested an option to merge the two parishes. After debate it was agreed the Dunsforths should be encouraged to put more effort into replacing their own Councillors. The McG Councillors do not feel inclined to act on behalf of an area which is unfamiliar to them, with little perceived benefit to McG Parish and the additional burden of administrative work notwithstanding the potential complications presented within a flood risk zone. Chairman to respond to HBC to this effect (copy to AM).

Matters Arising:

1. Playing Fields
 - a) Sports Pavilion Update – Planning permission has now been granted by HBC. Contact has been made with the bodies offering grant funding and this is now in coming, Rory Cunningham

is managing the project and pushing it forward. A contractor is in the process of agreeing to the build with a possible start date towards the end of February. A portaloos may be required earlier this year as the project will not be finished before the start of the Cricket season in late April.

- b) The activities within the woodlands out-door classroom was discussed following a complaint by a resident in respect to the lighting of fires within the fire-pit area. The concerns included unsupervised use, the risk of fire spreading into the wood, climate change, encouraging antisocial behaviour, the lack of first aid and any provision for extinguishing fire. RS assured the meeting the schools Friday morning use of this facility is very well supervised, he acknowledged that teenagers, parents and children benefit from this facility and considers it is currently being used in a sensible manner. The other councillors agreed with this statement but it was also agreed to notify our insurers as to the use of the fire pit, the main stipulation being it's use be within an educational context. A letter of authority will be sent to the school to make clear the Parish Councils expectations as to the use of the woodland classroom area and in particular the safety and supervision of any future fires. Use of the area will continue to be monitored.

2. Village Shop – nothing to update.

3. Village Hall – The Annual Financial Statement had been presented to the Councillors by PG and was accepted. The Village Hall Committee require more members, contact PG if interested – it is not an onerous task. The old maps found in the archives have now been framed and are ready to be put up in the hall.

4. Planning

Decision Notifications

- a) 6.71.72A.FUL 19/04560/FUL – Limebar House, Limebar Lane, Marton cum Grafton
Partial demolition of existing dwelling, erection of 1 no. single storey extension, 1 no. single storey infill extension and 1 no. two storey extension with formation of second storey and alteration to fenestration. This application has been withdrawn.
- b) 6.71.206.A.FUL 19/04144/FUL - Marton Cum Grafton Cricket Club
Replacement of existing pavilion. Approved.

Enforcement

- c) 17/01757/FUL – Land comprising OS Field 1040 Stockfield Lane.
Alleged breach of chimney not in accordance with the approved plans.

5. Renewal of Garage Lease

The resident of 2 Priest Cottage summarized the history of his garage lease which runs out in January 2021. He stated that he would be keen to take another 21 year lease and would pay for the cost of having the lease drawn up. Rent reviews had been omitted from the current lease and TL agreed that the new lease should include rent reviews. The Parish Council agreed to this but did not agree a new rent as this will be agreed nearer to January 2021.

- TC reported that Section 106 money from The Orchards is now available for the village to draw on and encouraged residents to come forward with ideas of projects needing funding. He confirmed that the money would be available for a 10 year period. Potential opportunities include picnic benches at the tennis courts, water supply to the church, repair of water supply to sports pavilion, and possible purchase of mowing equipment. Any residents with ideas for investment of the money would be welcomed by TC.
- Possible use the Section 106 money to task developers of Yew Tree Farm to build a lawnmower hut on land which is to be gifted to village. (TC).
- Pheasant pens - It was noted that a planning application has not been submitted in connection with the pheasant pens on Priestcarr Lane. It was agreed the Clerk should contact Enforcement regarding this before the spring breeding season starts.
- The footpath down Church Lane is almost invisible with vegetation. Clerk to ask Highways to open it up.

The Meeting was then opened to the public:

- Reported flooding in Church Lane around 6" deep, almost into one property. Clerk to contact Highways to request drains be cleaned out.
- The footpath in Marton behind the leaning tree is in need of repair as the surface has degraded. Clerk to report it.

The meeting closed at 8.40 pm.

Date of Next Meeting: Thursday 5th March 2020 at 7.30 pm in the Memorial Hall, Marton.

Signed:

Dated:

**Minutes of Marton-cum-Grafton Parish Council held in the Memorial Hall, Marton on
Thursday 5th March 2020 at 7.30 pm**

Present: Mr R Shepherd (RS) Chair; Mr P Gill (PG) Vice Chair; Mr T Cole (TC); Mr A Robinson (AR); Mrs E Gill (EG) Clerk

- 1. Apologies for Absence:** Mrs C Sanderson-Lewis (CS-L)
- 2. Members of the Public Present:** 1
- 3. Declarations of Interest:** None
- 4. Minutes.** The minutes of the meeting held on Monday 10 February 2020 were signed and dated as a true and accurate record by RS.
- 5. County Issues:** None.
- 6. District Issues:** None.
- 7. Playing Fields:**

Sports Pavilion Rebuild – Three quotation for the rebuild of the pavilion have been obtained. It was agreed to award the contract to Chris Stephenson of Grafton which is £75,000 plus VAT, which was also the most competitively price. Grant monies from various sources have been found to pay for all this work and VAT will be recovered. The payment structure was discussed and agreed that payments will be made at scheduled phases of completed works. The first payment of £22,800 (inc VAT) was agreed immediately. HBC Building Control will inspect the building after the initial structure is completed which will cost £300 plus VAT. It was reported that the existing building has already been demolished.
- 8. Village Shop:** noting to report.
- 9. Village Hall:**

Draft excluders have been installed on the doors and a recent fly infestation has been dealt with. More volunteers are still required to join the committee, if interested see PG.
- 10. Planning:**
 - a) 18/00335/FULMAJ - Land adjacent to Yew Tree Farm, Marton-cum-Grafton.
Erection of 20 dwellings, including the part demolition and part conversion of existing outbuildings, public open space and landscaping. HBC have resolved to GRANT planning permission.
 - b) Update on Pheasant Sheds – to date no response has been received from HBC.
 - c) New Build on Stockfield Lane - TC acknowledged some residents had queried the slow progress of the house on Stockfield Lane and informed the meeting that the Local Authority has to allow a “sufficient amount of time” for any development before it can act. TC didn’t believe that this point had been reached.

- b) HBC are running a Bulb/wildflower scheme. It was agreed to ask for an allocation of Bluebells to plant in the woodland.
- c) Wetherby Lions Club have notified the PC of the Great Yorkshire Bike Ride which will take place on 13 June 2020 with approximately 2,000 cyclists passing through the village.

Any Other Business:

- TC reported a very positive meeting with the Managing Director of Mulgrave Properties to discuss the condition of verges around The Copse development. Mulgrave have agreed to rectify any damage that their construction traffic has made before they leave the site. It was noted that Yorkshire Water have also caused damage to the verge opposite The Copse during an unrelated attempt to repair a leaking water main. The flow of water draining on to Low Garth property will be rectified once the new barriers can be taken down in April which point drainage can be installed.
- Church Lane pavement – excess vegetation on the pavement beyond the church has been reported to Highways and asked to be cleared.
- Flooding on the corner of Braimber Lane / Grafton Lane to be reported to Highways. EG

The meeting closed at 8.25 pm.

Date of Next Meeting: Thursday 2 April 2020 at 7.30 pm in the Memorial Hall, Marton.

Signed:

Dated:

**Minutes of Marton-cum-Grafton Parish Council held as an “On-Line” Meeting
on Thursday 2nd April 2020 at 7.30 pm**

Present: Mr R Shepherd (RS) Chair; Mr P Gill (PG) Vice Chair; Mr T Cole (TC); Mr A Robinson (AR); Mrs C Sanderson-Lewis (CS-L); County Cllr Robert Windass (RW); District Cllr Ann Myatt (AM); Mrs E Gill (EG) Clerk

1. **Apologies for Absence:** None
2. **Members of the Public Present:** 12
3. **Declarations of Interest:** None
4. **Minutes.** It was noted that the minutes of the meeting held on Thursday 5th March 2020 should have recorded a declaration of interest from TC with regard to 10 c) New Build on Stockfield Lane. With this exception the minutes were signed and dated as accurate record by RS.
5. **County Issues:** RW reported that Government support of £11M has been offered in respect to Coronavirus and the recruiting of more staff to assist with the pandemic is underway. Springfield Garth in Boroughbridge is being prepared as a temporary (30 bed) hospital with the remaining (4) residents moving to other care homes in the locality. RW noted that the County remains frugal with money where possible but are spending all that is needed with regard the pandemic.

Annual road resurfacing will go ahead as usual but social distancing will remain in force for staff throughout. Planning for the new motorway services at Kirkby Hill which HBC turned down is being appealed by Applegreen the developer.

6. **District Issues:** AM reported that HBC had been unable to adhere to the green garden waste collection service because of the extra demand on household waste service. HBC have said they will collect extra bags of garden waste (preferably not tied up) placed next to bins when they get back on schedule.

HBC are investigating how planning decisions can be taken without holding committee meetings. The council have a legal obligation to determine planning within the usual timescales and have asked developers (Oakgate, CEG and Flaxby developments) for more time. 4th April is the last date for comments on Great Hammerton. It was noted that the developer has made provision for only 2 primary schools in the design and no facilities for senior school, doctors surgery or shops. The Draft Local Plan is 3 weeks from adoption.

