

**Minutes of Marton-cum-Grafton Parish Council held as an “On-Line” Meeting
on Thursday 7 January 2021 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); District Councillor A Myatt (AM); Mrs E Gill (EG) Clerk

1. Apologies for Absence: None

Members of the Public On-line: 16

2. Declarations of Interest: None.

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

4. County Issues: RW reported that Harrogate District are currently experiencing 90 new cases of Covid per day and stressed the need to keep taking precautions. The budget for NYCC is scheduled for next month and displays a significant shortfall of £82m over the next 3 years. Improvement works have now started at Junction 47 on A1M which is also costing around £8M of which NYCC is required to pay £1.5M with the remainder being met by the Dept of Transport. Other road improvement works in the area include Kexgill at Blubberhouses which is a £60M project with NYCC needing to contribute £5M towards the cost. The council are facing challenging times both financially and also due to staff working from home.

A resident, recently discharged from Harrogate District Hospital for a non-Covid related illness, was keen to make the observation that the hospital/staff continue to do a fantastic job.

District Issues: RW reported that due to staff shortages combined with a thriving property market, land searches for property sales are currently subject to delay with applications received in January not expected to be issued until March. The situation is being addressed through the hire of agency staff.

HBC is suffering a loss of income as council owned car parks are largely empty and leisure facilities remain closed. Hence they will have to use reserves in order to balance the budget.

The Unitary Authority bids were presented on 9th December with the minister responsible due to make a decision on the proposals next month, however this could be delayed due to Covid related priorities. In further Covid related disruption County Council elections for this year have been postponed until 2022 however the Police and Fire Commissioner elections remain scheduled for May this year.

5. Playing Fields/Woodlands /Pavilion update:

The Constitution for the Woodlands Area has been completed and signed along with the Pavilion Management Plan and put on file. The Lease from the PC to the Marton cum Grafton Sports & Recreation Association for the pavilion is being drawn up and will be reported on next month (RS).

It was agreed to assist the volunteers who empty the bins on the playing fields by obtaining a large wheelie bin on contract from HBC at a cost of £258 (fortnightly collections) to replace the existing rubbish bins. PG to check first if a cheaper quote could be obtained from a private contractor.

TC has received 2 quotes for the installation of the Boules court but is awaiting a third quote. Enquiries have been made about picnic tables but a lack of winter stock has hindered selection. TC mentioned that S106 monies cannot be claimed until all properties at Town End Close (The Copse) are occupied, currently one property has yet to be inhabited. However the Oak Tree on Grafton Green has been pruned as this is being paid from previous S106 money.

TC confirmed that following a meeting with Tim Simpson of HBC he has received the approved contractor list for installation of granite sets and is in the process of obtaining quotes.

6. **Village Shop:** RS to speak to HT regards her generous proposal to fund the new awning for the shop out of the goodwill donations raised for her earlier in the year. A number of residents have suggested the cost should be met by existing shop funds.
7. **Village Hall:** The Hall remains closed due to Covid restrictions.
8. **Planning:**
 - a) 20/01546/FUL – Christ Church, Marton cum Grafton – single storey extension with glazed link. This has been granted by HBC.
 - b) 20/03894/TPO – Ashdale, Thorny Hill Lane – felling of ash tree and replant with sorbus aria. Approved by HBC.
 - c) 20/02010/FUL – Yew Tree Farm, Marton – conversion of barn to form 2 dwellings. Approved subject to conditions from HBC.
 - d) 20/04430/CLOPUD – Amber Hill, Thorny Hill Lane – demolition of stables and replacement outbuilding for ancillary use. The PC had no objections but HBC have refused permission. It was noted that this was an application for a Certificate of Lawfulness and therefore the applicants may wish to reapply through the planning system.

Application Notifications

- e) 6.71.191.PNT56 20/04383/PNT56 – Water Tower, Marton cum Grafton – Installation of telecoms mast. To ratify decision taken by the PC 16.12.2020 not to object - Agreed.
- f) 6.71.202.D.FUL 20/03911/FUL – Land comprising Field at 441716 462728 (Yew Tree Farm) – Erection of a dwelling (Plot 22). To ratify decision taken by the PC on 22.12.2020 to object to this application on the basis that 20 units were suitable for the site, they have already increased to 21 and now wish to increase to 22. Agreed.
- g) 6.71.29.FUL 20/04396/FUL – Shippen Bower, Marton cum Grafton. Erection of two storey extension and first floor extension, 5 roof lights and alterations to fenestration to all elevations. The PC noted the good design and had no objections.
- h) 6.71.32.C.FUL 20/04623/FUL The Old Chapel, Marton cum Grafton. Retrospective application for the retention of a single storey rear extension. The PC had no objections.

Enforcement Notification

- i) 20/00597/PR15 – Roughton Farm, Allerton Park, Knaresborough.

Change of use of land to a caravan storage facility. The PC have received notification that HBC are making enquiries regarding legitimacy of planning.

9. Financial Matters:

Summary of recent payments and receipts:-

Out:

Date	Item	Total £
25/11/2020	E Gill - Nov Salary	£168.01
05/12/2020	YLCA - Risk Assessment Course - RS	£10.00
05/12/2020	T Joynson - Repairs Yore Walk Board	£31.50
06/12/2020	Dalton Enterprises - Mowing 2020	£1,140.00
	Total out	£1,349.51

In:

Date	Item	Total £
08/12/2020	Marton Memorial Hall - boiler repairs	£374.37
	Total received	£374.37

Total monies held at 14 December: **£42,957.13**

Parish Council available funds at 14 December: **£6,859.13**

Payments to be authorised:

E Gill – Zoom Meeting costs £11.99

10. Correspondence

- a) A complaint was received from a resident regarding damage to village greens, verges and specifically the sign to Legram Lane which had been driven over. It was noted that not much can be done about bad driving however a resident volunteered to re-secure the Legram Lane sign. The PC will continue to invest any S106 money in granite sets to protect curbs within the village. Parents of school children are being encouraged not to park on the village verges but to either park on the road or use the pub car park.
- b) A pre-planning consultation letter had been received on behalf of Northern Energy Ltd regarding the development of an oil and LPG gas storage facility adjacent to A168. The proposal includes 200T of LPG storage, 200+ mix of mini bulk LPG tanks, 300,000 litres oil storage, offices for 50 staff, truck workshop and storage buildings, and car parking. The PC agreed this is a greenfield site which is wholly unsuitable and the proposal goes against the policies of the recently adopted HBC Local Plan. It was also noted that it does not require a countryside location and other industrial sites are available locally. It was agreed that the PC would ask for a meeting with the developers on site to state our objections but also to find out as much as possible regarding the proposal. Northern Energy's letter will be circulated to village residents for their information (EG).

The PC asked AM to pass on our concerns to the Planning Department and our strong objections to it.

11. Update on Wildflower/Tree Planting:

The PC are in support of wildflower planting on Stockfield Lane and native tree planting on the lower part of Galibar Lane but not for the frequently flooded area near the beet clamp. Finance for wildflower seeding is currently available however S106 monies are not available for the trees as the development at The Copse is not yet fully occupied. Agreed for the need to level both sites and get a local farmer to quote for the work (SC).

13. Any Other Business – items for next agenda:

- a) A resident raised the issue of Rougham Farm’s stealth development of the farm yard for caravan storage. The business has moved 1000’s tons of soil and laid road plainings to create a very large area for non-agricultural use without planning permission. Concern that this is becoming ribbon industrial development all the way down the A168. The PC have already reported this to Enforcement.
- b) It was pointed out the scaffolding poles on road signs for the Copse are not in keeping with the standard wooden road signs in the village but this will look to be rectified in 12 months time once the road is adopted by NYCC Highways.
- c) A resident complained about the state of verges and illegal soil storage on Stockfield Lane due to the development of Stockfield Manor. The PC have already brought this to the attention of Enforcement.