7. **Playing Fields:**

Sports Pavilion Rebuild – Rory Cunningham (RC) reported that the rebuild continues with no more than 2 people on site at any one time. The roof is to go on in next few weeks, with doors and windows in the week after. It was noted that it is already aesthetically a vast improvement on the previous building. RC confirmed he had no undue concerns on the funding continuing. It is hoped that by the end of May the project will be completed. The possibility of an opening event was raised in June/July maybe village sports day but that will depend on Covid-19 restrictions being lifted.

Rory Cunningham (RC) also raised the possibility of getting grant funding to pay for an out-door table tennis, RC agreed to look into this and report back to the Parish Council.

RS confirmed that following problems of youths from potentially out of the village lighting fires in the woodland area an email had been sent to residents in the village banning fires in the woodland area. Residents have been asked to be vigilant.

8. **Village Shop:** - The shop has been extremely busy with more residents choosing to shop there. This has caused issues for staff health and safety and placed restrictions on their ability to complete advanced orders. It was noted that the shop has reduced it's opening hours from 8.00am to 1.30 pm daily in order to complete orders in the afternoon. HT is encouraging everyone to be as organised as possible and not to visit the shop on multiple occasions, in line with Government advice.
9. **Village Hall:** - The Hall is closed for bookings but is being used for extra storage for the shop.
10. **Planning:**

Decision Notifications

- a) 6.71.202.A.DVCON 20/01033/DVCMAJ – Land comprising field at 441716 462728 (Yew Tree Farm). Proposal: variation of condition 2 of Application Ref 18/00335/FULMAJ to allow for the consideration of revised plans. Demolish one barn (F) and parking amended. Principal to switch the plots deemed a good idea, key barns retained, two affordable houses relocated to barn site, a larger property with better views. Agreed to go back to them to find what the boundary treatments (ie walls/fences) are to be TC to follow up.
- b) 6.71.195.A.FUL 20/00957/FUL – Wheatlands, Marton-cum-Grafton. Demolition of front porch and erection of two-storey front extension. It was agreed to ratify the decision of “no objections” taken by councillors on 28 March 2020.

Enforcement

- c) 20/00123/PR15 – Land comprising field at 441438 462610 (The Copse) Marton-cum-Grafton. Alleged breach of condition 8 (dirt egress prevention) re planning ref 19/00718/DISCON. TC has emailed Area 6 on condition of the road and what needs to be reinstated at the end of the development.
- d) Update on Pheasant Sheds – HBC have confirmed that Planning Permission is required for the sheds as the breeding of game birds is not considered agricultural. They agreed that a rural location would be the only suitable option for this venture however as no application has been submitted, the Planning Department are of the opinion that left as it is the venture is uncontrolled with no conditions to limit intensity and to mitigate negative impacts hence an Enforcement Notice is justified.

11. Financial Matters:

Out:

Date	Item	Total £
18/02/2020	Clean & Tidy - Village Hall cleaning	£52.50
18/02/2020	Clean & Tidy - Village Hall cleaning	£52.50
25/02/2020	Clerks Salary (February)	£117.00
02/03/2020	HMRC VAT	£13.41
10/03/2020	Chris Stephenson Building - Pavilion	£22,800.00
12/03/2020	EMW & RW Shepherd - garlic bulbs	£198.99
12/03/2020	HBC - Planning Services	£58.00
	Total out	£23292.40

In:

Date	Item	Total £
15/02/2020	Marton Memorial Hall - Clean & Tidy	£87.50
14/03/2020	Transfer from Savings Account	£600.00
	Total received	£687.50

Current account balance at 14 March: **£13,356.68**

Deposit account balance at 14 March: **£23,108.04** **£3.77 interest**

Payments to be authorised:

YLCA Membership	£208.00
Clerk's Expenses (printer ink)	£36.37
J C Trees Ltd – removal of tree in woodland area	£451.20
Total:	£695.57

The tree removal was necessary as it was leaning heavily and threatened to collapse upon the new pavilion structure. Additional cost was incurred as a cherry picker was required to perform the operation.

Correspondence:

- a) Brierley Homes have sent an update on the status of Yew Tree Farm development. They confirmed that planning consent has been secured. They have identified a construction partner and are currently making minor amendments to the plans and anticipate being on site in late summer of the year – business interruptions permitting!
- b) PFK Littlejohn (auditors) have written to inform the PC that the AGAR return is on hold because of coronavirus.
- c) A resident had raised concerns regarding the flow of surface water drainage going into the new settlement pond and it was confirmed that this is working in accordance with the planning permission. It was noted that damage to the verges caused by heavy site

traffic needs to be repaired, TC confirmed that Mulgrave will repair damage to The Copse side of the road as part of the planning. Mulgrave consider damage to the other side of the road is due to recent Yorkshire Water works. TC agreed to contact Area 6 to obtain a copy of the road report prior to development to see if Mulgrave are liable for repairs to the other side of the road as well. Agreed that an ideal solution would be to line the verges with the granite sets as per the centre of Marton.

Any Other Business:

- a) The Helms Charity are actively offering support to any individuals or families having to self isolate during the coronavirus outbreak. They have enlisted 30 volunteers in the village to shop, cook, befriend or collect prescriptions. So far there has not been much up-take but it may get busier as the epidemic advances. They are working alongside Boroughbridge Community Care and are grateful to all the volunteers who have come forward.
- b) It was commented that the recently planted daffodils in the village are looking very attractive. It was agreed to look into the possibility of increasing the variety of flowers on village land and possibly plant some trees for blossom. A sponsor has already come forward.
- c) An acrid bonfire in Grafton recently prompted complaints from several residents. It was noted that it is not illegal to have a bonfire but if it becomes a nuisance it should be reported to Environmental Health.
- d) It was noted that there is damage to verges throughout the village. Suggested that a full inventory of damaged verges could be made as money for repair is available from S106 Agreement funds of approximately £9K.
- e) An enquiry was raised as to whether access to the Yew Tree Farm development, once it starts, could be made from Braimber (Back) Lane to help keep traffic out of the village. TC agreed to raise it with the Director of Brierley Homes.
- f) 7 telegraph poles have been installed around The Copse to bring deliver fibre broadband. Agreed we would make some enquiries as to why this service is not subterranean.
- g) Lighting bollards have been installed on The Copse which are not in accordance with planning permission. CS-L to contact Ecology Dept to see if they can be removed on ecological grounds.

The meeting was briefly adjourned at 8pm to allow participants to join in the nationwide 'clap for carers' and closed at 8.55 pm.

Date of Next Meeting: Thursday 7th May 2020 at 7.30 pm – venue to be confirmed.

Signed:

Dated:

Minutes of Marton-cum-Grafton Parish Council held as an “On-Line” Meeting on Thursday 7th May 2020 at 7.30 pm

Present: Mr R Shepherd (RS) Chair; Mr P Gill (PG) Vice Chair; Mr T Cole (TC); Mr A Robinson (AR); Mrs C Sanderson-Lewis (CS-L); District Cllr Ann Myatt (AM); Mrs E Gill (EG) Clerk

- 1. Apologies for Absence:** None

Members of the Public Present: 10

- 2. Declarations of Interest:** TC declared an interest relating to Stockfield Manor, Stockfield Lane.
- 3. Minutes.** The minutes of the meeting held on Thursday 2nd April 2020 were signed and dated by RS.
- 4. County Issues:** No report.

District Issues: AM reported that the Draft Local Plan approved in March had received a legal challenge from the Flaxby Group. Rubbish and recycling now functioning well although it was noted the majority of tips are not yet open to the public which is contributing to fly-tipping. Green notices regarding planning have not been put up for the past few weeks, AM to check when this will resume.

- 5. Chairman’s Annual Report**

Welcome everyone to the May meeting of the Parish Council. Once again we find ourselves conducting an on-line meeting through Zoom, an unprecedented circumstance which would have been unimaginable to those presiding at our first meeting in 1894 when the Reverend J R Lunn was in the Chair.

We have been excused an Annual Meeting this year due to the Coronavirus pandemic, but I’m delighted to report all the Councillors have agreed to continue in their roles for another 12 months, as indeed has the Clerk.

However, despite the postponement of the AGM, I have decided to record a Chairman’s Report for the increasingly eventful 12 months to May 2020.

None of us foresaw the exceptional circumstances unleashed by the Covid-19 pandemic when we began the annual Parish year last May. The response within the village has been exceptional, from our key workers, all those adhering to the Government’s social distancing guidelines through to the huge number of volunteers giving their time & energy in assisting others. Our village institutions, namely the Helmes Charity, the Church, Primary School and our village shop have proved just how essential they are to the fabric of the community as have our postmen and the numerous delivery drivers serving the village.

Of course, back in May of last year we were focusing on more mundane matters. The Harrogate Local Plan remained in draft form, our tennis courts were getting a new lick of paint and improved security cameras were fitted to the village shop. The mass of historic Parish Council records were collated from various barns & lofts, sorted and stored in their new centralised home within the loft space of the village hall.