The meeting was closed at 9.00 pm.

Date of Next Meeting: Thursday 4th February 2021 at 7.30 pm via Zoom.

Signed:

Dated:

**Minutes of Marton-cum-Grafton Parish Council held as an “On-Line” Meeting
on Thursday 4 February 2021 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); District Councillor A Myatt (AM); Mrs E Gill (EG) Clerk

1. **Apologies for Absence:** None

Members of the Public On-line: 15

2. **Declarations of Interest:** AR declared an interest in item 8 g).

3. **Minutes.** The minutes of the meeting held on Thursday 7 January 2021 were signed and dated as an accurate record by RS.

4. **County Issues:** RW reported that Harrogate District had been under pressure with the January snow falls and flooding. There have been a number of instances where drivers have ignored ‘Road Closed’ signs and subsequently become stuck, hence the police will be taking a pro-active stance and those drivers ignoring temporary closure signs can expect to be prosecuted.

NYCC are in the process of setting the budget which will be voted on next week and a council tax increase of 1.99% has been recommended and is likely to be agreed. This mirrors the increase HBC have proposed for their portion of the budget which equates to 13% of the overall figure.

There is to be an online Public Enquiry on 16 February in connection with the proposed motorway service station at Kirby Hill and also for another proposal that was previously refused at Junction 50 of the A1(M). Although it is too late for letters of objection to be considered RW encouraged anyone interested to view the proceedings on YouTube in order to show the strength of feeling regards these proposals.

RW stated that 2 cases of the South African Covid-19 variant had been detected in Scarborough, those infected had recently travelled from abroad and were now in isolation. 46 Coronavirus deaths had been recorded in North Yorkshire this month which brings the death total to 963 since the start of the pandemic.

Thorny Hill Lane is to be closed between 15 to 19 Feb for electricity and water supply connections. The road in Marton near the Yew Tree Farm development will be closed between 8-19 March for works to power supplies.

District Issues: AM reported that she had spoken to Enforcement regarding the soil dumped at Stockfield/Thorny Hill Lane site and this was under investigation. AM has also chased the Planning Department regards the discharge of sewage into a residents garden next door to the recent Townend Close development by Mulgrave Properties. It was also noted by a resident that, as evidenced by the recent snow falls, the roof insulation on the new houses within the Mulgarve Properties development appears to be poor with the snow deposits on their south facing roofs having melted whilst the equivalent on the decades old Orchards properties over the road remained covered. AM agreed to speak to Building Control to check this had been inspected and is in line with building regulations.

HBC’s budget has been agreed in principal and is awaiting final approval. AM noted they are drawing on reserves.

5. **Playing Fields/Woodlands /Pavilion update:**

A commercial trade waste bin has been installed at the playing fields which will alleviate some of the heavy lifting the volunteers were facing when emptying the rubbish and dog bins.

The Lease from the PC to the Marton cum Grafton Sports & Recreation Association for the pavilion remains under composition and will be reported on at the next meeting (RS).

6. Village Shop: Nothing to report.

7. Village Hall: The Village Hall Committee held its AGM on Wednesday 3 January. The hall remains closed to the public but is being used by HT for village shop purposes. Heating and electrics will be serviced in April so the hall can reopen as soon as permitted. Accounts to the end of September 2020 have been prepared and filed. It was noted that the only income during this time was the Business Rates grant of £10,000. The next accounts will conclude on 31 March 2021, to align with the Parish Council accounting year end as requested by Parish Council.