In June, discussions were held with NYCC and their building company, Brierly Homes, regards the parcel of land gifted to the village from the proposed Yew Tree Farm development site. In time this will provide a welcome addition to the village's green spaces. It will be landscaped following the completion of the development alongside a 12 month upkeep contract before being transferred to the Parish Council's responsibility.

At this time we were also advised by the North Yorkshire Lighting Engineer that street lighting could be omitted from both the Yew Tree Farm and Copse developments in Marton which was a welcome announcement for those of us keen to preserve the village's unique dark skies environment. A residents survey was subsequently undertaken as to the potential removal of all column lighting within the village. The outcome was to maintain the status quo but will prove a useful evidence-based exercise should we eventually develop a Neighbourhood Plan in the coming years.

Despite the inevitable upheaval and inconvenience caused by construction works at The Copse there is a silver lining in terms of Commuted Sums monies, or the newly sanctioned Community Infrastructure Levy due to the village. Both developments will provide for approximately £50,000 towards verges, play areas, churchyard maintenance and other village infrastructure. Half of these monies will be released midway through the projects, with the balance received on completion with the amounts having a ten-year period in which to be allocated.

Planning issues continued to dominate with a flurry of applications & other related issues throughout the reporting period. Thankfully, as the Harrogate Local Plan crept ever closer to being adopted in the autumn, the content of its policies started to attach increasing weight in planning decisions. A number of speculative applications within the village which didn't conform to the enshrined policies were refused where previously, with the lack of any local direction, they could have stood a significant chance of gaining approval. The village can therefore take some comfort that our conservation area heritage asset will be better protected going forward with less encroachment of development onto agricultural land or out-with the development line.

Despite this concern remains in respect to the spread of ribbon development alongside the A168, albeit the Harrogate Local Plan makes no provision for such encroachment.

Within this locality there has been an improvement in respect to the litter problems associated with the Allerton Waste Recovery Park with additional litter picking alongside the A168 carriageway combined with improved netting procedures for departing traffic.

In November the Section 106 agreement was finally concluded between North Yorkshire County Council and Brierley Homes, facilitating the transfer of ownership of the proposed Yew Tree Farm development site and allowing the process to continue. Planning permission was then granted in February and by April a construction partner had been appointed. It is anticipated the developer will be on site by late summer.

The Parish finances remain healthy, as such the precept for 2020/21 has been fixed at £4950 for another year and in January the ongoing shop rental agreement was linked to RPI.

In February we learnt through Harrogate Borough Council of a possible merger between our Parish and that of Upper & Lower Dunsforth brought about by the resignation in May of their existing Chairman, with no one willing to take over the role. It is the Parish Council's

view that a larger council would neither be in their interests nor ours and we have suggested they apply greater effort in finding an internal replacement.

Following the withdrawal of the holding objection from Sport England the proposed replacement pavilion was finally granted planning permission and the contract awarded to Chris Stephenson of Grafton. Progress to date, in spite of the Covid-19 lockdown, has been impressive and the structure is already a substantial improvement on the former building. The Parish Council would like to express their thanks to Marton resident, Rory Cunningham, who has driven this project through almost single handedly in a very efficient, professional manner whilst surmounting numerous difficulties & raising considerable funding along the way.

As the Parish year draws to an end we remain in unprecedented times as measures continue to control the spread of this virus. Quite what the year ahead will offer we have little idea but we remain fortunate in having a strong, close and supportive community to help us through whatever comes our way. The village shop, Helen Tessa and her staff and volunteers deserve huge credit for all they have and continue to do in supporting the community through this crisis. The small army of volunteers directed by Lynda Bullus through the Helms Charity are also in receipt of our thanks for their essential work in collecting and delivering prescriptions whilst offering support to those families & individuals self isolating, and we shall always be in debt to our key workers and their ongoing contribution to the national effort.

For those of us in lockdown it has been as though we've been transported to a former, quieter, age where the slower pace of life has given many of us time to appreciate the chorus of birdsong throughout the village, whilst overhead the clear skies remain the sole preserve of our returning swallows, martins & swifts. May this bright, sunny Spring weather we are currently enjoying be a harbinger for a brighter year for us all.

Rob Shepherd, Chairman

6. Playing Fields:

- a) Sports Pavilion Rebuild – Rory Cunningham (RC) reported (with pictures) that progress is ongoing with the builder expecting to be able to unfurlough 2 members of staff and anticipating completion by the end of June. RC confirmed so far it is on budget and on plan. Additional funding from Cobbett Environmental of £7.5k has been received.

After enquiry RC acknowledged that replacement of the water pipe to the pavilion is not included in the current budget but it is hoped moneys will be available from S106 funds.

- b) Woodland Committee – Tim Joynson has made enquiries with the Woodland Trust on the possibility of planting more parish owned land with trees. Potentially 85% grant funding is claimable as we are in the Northern Forest area. After discussion it was agreed that this should be reviewed further at the next Woodlands Committee meeting.
- c) It was agreed that HBC would be asked to conduct the annual safety inspection of skate park and playground at a cost of £55.00 each.

7. Village Shop: - Helen and her team continue doing an astounding job supporting the village.

8. **Village Hall:** - The Hall remains closed for bookings but continues to be used for extra storage by the shop.

9. **Planning:**

Planning Notifications

- a) 6.71.72.B.FUL 20/01258/FUL – Limebar House, Limebar Lane, Marton-cum-Grafton. Demolition of existing dwelling and outbuildings and erection of replacement dwelling and associated garaging. The PC has no objections.
- b) 6.71.72.C.FUL 20/01259/FUL – Limebar House, Limebar Lane, Marton-cum-Grafton. Demolition of existing dwelling and outbuildings and erection of two dwellings and associated garaging. The PC has no objections.
- c) 6.71.202B.CON 20/01276/CON – Land comprising field at 441716 Yew Tree Farm, Marton-cum-Grafton.
A planning application seeking the demolition of an outbuilding at Yew Tree Farm. The PC has no objections but wished to comment that the bat survey is now out of date.
- d) 6.71.175.D.PNA 20/00833/PNA – Grafton Lodge, Low Field Lane, Marton-cum-Grafton. Prior approval application for a new barn. The PC has no objections.
- e) 6.71.34.CLEUD 20/01317/CLEUD – Grafton Grange, Limebar Lane, Marton-cum-Grafton. Certificate of lawfulness for the continued use of two buildings for storage and repair and maintenance of agricultural and heavy goods vehicles (Use Class B2/B8). The PC has no comments to make.

Decision Notifications

- f) 19/04621/FUL – Amber Hill, Thorny Hill Lane, Marton-cum-Grafton
Demolition of bungalow and construction of two storey house with undercroft garage parking. Planning has been GRANTED by HBC subject to conditions.
- g) 20/01114/AMENDS – Stockfield Manor, Stockfield Lane, Marton-cum-Grafton.
Non-material minor amendments to allow amended window heads to front and painted windows to rear elevation re planning permission 17/01757/FUL – Erection of detached dwelling with detached garage. Planning has been APPROVED by HBC.

10. **Financial Matters:**

Out:

Date	Item	Total £
25/03/2020	Clerks Salary (March)	£183.37
30/03/2020	PC Insurance Policy	£869.05
11/04/2020	Clerks Expenses	£36.37
11/04/2020	YLCA Membership fee	£208.00
14/04/2020	J C Trees - tree removal	£451.20
	Total out	£1,747.99

In:

Date	Item	Total £
26/03/2020	FCC Communities (grant pavilion)	£10,000.00
08/04/2020	HMRC VAT refund	£5,858.99
08/04/2020	Shop Rent	£1,218.00
	Total received	£17,076.99

Current account balance at 14 April: **£28,085.68**

Deposit account balance at 14 April: **£23,711.74**

£3.70 interest

Payments to be authorised:

T3TC Limited – web hosting costs	£69.46
Clerk's Expenses (printer ink)	£47.80
W T Webster – hedge cutting	£54.00

Total: £171.26

11. Correspondence:

- a) A request from a resident that Lime Bar Bank Road should be marked as “unsuitable for Motor Vehicles” was discussed. It was agreed this was a North Yorkshire Highways area of responsibility and as the request had already been made by the resident in question no further input from the Parish Council was required.

12. Any Other Business:

- a) A number of stiles on public footpaths are broken or in poor state of repair. RS to contact the County Council Footpaths Group to enquire about repairs.
- b) A member of the public commented that there is no public access at Priestcar Lodge and also at Marton Moor Farm to use the public footpath, both of which are dead ends. RS to speak to County Council Footpaths Group.
- c) Lighting bollards which have been installed on The Copse which are not believed to be in accordance with the planning permission granted. Enforcement have been notified. Agreed that RS should send a formal letter to Mulgrave asking for the lighting to be removed/muted. CS-L to contact Ecology Dept to see if they can be removed on ecological grounds.
- d) Thanks were expressed to NYCC for clearing the Church Lane footpath .
- e) TC has requested a copy of the survey on the condition of the village roads prior to development in The Copse but has not yet received a copy.

The meeting was briefly adjourned at 8pm to allow participants to join in the nationwide ‘clap for carers’ and closed at 8.50 pm.

Date of Next Meeting: Thursday 4th June 2020 at 7.30 pm – venue to be confirmed.

Signed:

Dated:

**Minutes of Marton-cum-Grafton Parish Council held as an “On-Line” Meeting
on Thursday 4th June 2020 at 7.30 pm**

Present: Mr R Shepherd (RS) Chair; Mr P Gill (PG) Vice Chair; Mr T Cole (TC); Mr A Robinson (AR); Mrs C Sanderson-Lewis (CS-L); District Cllr Ann Myatt (AM); County Cllr R Windass (RW); Mrs E Gill (EG) Clerk

1. Apologies for Absence: None

Members of the Public Present: 10

2. Declarations of Interest: TC declared an interest in Christ Church Marton as he is on the PCC.

3. Minutes. The minutes of the meeting held on Thursday 7 May 2020 were signed and dated as an accurate record by RS.

4. County Issues: RW reported that the village would be impacted by road closure of the B6265 between 9th to 19th June for cats eyes replacement and surface dressing. Whilst roads are still relatively quiet of traffic rural areas are being repaired ahead of urban roads. To date the Government have provided £30m in finances relating to Covid expenditure however Harrogate expect their costs to be £65-£76m and the shortfall will come from reserve funds. Government have provided a further £8.3 m for care homes but funding criteria may make it difficult for this to be claimed.

District Issues: AM reported a legal challenge has been received regarding Flaxby Park site and are waiting to see if it progresses to the High Court. AM had no further information regarding the Dunsforths lack of a Parish Council issue but said she will enquire for our next meeting.

5. Playing Fields:

a) Sports Pavilion Rebuild – Both TC, AR and PG have inspected works recently and stated that the progress was good. Some delays have been experienced by the contractor due to Coronavirus supplies situation, but expected works should be finished in 3-4 weeks.

6. Village Shop: - HT has confirmed that she will remain with the current shorter shop opening hours for now, although some staff have been able to return to work.

7. Village Hall: - The Hall remains closed for bookings but continues to be used for extra storage by the shop.

8. Planning:

Planning Notifications

a) 6.71.196.A.FUL 20/01546/FUL – Christ Church, Church Lane, Marton-cum-Grafton. Erection of single storey extension with glazed link. This application had been time barred so had been resubmitted exactly as before. Confirmation of the water supply coming in via the Yew Tree Farm development had caused the delay. The Parish Council agreed to support the application as they had previously.

Decision Notifications

- b) 20/00833/PNA – Grafton Lodge, Low Field Lane, Marton-cum-Grafton.
Prior approval application for a new barn. Planning has been GRANTED subject to conditions.
- c) 20/01180/FUL - Land To The South Of Priestcarr Lodge Farm Legram Road Marton-cum-Grafton. Retrospective permission for change of use of field for the rearing of pheasants, retention of pens, runs and sheds and the erection of a storage barn, access track and landscape works. Although the usual consultation paperwork had not been issued from HBC to the Parish Council, HBC Planning Dept had agreed to accept our comments. After debate it was agreed that the Parish Council would choose option “B, The Parish Council objects on the planning grounds set out below”:-
- It is not agricultural use of the land – rearing of game birds for the gun is not an agricultural activity.
 - The PC has concerns regarding proximity to neighbouring properties regarding both noise and odour.
 - Insufficient space available to rotate sheds to alleviate disease as part of the field is prone to water logging and localised flooding.
 - Clarity required as to the use of the field when pheasants are not present.
 - PC has concerns regarding surface water drainage which has been diverted to a well which cannot cope with peak runoff flows and results in road flooding.
- These comments summarise the PC’s views and will be supplied in full to HBC.
- d) Happy Paws Dog Park – Grangeside, Grafton Grange, Limebar Lane. It was noted that no application for planning had been received in regard to this new business including access and parking. It was agreed to contact the owners and enquire what steps they were taking regarding planning. (AR).
- e) 20/00211/PR15 – Land Comprising Field at 441364 462959 Limebar Bank Road, Marton-cum-Grafton. Alleged Breach: Erection of brick outbuilding. Planning Enforcement had notified the PC of a possible breach and have written to the owners regarding it. They will update us once they have inspected the site.
- f) 6.71.187.I.DVCON 20/01761/DVCON – Green-Tech, Rabbit Hill Park, Allerton Park. Variation of condition 7 (parking spaces, turning areas and access) of planning permission 19/00106/FUL Erection of 1 No warehouse and boundary fencing with associated hardstanding; formation of access. The Parish Council has no objections.
- g) 6.71.187.J.DVCON 20/01760/DVCON – Green-Tech, Rabbit Hill Park, Allerton Park. Variation of condition 7 (parking spaces, turning areas and access) of planning permission 18/04914/DVCMAJ Variation of conditions 2 and deletion of condition 5 of planning permission 17/00919/FULMAJ (Erection of 3 warehouse buildings (use class B8) including formation of new vehicular access and associated hard standing) to allow amendments to site access, associated hardstanding and drainage. The Parish Council has no objections.

9. Financial Matters:

Out:

Date	Item	Total £
20/04/2020	Chris Stephenson - Pavilion	£12,000.00
27/04/2020	E Gill - April Salary	£168.21
04/05/2020	Chris Stephenson - Pavilion	£12,000.00
10/05/2020	T3TC Ltd - village website	£69.46
10/05/2020	W T Webster & Sons	£54.00
10/05/2020	E Gill – Expenses	£47.80
	Total out	£24,339.47

In:

Date	Item	Total £
28/04/2020	Harrogate BC – precept	£2,475.00
29/04/2020	FCC Communities - Pavilion	£10,000.00
30/04/2020	T Long - Garage Rent	£60.00
12/05/2020	Cobbett Environmental - Pavilion	£7,500.00
	Total received	£20,035.00

Current account balance at 14 May: **£23,781.21**

Deposit account balance at 14 May: **£23,715.33** **£3.59 interest**

Payments to be authorised: None

10. Correspondence:

- a) A resident had raised concerns regarding the condition of the footpath from Ivy Close to the shop being overgrown. Agreed to have a working party to improve it (RS/AR).

11. The Copse Development

- a) Bollard Lighting – RS stated that he had sent a personal letter to Mulgrave regarding lighting reduction. TC had had a lengthy meeting with the Director of Mulgrave however, their view is that they have planning permission for the lights. They have assisted residents by installing the lowest watt lights possible (8.5) and have agreed to put shields on the lighting to mitigate flooding properties opposite with light.
- b) It was noted that breach of planning had been reported to HBC as remedial works to a willow tree with TPO had been carried out without a nesting bird check being carried out.
- c) Garden fencing at 1.8m height is currently being erected on site however the original planning was for post and rail fencing. Due to a non-material amendment permission for the 1.8m fencing has been granted, possibly in error. Harrogate BC looking into it as they acknowledge this may have been an administrative mistake.
- d) The Drainage Officer has looked at the issue of the recently raised soil level causing flooding to a neighbouring property, however as the development is on-going he is not able to take action until it has been completed. It was agreed to revisit this matter closer to build completion.

Any Other Business:

- a) A resident raised an enquiry as to whether it would be possible to ask Mulgrave Developers to change the dawn to dusk lighting bollards to be motion sensitive. TC to follow up.

- b) Our External Auditor reported that due to Covid19 amendments his annual report will be given at the July meeting, although he acknowledged that most of the work was already complete. FB noted that we have funds with various sub-committee groups such as the, village hall, woodlands, pavilion, Helms Charity and asked the PC to consider nominating a date (31 March) on which we could get a financial statement from them all. In addition the Shop Development Fund currently has £32,000 ring fenced with no potential uses for the accumulated funding having been identified. As such this financial structure may need to broadened/amended so that it can be utilised on other suitable Parish ventures. This item will be discussed in detail at the next Parish Council meeting.

- c) It was reported that travellers had set up camp in Back Lane Boroughbridge in order to resurrect Barnaby Horsefair.

The meeting was closed at 8.38 pm.

Date of Next Meeting: Thursday 2nd July 2020 at 7.30 pm – venue to be confirmed.

Signed:

Dated:

**Minutes of Marton-cum-Grafton Parish Council held as an “On-Line” Meeting
on Thursday 2nd July 2020 at 7.30 pm**

Present: Mr R Shepherd (RS) Chair; Mr P Gill (PG) Vice Chair; Mr T Cole (TC); Mr A Robinson (AR); Mrs C Sanderson-Lewis (CS-L); Mrs E Gill (EG) Clerk

1. Apologies for Absence: None

Members of the Public Present: 10

2. Declarations of Interest: None.

3. Minutes. The minutes of the meeting held on Thursday 4 June 2020 were amended under Any Other Business b) Our “External” Auditor was corrected to read Our “Internal” Auditor. The minutes were then signed and dated as an accurate record by RS.