8. Planning:

Application Notifications

- a) 6.71.187.B.FUL 20/04873/FUL – Rabbit Hill Park – Retrospective application for subdivision of building into MOT testing/car service centre. Agreed to ratify the decision taken by the PC 25.01.2021 - no objections as this use was permitted within the original planning permissions.
- b) 6.71.217.FUL 20/04815/FUL – Rabbit Hill Park – Retrospective application for subdivision of building into gym. Agreed to ratify decision taken by the PC 25.01.2021 - no objections as this use was permitted within the original planning permissions.
- c) 6.71.5.J.FUL 21/00069/FUL – Beck House, Grafton Lane. Loft conversion to main building, erection of a timber-frame porch and single-storey extension to the existing kitchen with French doors onto the garden.
After discussion it was noted that there may be a need for a bat survey to be carried out contrary to what has been submitted. It was agreed to look at the plans on site to establish if a resident's concerns regarding windows were valid in planning terms. The concerned resident was advised that if they wished to object that was perfectly acceptable.
- d) 6.71.48.C. TPO 21/00275/TPO – Beck House, Grafton Lane. Crown reduction to Silver Birch. It was noted that this refers to Beck Cottage not Beck House. The PC has no objections.
- e) 6.71.207.D.FUL 20/04192/FUL – Land West of Limebar Cottage, Limebar Lane, Grafton. Erection of dwelling, relocation of access, formation of driveway and creation of domestic curtilage.
The applicant originally submitted an application for a larger house within the conservation area, this was withdrawn & subsequently resubmitted as a smaller design which obtained approval. A new application has now been submitted for a larger property. Agreed that the PC need to meet on site to have a look at the site and agree how the Design Access Statements, Planning Statements and Heritage Statements affect what is proposed. The PC have received concerns from other residents.
- f) 6.71.162.A.FUL 21/00153/FUL – Prospect Chase, Thorny Hill Lane, Grafton. Erection of single storey extension. The Parish Council has no objections to this application.

- g) 6.71.164.C.FUL 21/00132/FUL – Hillcrest, Marton. Demolition of existing garage block and outbuildings. Erection of replacement garage block incorporating residential annexe over. The PC have no objections to this but will submit a comment that a bat survey needs to be carried out due to the pantile roof construction.

Enforcement Notification

- h) 20/00597/PR15 – Rougham Farm, Allerton Park, Knaresborough – caravan storage facility. The PC have received an acknowledgement from HBC that they are looking into the breach of planning. A retrospective planning application has been requested.
- i) 21/00026/BRPC15 – Land adjacent to Priestcar Lodge Farm (Pheasant Sheds Field). Potential breach of planning re-surface water discharge. Acknowledged that they are looking at a possible breach. Inspection.

General

- j) Following concern from a resident it was agreed to report to Enforcement a potential breach of planning permissions at Meadow View, Limebar Bank Road. This is a holiday rental cottage, and it was suggested that under current restrictions it should not be occupied at present.
- k) RS reported on the meeting with ELG Developers regarding the possible Northern Energy development adjacent to the A168 close to the entrance of Limebar Lane. The developers have made it clear this is now the sole location they are focusing on and architectural plans are advanced. However this is currently a greenfield site and will establish additional ribbon development along the A168. The PC believes this goes against HBC planning policy for the area as evidenced within the Harrogate Local Plan. Northern Energy's proposed installation of LPG gas tanks requires their location to be 250m away from housing which they argue discounts other potential sites. RS has contacted the Planning Department at HBC to facilitate a Zoom call for the PC to discuss our concerns in more detail.

It was agreed that the PC should respond formally to ELG's consultation document stating that the PC do not consider it a suitable site and we believe suitable alternative sites are available to them.

- l) Sewage and flooding problems near Townend Close (The Copse) have caused residents a (revolting) problem. Yorkshire Water located the problem in the new development and improved the situation but the problem is likely to remain for this resident as Mulgrave Properties raised the soil levels beyond what was originally agreed in planning and the village sewage system appears inadequate for the additional capacity. The resident raised further concerns that when the new Yew Tree Farm development becomes occupied the 6" sewage pipe for the village, which is already struggling to cope, will bring further sewage issues. Ann Myatt will speak to Enforcement to follow up on the planning aspect of this. It was suggested the resident contact Yorkshire Water as they may have already 'adopted' the system from the developer and will therefore be responsible for its operation.