4. County Issues: None

District Issues: None

5. Playing Fields:

- a) Urgent repairs are required to some of the woodland paths and handrails to avoid possible slips or trips by member of the public. Nick Spence Groundworks has provided a quote of £250 (plus VAT) for the repairs which will be covered by money in the Woodland account. As this is a Health & Safety issue he will be asked to complete the work as soon as possible (RS). Repairs to potholes in the woodland track are also required and Nick Spence Groundworks has provided a quote of £250 (plus VAT) to complete this and provide surplus road plainings so that the Woodlands Group can do some repairs themselves. It was agreed to seek clarity on the additional charge of £350 for having the surface compacted and NS would also be asked to ease the speed bumps which are causing cars to bottom out (RS). A working party will be picking the Himalayan Balsam on Sunday 5 July to try and get it under control.
- b) It was agreed to re-open the childrens play area from 4th July in line with HBC guidelines. A laminated sign which is kindly being made by a resident, will be displayed reminding children and parents of social distancing and hand washing.
- c) Sports Pavilion rebuild is in its final stages with painting, plumbing and kitchen fitting next week. The water pipe which has leaked for several years has now been located and repaired.
- d) A proposal from a resident for the addition of a French Boules Court next to the tennis courts was discussed and was supported by the Parish Council. Funding may be available from S106 monies from The Copse development.

6. Village Shop: - HT has confirmed the current shop opening hours will remain in place for the foreseeable future in order to fulfil a high number of ongoing orders/deliveries.

7. Village Hall: - The Hall remains closed for bookings but continues to be used for extra storage by the shop. Mike Popple and Barrie Hall were thanked for repairing and upgrading the Parish notice board in Marton and installing a white magnetic backing board.

8. Planning:

- a) Happy Paws Dog Park – Grangeside, Grafton Grange, Limebar Lane – it was confirmed that the owners have tried to contact HBC to confirm if they require planning permission without success as yet.
- b) Yew Tree Farm update – it was noted this development is expected to start in September 2020. TC had discussed with the developer the possibility of them using Back Lane as an access point rather than coming through the village but unfortunately the developer has stated that Back Lane is too narrow for vehicles to turn. They are hoping to make a compound in the adjoining field to keep vehicles off the village road as much as possible.

Enforcement Notifications

- c) 20/0021/PR15 – Land comprising field at 441364 462959 Limebar Bank Road, Marton-cum-Grafton. Notification has been received from HBC of an alleged breach of planning, being the erection of a brick outbuilding. The site had been visited on 11/6/20.
- d) 20/00294/PR15 – Land comprising field at 442152 463445 Stockfield Lane, Marton-cum-Grafton. Notification received from HBC of an alleged breach, being removal of hedge and deposit of soil.

9. Financial Matters:

- a) Approval of the Annual Governance Statement for External Audit. This document had previously been circulated to all Councillors and was agreed and signed by the Chair and Clerk.
- b) Approval of the 2019/20 Accounts for External Audit. The Internal Auditor (FB) presented the 2019/20 accounts which had been circulated to all Councillors prior to the meeting. These were approved and signed off by the Chair and Clerk, as was the Accounting Statement for External Audit. It was noted that an historic VAT reclaim of £2,045 VAT which had previously been carried forward from previous years has been written off as the period for reclaim has long expired. The ringfenced shop rental monies continue to accumulate within the Parish accounts with no obvious, identifiable use for the funds. It was therefore agreed to discuss this situation in more detail at the September meeting. It was also agreed that the Village Hall Committee, along with other bodies of the Parish Council, should have a co-terminus reporting date of 31st March with the Parish Council to help with accounting purposes. For ease of accountability the monies within the Woodland Account are to be transferred to the Parish Council account and ringfenced for woodland use only.
- c) Summary of recent payments and receipts:-

Out:

Date	Item	Total £
20/05/2020	Chris Stephenson - Pavilion	£21,000.00
25/05/2020	E Gill - May Salary	£168.21
09/06/2020	Chris Stephenson - Pavilion	£12,172.80
	Total out	£33,340.21

In:

Date	Item	Total £
15/05/2020	FCC Communities - Pavilion	£10,000.00
29/05/2020	FCC Communities - Pavilion	£11,099.00
	Total received	£21,099.00

Current account balance at 14 June: **£11,539.20**

Deposit account balance at 14 June: **£23,717.40** **£2.07 interest**

Payments to be authorised:

B Hall - Repairs to Notice Board in Marton	£96.79
Insurance Premium for Cricket Pavilion	£84.69
Autela Payroll Services Ltd	£46.73

10. Correspondence:

- a) YLCA proposal of a Model Code of Conduct had been circulated. The PC were in agreement with the majority of the document however it had reservations on stipulating the Clerk should be required to undertake Local Government qualifications. RS to reply to that effect.
- b) Faster Broadband – A request had been received from a resident that the PC support a partnership arrangement with Openreach in order to secure faster broadband speeds for the village. The PC were in agreement and PG is to speak to DZ to see if he is able to lead the project.
- c) Bulb/flower planting scheme – A request for funds for a further wild flower/bulb planting scheme was presented. The Parish Council were in full agreement that the remainder of the £400 bulb money could be spent but requested the residents, JW/JR, present a more detailed plan with costings before any existing money is committed or additional funding allocated. It was further suggested there would be money available from Commuted Sums under the heading Marton verges.
- d) Traffic calming measures – a resident requested that the PC took the opportunity of claiming funding for traffic calming measures to be installed near The Copse. The PC noted this had been discussed previously and declined to revisit it. It was suggested that once the Copse & Yew Tree Farm developments were completed and fully occupied another assessment of the traffic issues could be reviewed.

11. The Village Website

With potential new residents looking to move into the village it was suggested that the village website should be update to remove historic pages such as the Abattoir, sugar beet factory and incinerator campaigns. Tim Joynson agreed to do this.

Any Other Business:

- a) Use of Village Hall - RS to speak to HT about what her plans are for the future with continuing to use the village hall.
- b) Yew Tree Farm – land which is being gifted. Agreed that the PC needs to discuss plans for the land at the September meeting.
- c) Bollard lighting at The Copse – A resident informed the PC that an Enforcement officer had visited the site at 11.00 at night. Enforcement confirmed the lighting is in line with planning permission.
- d) Fencing at The Copse – HBC have acknowledged their error in granting permission for fencing at 1.8m which should have been low level post and rail fence to 1.2m. HBC have agreed to ask the developer if they will reduce the height of the fencing which has already been installed.

The meeting was closed at 8.55 pm.

Date of Next Meeting: Thursday 3rd September at 7.30 pm in Marton Memorial Hall, (subject to government restrictions on social distancing being required)

Signed: Dated:

**Minutes of Marton-cum-Grafton Parish Council held as an “On-Line” Meeting
on Thursday 3rd September 2020 at 7.30 pm**

Present: Mr R Shepherd (RS) Chair; Mr P Gill (PG) Vice Chair; Mr T Cole (TC); Mr A Robinson (AR); Mrs C Sanderson-Lewis (CS-L); District Councillor A Myatt (AM); Mrs E Gill (EG) Clerk

1. Apologies for Absence: None

Members of the Public Present: 7

2. Declarations of Interest: None.

3. Minutes. The minutes of the meeting held on Thursday 2nd July 2020 were signed and dated as an accurate record by RS.

4. County Issues: None

District Issues: AM discussed the Governments local government reorganisation plans for North Yorkshire and York City Council. It has asked the councils to prepare proposals in order to create one or more unitary authorities to replace the existing arrangement of County and City Councils and underlying District (Borough) councils.

The intention is to gain economies of scale, reduce duplication of services at district level, streamline decision-making processes and secure significant savings. The proposal is to achieve full unitary status by 2023 and the intension is to have an elected mayor.

An enquiry was raised about the Flaxby development site and AM expected this would go to a judicial review.

5. Playing Fields/Woodlands

a) A draft constitution and management plan which had been circulated to the Parish Councillors in advance of the meeting was summarised. The plan is proposed to give oversight to all the recreational facilities within the Parish land under a single body whilst allowing autonomy for the likes of the Tennis Courts and Cricket Club to function as previously. This includes a revenue structure to ensure the playing fields, woodlands etc are self-funding and financial reporting is to be included within the PC accounts at the end of each financial year (31st March). Additional work is ongoing to finalise this document.

b) Repairs to the track up to the playing fields including works to the speed humps have been carried out. Replacement of some dangerous kickboards and wooden railings on the footpaths have also been completed. NS has quoted £50.00 to repair the broken fencing around the car parking area.

6. Village Shop: - HT has enquired about the possibility of adding an awning on the front of the shop to extend the retail space. A quote will be put forward to the next meeting. Shop hours are still slightly shorter with Saturday trading closing at 1.30 pm for HT and staff to prepare orders.

7. Village Hall: - The Hall remains closed at the moment, however the Village Hall Committee are meeting on 9th September to discuss how, when and if they can re-open the Hall. It was agreed

that the financial year end for the village hall will be changed to the end of March to bring this in line with the Parish Council making for clearer year-end reporting.

8. Planning:

- a) To ratify decision by Parish Council on 20/7/2020 re 6.71.140.C.FUL 20/02210/FUL Marton Moor Farm, Moor Lane, for erection of two storey extension, single storey extension, conversion of loft alterations to fenestration and application of render to existing dwelling. The Parish Council had no objections to this application. This application has now been passed by HBC.
- b) To ratify decision by Parish Council on 28/7/2020 re 6.71.202.C.FUL 20/02010/FUL Land Adjacent to Yew Tree Farm for conversion of barn to form 2 dwellings. The PC did not object to or support the application however it stated that the bat survey was inadequate and out of date.
- c) 19/00106/FUL – Greentech, Rabbit Hill Park, Allerton Park – Variation of condition 7 of planning permission re parking/turning area/access. Notification received from HBC that this has been granted subject to conditions.
- d) 18/04914/DVCMAJ 20/01760/DVCMAJ – Greentech, Rabbit Hill Park, Allerton Park – Variation of condition 7 of planning permission re parking/turning area/access in relation to unit 3 only. Notification from HBC that this has been granted subject to conditions.
- e) 6.71.215.FUL 20/02630/FUL – 6 The Croft, Marton cum Grafton
Formation of new ground floor window opening. The parish council has no objections.

9. Financial Matters:

- a) PG presented a new monthly financial reporting format to the Parish Council. Going forward the total amount held in both PC bank accounts will be reported as one figure. The majority of funds in the bank accounts are ringfenced for the shop, bulbs fund or pavilion project and are not therefore available for spending on general items. The total funds available to the PC for general use will be reported as a separate item. It is hoped this reporting change will give greater transparency and clarity to the Parish Council's financial reporting.
- b) Summary of recent payments and receipts:-

Out:

Date	Item	Total £
25/06/2020	E Gill - June Salary	£168.21
03/07/2020	Zurich Insurance - pavilion insurance	£84.69
06/07/2020	Autela Payroll Services	£46.73
08/07/2020	B Hall - repairs to notice board	£96.79
25/07/2020	E Gill - July salary	£168.01
04/08/2020	B Hall - sign for top of notice board	£9.99

05/08/2020	Chris Stephenson Building Services - Pavilion	£12,000.00
	Total out	£12,564.43

In:

Date	Item	Total £
16/06/2020	Northern Powergrid - wayleave	£41.54
07/07/2020	YLCA refund for cancelled Spring Conference	£120.00
08/07/2020	Spellows, Shop Rent Jul to Sept	£1,218.00
10/07/2020	HMRC VAT Repayment	£7,425.60
15/07/2020	NYCC - Grass Cutting for 2020/21	£256.02
24/07/2020	Northern Powergrid - wayleave	£3.39
28/07/2020	Cobbett Environmental - Pavilion	£10,000.00
13/08/2020	FCC Communities - Pavilion	£4,044.00
	Total received	£23,108.55

Total monies held at 14 August: **£45,790.92**

Parish Council available funds at 14 August: **£5,496.62**

Payments to be authorised:-

YLCA – webinar training session PG on Village Greens	£15.00
G Marston – mowing	£42.00

10. Correspondence:

No correspondence received.

11. Any Other Business – items for next agenda:

- a) JW/JR have surveyed the village for planting more flowers and trees on village land and concluded that it was not practical to plant the verges with wild flowers. They asked if the PC would be agreeable to the installation of two planter troughs, one in Marton and one in Grafton, and also the possible planting of an avenue of trees on Galibar Lane. RS agreed to look into the practicalities of this further. JW/JR to cost the troughs/trees and revert to next meeting.
- b) It was reported that the Yew Tree Farm development project is now not anticipated to start before the end of October 2020.
- c) Matthew Cole has undertaken to explore the possibility of increasing broadband speed for the village. MC has had around 30 replies via email but would ideally like about 60. A leaflet drop is planned so please respond to Matthew if you are interested in faster broadband speeds.
- d) TC is working on ideas for investing the Commuted Sums from the recent development projects in the village. TC asked for proper cost estimates to be submitted and will also ask the village for suggestions and feedback. TC to report back at next meeting.

- e) A resident noted that the village could look into installing welcome signs at the various entrance points to the village. The item will be discussed at the next meeting.

The meeting was closed at 8.25 pm.

Date of Next Meeting: Thursday 1 October at 7.30 pm in Marton Memorial Hall, (subject to government restrictions on social distancing being required)

Signed:

Dated:

**Minutes of Marton-cum-Grafton Parish Council held as an “On-Line” Meeting
on Thursday 1st October 2020 at 7.30 pm**

Present: Mr R Shepherd (RS) Chair; Mr P Gill (PG) Vice Chair; Mr T Cole (TC); Mr A Robinson (AR); Mrs C Sanderson-Lewis (CS-L); District Councillor A Myatt (AM); Mrs E Gill (EG) Clerk

1. **Apologies for Absence:** None

Members of the Public Present: 11

2. **Declarations of Interest:** None.

3. **Minutes.** The minutes of the meeting held on Thursday 3rd September 2020 were signed and dated as an accurate record by RS.

4. **County Issues:** None

District Issues: Having been excluded from the draft local plan in favour of the Green Hammerton site, AM commented that the developers of the Flaxby Development site had received permission to take their application to Judicial Review. AM also confirmed their planning application is now on the agenda for the HBC Planning Meeting on October 7th. Planning permissions for the Hammertons development has not yet been determined but it is scheduled for the next HBC Cabinet Meeting.

Discussions are progressing on the devolved governance for North Yorkshire with HBC preferring a split east/west unitary authority whilst NYCC maintains a single Pan-North Yorkshire authority is their preference. AM stated that the proposed timetable already appears to be slipping from 2022 towards 2023.

5. **Playing Fields/Woodlands**

- a) Further work has been ongoing to the constitution and draft management plan. Hire charges for the facilities are still to be finalised but the PC was mindful that it should not compete adversely with hire of the Village Hall. It was also noted that booking fees should be paid into the Woodland Account and the newly formed committee should manage the finances of the pavilion and woodland and report back to the Parish Council at the end of March annually.

6. **Village Shop:** - Nothing to update.

7. **Village Hall:** - Following the Village Hall Committee meeting on 9th September it was decided that in light of the extra Covid restrictions introduced by Government on 9th September it was not possible to open the Village Hall until restrictions are eased. It was agreed that maintenance works would continue as needed.

8. **Planning:**

- a) 6.71.214.FUL20/02570/FUL – Land Comprising field at 441573 463077 Limebar Bank Road, Marton. Proposal: Formation of a new agricultural access and hardstanding to form turning area on the hill between Marton and Grafton.

After consideration the PC agreed to object to the new access point on the following grounds;

- It destroys an established hedge which is a significant feature within the Conservation Area and will result in a negative visual impact on the Conservation Area.
- It would contravene a key aspect of the Conservation Area Assessment in that the proposed access & hardstanding area would be detrimental to the green space separating the two villages of Marton & Grafton
- Grafton Lane does not have a footpath despite being the main pedestrian route linking the two villages, and further vehicular movement/farm traffic would impact pedestrian safety, particularly for young children walking to/from the village Primary School in contrast the existing access point on Limebar Bank Lane is rarely used
- The proposal would result in additional mud on Grafton Lane on a stretch of road which is steep, curved & frequently used by vehicles, cyclists & pedestrians. The existing access has the benefit of mud being deposited on the lightly used & level Limebar Bank Lane.
- The supporting Highways Statement notes that the existing access on Limebar bank Lane is in a poor state of repair, exacerbated by the use of agricultural vehicles along it gaining access to the field. The applicant should therefore be making representations to North Yorkshire County Council to repair the existing road, rather than creating a new access on the main road through the village, which by their own admission will be damaged by their vehicles.
- The Council do not consider that the application is necessary for the continued **agricultural** use of the field as the existing access is sufficient for this purpose. As such, the negative impacts to the conservation area, local ecology and road safety outweigh any perceived benefit.

These comments summarise the PC's views and will be supplied in full to HBC.

- b) 20/00444/PR15 The Old Chapel, Marton cum Grafton. HBC had sent notification of an Alleged breach of planning being the erection of 2 storey extension. The owner of the property commented that this is unmistakably a single storey garden room with level access for disabled and roof lights. He had received no direct communication from HBC in connection with this matter.

9. Financial Matters:

- a) Further queries raised by the External Auditors are currently being investigated by EG/FB before the accounts can be signed off.
- b) Summary of recent payments and receipts:-

Out:

Date	Item	Total £
20/08/2020	Chris Stephenson Building Services - Pavilion	£6,000.00
25/08/2020	E Gill – August Salary	£168.21

	Total out	£6,168.21
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In:

Date	Item	Total £
09/09/2020	Rory Cunningham - Football	£36.00
	Total received	£36.00

Total monies held at 14 September: **£39,659.11**

Parish Council available funds at 14 August: **£4,328.81**

Payments to be authorised:-

YLCA – webinar training session for CS-L on Planning Systems, Enforcement and Appeals	£22.50
Information Commissioner – GDPR fee	£40.00

10. Report on Commuted Sums – Investment of Funds:

TC reported on the responses he has received so far from residents in regard to how S106 monies from recent/on-going developments could be invested in village amenities. Ideas include a French boules pit by the tennis courts, concrete table tennis tables by the sports pavilion & tennis courts, half size metal football goal for children on the playing fields, granite sets to define road curbs for Marton and Grafton (to discuss with Highways Authority), mains water into the churchyard, flower and tree planting, picnic tables near pavilion and tennis courts, a padel court, crown lift for the oak tree on Grafton green; village welcome signs at entry points and the possible rectification of the existing drainage issues on Grafton & Church Lane. TC to compose a note to the PC with final prices for further discussion & assessment of priorities. TC will then revert to HBC to see if they would support these items of expenditure.