9. Financial Matters:

- a) Summary of recent payments and receipts:-

Out:

Date	Item	Total £
15/12/2020	Johnsons Heating - boiler repairs	£449.24
16/12/2020	E Gill - Laptop Security	£49.99
16/12/2020	E Gill - Laptop Repairs	£238.80
17/12/2020	Cardiac Science - defibrillator battery	£228.00
18/12/2020	Information Commissioner - GDPR fee	£40.00
25/12/2020	E Gill - Dec Salary	£168.21
13/01/2021	E Gill - Expenses Zoom Meeting	£11.99
	Total out	£1,186.23

In:

Date	Item	Total £
		-
	Total received	£0.00

Total monies held at 14 January 2021: **£41,771.10**

Parish Council available funds at 14 January 2021: **£5,673.10**

No payments requiring authorisation.

- b) Insurance Policy – a renewal quotation for the village insurance has been received from Zurich. It was agreed to take a 5 year fixed option at £995.85 per year.

10. Correspondence

- a) An email had been received from a resident in connection with the proposed planting of wild flowers and trees, particularly on Gallibar Lane. It was pointed out it is common land vested in the interests of the Parish Council which means certain activities cannot be undertaken on them, although tree planting would likely be permitted. However practical issues need to be considered such as access for hedge maintenance & the risk that branches would soon encroach upon the legal obstruction limits of the highway. In addition it is believed there is an electricity supply line on the northern hedge line and if so a wayleave restriction will likely be in place which may well prevent planting within a given distance. It was agreed that more research needs to be done on this area before any tree planting could be approved. However the wildflower proposal on Stockfield Lane, within the area identified by the Parish Council can proceed.

13. Any Other Business – items for next agenda:

TC has spoken to Brierley Homes re the Yew Tree Farm development and they expect works to commence once Northern Power have moved the power cables scheduled for the week commencing 8th March. Hence they hope to start on site by end of March. Brierley are still awaiting approval of the extra Plot 22 which came before the Parish Council last month. There has been a delay on this as the Housing Officer is wanting an additional affordable unit if Plot 22 is granted. Brierley would rather pay an additional commuted sum rather than agree to another affordable house.

TC has received three quotes for the petanque court but as they are not all the same spec this will be reported at the next meeting.

TC has met three different companies to supply quotations for installation of granite sets for verges in the Marton. TC has received one quotation but is awaiting the other two, so will be reported on at the next meeting.

A resident asked if the corner of Stockfield Lane/Thorny Hill Lane verges were going to be reinstated by the developer. It is hoped this will be rectified on completion of the development.

The meeting was closed at 8.45 pm.

Date of Next Meeting: Thursday 4th March 2021 at 7.30 pm via Zoom.

Signed:

Dated:

**Minutes of Marton-cum-Grafton Parish Council held as an “On-Line” Meeting
on Thursday 4 March 2021 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 Ann Myatt.

Members of the Public On-line: 11

2. **Declarations of Interest:** None

3. **Minutes.** The minutes of the meeting held on Thursday 4 February 2021 were signed and dated as an accurate record by RS.

4. **County Issues:** RW reported that North Yorkshire have increased their council tax by 1.99%, the largest increase allowable before a local referendum is required in order to gain approval. In addition, the adult social care precept will increase by 1.5% which is half the increase allowable by the Government.

The Public Enquiry for the motorway service station at Kirkby Hill and also at J50 at Ripon is continuing, the Inspector will decide the outcome.

Covid cases continue to fall in the region but the health service remains busy administering vaccinations.

The County Council elections will not go ahead in May as planned due to the probable creation of the new unitary authority. RW agreed to enquire if the Parish Council election would be going ahead and report at the next meeting.

TC enquired if there was a possibility of any grant funding for the village internet project, as this had been quoted at £305,000 from BT Openreach. Some grant funding is available but there would still be a large deficit. RW suggested contacting County Cllr Don McKenzie who deals with the roll out of fibre optic.

District Issues: No report.

5. **Playing Fields/Woodlands /Pavilion update:**

The Lease from the PC to the Marton cum Grafton Sports & Recreation Association for the pavilion has been signed and filed/uploaded to the PC files.

Bookings have been taken for the outdoor classroom and sports field. The school will also be running a sports day in July. Rory Cunningham has finished tiling and decorating the pavilion building.

- a) TC reported that 3 quotes have been received for the petanque court but as they are not to the same specification a review is being undertaken. Further spending on picnic tables/table tennis tables/curbing cannot be undertaken until Section 106 money is received from Townend Close development. This will be discussed at a closed meeting due to the commercially sensitive nature of the quotes.

6. **Village Shop:** Nothing to report.

7. **Village Hall:** Remains closed but continues to be used by the shop until April when HT will hand it back. It will be cleaned and serviced ready for general use and possibly for the Police Fire & Crime Commissioner elections on 6 May. The first coffee morning is likely to be in July.

8. **Planning:**

Application Notifications

- a) 20/04396/FUL – Shippen Bower, Marton – Erection of two-storey extension and first floor extension, installation of roof lights and alterations to fenestration to all elevations. Notice of Decision received from HBC that the application has been granted subject to conditions.
- b) 6.71.32.FUL 20/04623/FUL The Old Chapel, Marton cum Grafton – Retrospective application for the retention of single storey rear extension. Notice of Decision received from HBC that the application has been approved with conditions.

Enforcement Notification

- c) 21/00046/BRPC15 – Land Comprising Field at 441364 462959 (Meadow View), Limebar Bank Road, Marton cum Grafton – Potential breach of condition 3 (17/01452/COU) alleged use of property as a permanent residence. Enforcement at HBC are investigating and will update the PC by 10 March 2021.
- d) 21/00026/BRPC15 – (Pheasant Sheds) near Priestcarr Lodge Farm, Legram Lane, Marton cum Grafton – Potential breach of condition 4 (20/01180/FUL) construction of site access in accordance with surface water discharge requirements. Notification received from Enforcement at HBC that problems of surface water discharge are being investigated.
- e) 20/00597/PR15 – Rougham Farm, Allerton Park, Knaresborough – Caravan Storage Facility – Potential breach of land use to caravan storage. Enforcement have notified the PC that they are chasing the owners for a retrospective application.

6.71.5.J.FUL 21/00069/FUL - Beck House, Grafton Lane. Following on from last month's meeting it was noted that the PC had held a site meeting and agreed there were no planning reasons to object to this planning application.

6.71.207.D.FUL 20/04192/FUL Land west of Limebar Cottage, Limebar Lane. Following the site meeting the PC decided not to object to this however they did comment in detail on the impact of the current proposal particularly with regard to Heritage Statements & Conservation Area Statements submitted by the applicant, full details can be found on the planning portal.

Land at Stockfield Lane/Thorny Hill Lane. Enforcement have been contacted regarding the site as soil is being levelled in this field rather than removed. Enforcement have confirmed that the owners have agreed to remove all the spoil by the end of March and if this is not carried out then enforcement action will be taken.

Yew Tree Farm development – starting work on 22 March 2021. The developers are still waiting for confirmation as to whether Plot 22 will be granted planning permission, however work can commence as they await the outcome.

9. Financial Matters:

a) Summary of recent payments and receipts:-

Out:

Date	Item	Total £
24/01/2021	J C Trees - crown lift oak on green	£525.60
25/01/2021	E Gill - Jan Salary	£168.21
01/02/2021	Autela Payroll Services Ltd	£46.73
08/02/2021	T W Joynson - Clerk's email box	£12.00
08/02/2021	E Gill - Zoom meeting expense	£11.99
	Total out	£764.53

In:

Date	Item	Total £
22/01/2021	HMRC - VAT repayment	£227.39
30/01/2021	Spellows - Shop Rent	£1,221.65
30/01/2021	Spellows - Insurance Contribution	£150.00
	Total received	£1,599.04

Total monies held at 14 February 2021: **£42,605.81**

Parish Council available funds at 14 February 2021: **£5,339.76**

Payments to be authorised:

YLCA – Training Course on Year End Accounts for PG £30.00

b) Grass Cutting contribution from North Yorkshire County Council for 2021/22 will be £213.35, it was agreed that this was a worthwhile contribution.

Dalton Enterprises who provide the mower for the village greens grass cutting have indicated they may withdraw the service next year, as such the PC will explore other options including the provision of a new mower.

10. Garage Lease Update

It was agreed the Parish Council would pay the legal costs of £375 plus VAT to put a new 21 year lease in place however the rent will be increased to £130 + VAT per annum which will assist in recouping the outlay. An increase of £10 every 7 years will remain as previously agreed.

11. Verge Repairs in the Village - TC

TC reported that quotations had been received for granite sets to line the damaged verges in Marton following the development of Townend Close (The Copse) using S106 monies. A decision still needs to be taken as to which verges are most in need of repair. It was agreed to revisit the situation once S106 monies are received from the proposed Yew Tree Farm development following completion & occupation of the new houses.

12. Update on Broadband Project

Matthew Cole has been working on this with 64 houses and 34 businesses registering their interest in this upgrade of service. A quote was received from BT Openreach for the installation of fibre optic cables at £305,000. Grant funding is available, however this expires at the end of the month thereby presenting an unattainable deadline for the project. It was therefore agreed to wait out in the meantime and see what other grant funding transpires. The Parish Council thanked Matthew for his impressive work to date on the project.

13. Correspondence

a) North East Yorkshire & Humber Rural Community Energy Fund Feasibility Grant Application Guidance. Inviting tenders for a grant of up to £40k to explore the potential for green energy projects for schools, churches, village halls etc. A small team of residents and non-residents have already started looking into this scheme and initial findings are that it looks feasible with the school being the most appropriate asset for such a project.

14. Any Other Business – items for next agenda:

The Local Government Re-organisation Consultation document had been circulated to Councillors however it was felt that there was little point in responding.

Progress on the wildflower planting in the verges on Stockfield Lane has been made and D & P Barker have agreed to undertake the necessary preparations on Stockfield Lane in order to sow wildflower seeds later in the summer.

The meeting was closed at 8.30 pm.

Date of Next Meeting: Thursday 1st April 2021 at 7.30 pm via Zoom.

Signed:

Dated:

**Minutes of Marton-cum-Grafton Parish Council held as an “On-Line” Meeting
on Thursday 1 April 2021 at 7.30 pm**

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

1. **Apologies for Absence:** District Councillor Ann Myatt; Alex Robinson

Members of the Public On-line: 9

2. **Declarations of Interest:** PG declared an interest in item 8e) Corner House being a neighbouring property.
3. **Minutes.** The minutes of the meeting held on Thursday 4 March 2021 were signed and dated as an accurate record by RS.
4. **County Issues:** No report received.

TC reported that he had spoken to Don McKenzie of NYCC regarding the broadband speeds in the area and was informed that other areas with slower speeds are receiving funding at this time. No funds are currently available for our village until more rural areas have been improved. A new grant system is coming out later this month so we must wait to see if any criteria apply to us.

District Issues: No report.

5. **Playing Fields/Woodlands /Pavilion update:**

Sporting Start have been running a children’s event in the woodland and using the pavilion facilities producing some welcomed revenue for the pavilion & woodlands funds. Sporting Start have enquired if the PC would approve a (heavily) supervised overnight camp in the woodland area. The Parish Council had no objections to this. A “one off” pavilion coffee morning was also suggested to raise funds for the pavilion, it was agreed that this would need to be out-doors and would be best placed after 17