11. Report on Planting Plan/Trees for Village - JW

JW looking to select 2 areas within the village (Marton & Grafton) for wild flower planting which the PC agreed to in principle. However he was asked to obtain costings with a view to discussing in more detail at the next PC meeting.

12. Correspondence

- a) Complaint received from a resident regarding the approach vista on Limebar Lane. The PC noted that as both points had already been raised with Enforcement there was nothing further for the PC to consider at this time.
- b) Notification had been received from HBC regarding the demolition of an outbuilding at Yew Tree Farm (20/01276/CON) and that they had granted the permission subject to conditions.
- c) Notification received from HBC regarding amendments to the planning application for Yew Tree Farm development. This permission had been granted subject to 12 pages of conditions. It was noted that the start date for this development may be late November. A resident was concerned the works compound and concrete silos may be located close to the main street in Marton by the entrance to the site, in contravention to the published plans. The current

occupier of the land confirmed this is not his understanding albeit a temporary location closer to the road may have to be used before suitable access is gained to the planned site.

- d) It was agreed to enquire with NYCC whether granite sets could be installed on curbs around the Yew Tree farm entrance. TC.
- e) Concern was raised that a new survey for the ancient cobble wall at Yew Tree Farm had not been carried out. CS-L/TC to follow this up with HBC

11. Any Other Business – items for next agenda:

- a) MC is making good progress with the proposed BT broadband upgrade and has received 90 responses from residents in the village.
- b) It was agreed to review the possibility of the November PC meeting being held in the same room, albeit within the Covid restrictions of 6. If agreed the meeting would be relayed via Zoom for members of the public to participate.

The meeting was closed at 8.45 pm.

Date of Next Meeting: Wednesday 4th November at 7.30 pm in Marton Memorial Hall, (subject to government restrictions on social distancing being required)

Signed:

Dated:

**Minutes of Marton-cum-Grafton Parish Council held as an “On-Line” Meeting
on Wednesday 4th November 2020 at 7.30 pm**

Present: Mr R Shepherd (RS) Chair; Mr P Gill (PG) Vice Chair; Mr T Cole (TC); Mr A Robinson (AR); Mrs C Sanderson-Lewis (CS-L); County Councillor R Windas (RW); District Councillor A Myatt (AM); Mrs E Gill (EG) Clerk

- 1. Apologies for Absence:** None

Members of the Public Present: 6

- 2. Declarations of Interest:** TC declared an interest in item 8 b) of the agenda.
- 3. Minutes.** The minutes of the meeting held on Thursday 1st October 2020 were signed and dated as an accurate record by RS.
- 4. County Issues:** RW confirmed the Council’s proposals in respect to a Unitary Authority for North Yorkshire had been voted through earlier in the evening. The proposal is for a single unitary authority for the entire region whilst leaving the City of York as a separate entity, albeit there is concern the population of York is below the recommended number for a single authority within Central Government guidelines.

District Issues: AM advised that Cllr Rebecca Burnett had resigned the Planning portfolio and Councillor Tim Myatt appointed in her place. It is hoped he will bring a fresh perspective on planning.

The Development Plan Document for the new settlement at Green Hammerton is now open for public consultation, with many residents being encouraged to respond to leaflet drops and comment directly on the development. A request had been made that the DPD consultation be deferred until after lockdown but this was turned down. Those who are concerned about the road congestion this development will cause around Cattal station were urged to comment. The consultation period runs until 11 December and can be accessed at www.consult.harrogate.gov.uk

TC stated that he had looked at the 3 different development options for the planned 3,000 homes and noted that provision has been made for primary school education but not secondary school, which taking into account the size of the development appears to be a significant oversight. There is also no provision for sports facilities/playing fields or elderly care/assisted living. In TC’s opinion, and looking at the proposal from an MCG residents perspective, Option 3 appears to have the least impact for residents using the A59 to access York. Option 3 has the development centred around Cattal Station, with the A59 remaining in its current position and not straddled by development.

This is one of a number of consultation documents as part of Harrogate B.C. Supplemental Planning Documents that relate to the new Local Plan. These comprise: Affordable Housing, Air Quality, Avoiding Net Loss of Biodiversity, Open Space/Village Hall Contributions and Rural Workers Accommodation.

TC has reviewed the documents and it was agreed that he would feedback his comments to the PC outside the meeting in order for the PC to agree a response.

- 5. Playing Fields/Woodlands**

- a) The moles which have been causing a hazard on the playing fields have now been dealt with in accordance with the Annual Play Inspection Report.
 - b) Fencing repairs have been carried out to the area around the car park.
 - c) The PC continues to work on the management policy/constitution for the pavilion.
- 6. Village Shop:** - No change is anticipated to services in the next lockdown and the shop will remain trading from 8.00 am to 5.30 pm.
- 7. Village Hall:** Nothing to update as the Hall is still not in use. It has been reported that the defibrillator is needing a new battery and this is in hand.
- 8. Planning:**
- a) 6.71.73.FUL 20/03347/FUL – Highfield Croft, Thorny Hill Lane, Marton cum Grafton
Proposal: Demolition of conservatory and erection of single storey garden room.

It was noted by the resident that this is a replacement conservatory not a garden room as stated by HBC. The Parish Council has no objections to this application.
 - b) 6.71.84.F.TPO 20/03894/TPO – Ashdale, Thorny Hill Lane, Marton cum Grafton
Proposal: Felling of 1 Ash Tree under TPO 49/2020

TC withdrew from the meeting before the matter was discussed. The diseased ash tree has been approved for removal by HBC Arboriculturalist. However the PC do not agree with HBC's suggested replacement of a Hornbeam as opposed to the smaller White Beam proposed in the application.
The parish council agreed that, due to the tree's immediate proximity to Thorny Hill Lane and the larger commercial vehicles that use this road, the replacement should be of a smaller, less vigorous variety as per the suggestion on the original application.

Enforcement

- c) 20/00475/BRPC15 Grafton Manor, Limebar Lane
Alleged Breach: Outbuilding not in accordance with approved plans
Notification received from HBC that they are looking into what has been constructed and what was applied for.
 - d) 20/01180/FUL – Land to the South Side of Priestcarr Lodge Farm, Legram Road
Proposal: Retrospective permission for Pheasantries has been granted by HBC.
This permission is subject to 4 pages of conditions notably to do with the construction of the access point, noise emissions, waste storage, the site being used exclusively for pheasants with no poultry permitted. In addition the sheds are not allowed to be moved around the site.
- 9. Financial Matters:**
- a) The External Auditors PFK Littlejohn have completed the audit for the year 2019/20 and forwarded their report and certificate to the Clerk.

b) HBC have requested our Precept requirements for the year 2021/22. It was agreed that the only increase required would be to cover additional administration costs and therefore the Precept request would be for an increase of 12% from current precept of £4,950 to £5,550 for 2021/22.

c) Summary of recent payments and receipts:-

Out:

Date	Item	Total £
15/09/2020	YLCA - Village Greens Webinar for PG	£15.00
21/09/2020	G Marston - grass cutting in Grafton	£42.00
24/09/2020	Nick Spence Groundworks Ltd - woodland repairs	£780.00
24/09/2020	Chris Stephenson - Pavilion	£296.76
25/09/2020	E Gill - Salary (Sep)	£168.21
14/10/2020	YLCA - Training course CS-L	£22.50
	Total out	£1,324.47

In:

Date	Item	Total £
29/09/2020	HBC - 2020 Precept 2nd payment	£2,475.00
08/10/2020	Spellows - Shop Rent	£1,218.00
09/10/2020	HMRC - VAT repayment	£2,948.58
	Total received	£6,641.58

Total monies held at 14 October: **£44,976.41**

Parish Council available funds at 14 October: **£8,878.41**

Payments to be authorised:

HBC – Annual play area safety inspection	£66.00
HBC – Annual skate park inspection	£66.00
Parish Online – annual fee	£42.00
Thomas Clapham – moleman	£70.00
PKF Littlejohn LLP – Annual audit	£240.00
YLCA – VAT Training Course for PG	£30.00
M-cum-G Cricket Club – Grass cutting 2020	£300.00
Autella Payroll Services Ltd	£62.32

10. Update on Commuted Sums Funding - TC:

TC has checked with HBC to see if the numerous proposals residents suggested for S106 monies due to the village were compliant with the councils criteria. They have acknowledged the following potential items of expenditure would be permitted:- French boules pit by the tennis courts, concrete table tennis tables, half size football goal for children, granite sets to define road curbs for Marton and Grafton (to discuss with Highways Authority), mains water into the churchyard, flower and tree planting, picnic tables by pavilion and tennis courts, a padel tennis court, crown lift for the oak tree on Grafton green and village welcome signs at entry points. However HBC stated they will not authorise money to be spent on any item which requires ongoing maintenance ie mowers, trimmers or machinery.

It should be noted these items are by no means a definitive list and a great deal more scrutiny of each suggestion will be required before final approval is given by the PC & expenditure requested from HBC. The total amount of S106 money available is £48,752.

11. Correspondence

- a) YLCA asked for commentary regarding – Code of Conduct for Standards in Public Life. It was deemed the focus of the paper was more appropriate for larger Town Councils.

1 Any Other Business – items for next agenda:

- a) Yew Tree Farm Development – Developers are not on site yet and are still waiting for Northern Power to carry out essential works. We have been advised that it is unlikely the development will start before the New Year, with January being suggested. The process of the purchase/sale to the PC of the public open space built into the design remains under discussion. However the developer has confirmed no provision has currently been made to repair the existing cobble and brick wall on Marton Lane which is already in a very poor state of repair. It was agreed this issue needs to be resolved before the PC could accept the land into PC ownership.
- b) TC is having ongoing discussions with various parties regarding obtaining Granite sets for village curb areas.
- c) Complaint of an overhanging beech tree on Thorney Hill Lane/Butchers Hill which is causing a nuisance to high sided vehicles such as tractors/busses. TC to speak to the resident.

The meeting was closed at 8.25 pm.

Date of Next Meeting: Thursday 3 December at 7.30 pm via Zoom.

Signed:

Dated:

**Minutes of Marton-cum-Grafton Parish Council held as an “On-Line” Meeting
on Thursday 4th December 2020 at 7.30 pm**

Present: Mr R Shepherd (RS) Chair; Mr P Gill (PG) Vice Chair; Mr T Cole (TC); Mr A Robinson (AR); Mrs C Sanderson-Lewis (CS-L); County Councillor R Windass (RW); Mrs E Gill (EG) Clerk

1. **Apologies for Absence:** District Councillor A Myatt (not presented at meeting)

Members of the Public On-line: 10

2. **Declarations of Interest:** None.

3. **Minutes.** The minutes of the meeting held on Wednesday 4 November 2020 were signed and dated as an accurate record by RS.

4. **County Issues:** RW reported continuing progress with regard to Covid restrictions. The report on the proposal for unitary authority and devolution is being submitted to ministers on 9 December, with an answer expect by February 2021.

District Issues: No report.

5. **Playing Fields/Woodlands /Pavilion update:** The draft constitution for the pavilion, woodlands & playing fields is very close to finalisation and it is hoped to be able to sign this off at the January meeting.

6. **Village Shop:** HT has thanked the village for the financial gift which was given to her by her customers as a recognition for all the shop staffs hard work and dedication throughout the Covid crisis. She intends to spend the monies on a protective awning for the front of the shop, once in receipt of plans/drawings the PC will discuss approval, but in principle are supportive of the project.

7. **Village Hall:** The Hall remains out of use as a meeting venue. A new battery has been fitted to the defibrillator with PG now carrying out the weekly check it. Thanks were expressed to Ed Bennison for his assistance with weekly checks during lockdown.

8. **Garage Lease:** A part of TL’s garage is sited on Parish Council land and has been for the last 21 years. TL’s lease is now up for renewal and it was proposed that the new rent will increase from £50.00 to £80.00 (plus VAT) per annum with rent reviews every 7 years and a fixed increase of £10.00 at the review dates. TL has agreed to cover the cost of having a new 21 year lease drawn up.

9. **Planning:**

- a) 6.71.214.FUL – Land Comprising Field At 441573 463077 Limebar Bank Road
Proposal: Formation of new agricultural access and hardstanding to form turning area
Notification has been received from HBC that this application has been withdrawn.
- b) 20/00444/PR15 The Old Chapel, Marton cum Grafton – HBC have notified the PC that a retrospection planning application is being sought from the owner. The owner has confirmed this will be submitted in due course.
- c) 20/03347/FUL – Highfield Croft, Thorny Hill Lane, Marton cum Grafton.
HBC have granted planning permission on this subject to conditions.

- d) 6.71.26.P.FUL 20/03805/FUL – Primrose Cottage, Marton cum Grafton
 Proposal: Formation of new access and driveway, erection of single bay garage with lean-to replacement greenhouse (following demolition of existing greenhouse) and the stopping up of the existing access.

The Parish Council noted this is not Primrose Cottage but Limebar Cottage. The PC had no objections to the stopping up of the existing access and the creation of a new driveway and garage. However it was noted the positioning of the garage to the rear of Limebar Cottage is out with the existing building line. Hence it was suggested the garage be built in line with the existing structure in order to maintain the line. Comments to be sent to HBC to this effect.

- e) Although not on the agenda, it was noted that Amber Hill have requested the removal of an old stable building and to rebuild a summer house in its place with accommodation using a similar footprint and height. The PC have no objections to this.

10. Financial Matters:

Summary of recent payments and receipts:-

Out:

Date	Item	Total £
25/10/2020	E Gill - Oct Salary	£168.21
10/11/2020	HBC - Annual skate park safety inspection	£66.00
10/11/2020	HBC - Annual play area safety inspection	£66.00
10/11/2020	Thomas Clapham - moleman	£70.00
10/11/2020	Autela Payroll Services Ltd	£62.32
10/11/2020	GeoXphere Ltd - Parish Online	£42.00
11/11/2020	PKF Littlejohn LLP - auditors	£240.00
11/11/2020	YLCA - VAT training course PG	£30.00
12/11/2020	Marton cum G. Cricket Club - grass cutting	£300.00
	Total out	£1,324.47

In: No funds had been received into the account.

Total monies held at 14 November: **£43,932.08**

Parish Council available funds at 14 October: **£7,834.08**

Payments to be authorised:

Tim Joynson – maintenance work to Yore Walk board	£31.50
YLCA – Risk Assessment Webinar – RS	£10.00
Dalton Enterprises – grass cutting for 2020	£1,140.00

11. **Report to Consider Wild Flower / Tree Planting Scheme in the Village:** RS thanked JW for the work he had put into the report on locating suitable planting sites within the village. It was noted by RS, from personal experience, that if grasses are not suppressed and the soil too fertile any wild flower planting scheme will come to nothing and waste valuable funds. Grass cutting of the verges by HBC also needs to be investigated to ensure this doesn't occur at the wrong time in the cycle. SC was

asked for her input and mentioned Natural England have a mix of wild flower seeds native to the area that with careful management have every chance of establishing themselves in time. It was agreed a working party should meet to walk through potential planting sites in the village and report back at the January meeting.

TC stated that an application has been submitted and granted by HBC for permission to crown lift the oak tree on Grafton Green. The cost will be £438 plus VAT which will be paid for from existing S106 money.

12. Update on Village Broadband Project: It was reported that Openreach have responded to Matthew Cole's request for improved village broadband by quoting an initial cost of £357,000 (which included the Dunforths). Matthew asked them to remove the Dunforths and this has now come back at £305,000 for the village, based on 190 properties. Matthew Cole is to liaise with Openreach, BT and others see what funding is available to assist with reducing this cost. Unfortunately S106 monies cannot not be used for this purpose. The PC expressed their thanks to Matthew Cole for his work so far.

13. Update on The Copse (Townend Close): TC has been looking at suitable areas in the village for the installation of granite sets to protect verges etc with Tim Simpson from Highways. He will supply a list of suitable contractors for the PC to obtain quotations.

Adverse comments have been received about the size and frequency of the new street signs at 'Townend Close' which some residents have suggested are not in keeping with the rest of the village. Investigation has found they conform to HBC standards which make no differentiation between urban & rural settings. It is anticipated that once the road has been adopted by NYCC (in 12 months time) the PC will be able to revisit and make recommendations as to their removal and/or replacement.

14. Correspondence - None received

15. Any Other Business – items for next agenda:

- a) A complaint has been received from a resident about the number of HGVs using Braimber Lane despite the existing 7.5 ton restriction. Residents should note vehicle registration numbers/company names etc so the PC can contact the companies responsible and raise the issue before reporting to the police.
- b) Boules court, table tennis table, picnic table installation in the woodlands/playing fields to be discussed at the next meeting.
- c) The overhanging beech tree on Thorny Hill Lane Grafton (Butchers Hill) is due to be pruned back by the owner following concerns by drivers of larger vehicles.
- d) Concern was raised over the extensive caravan storage at Rougham Farm. Clerk to check the details of planning permission granted for storage and if necessary report it to Enforcement.
- e) Following an enquiry about the continued soil dumping near Stockfield Manor the meeting was informed that Enforcement have responded to this but the owners have stated they will resolve the issue once the development is complete.

f) TC noted that following a meeting with highways, they do not consider the flooding at the top of Church Lane to be a priority. To renew the land drain in the field that may be causing it would cost c. £12k and this could only be justified by them if houses were being flooded.

g) Clerk to report the pothole at Limebar Lane to NYCC Highways.

The meeting was closed at 8.30 pm.

Date of Next Meeting: Thursday 7 January 2021 at 7.30 pm via Zoom.

Signed:

Dated: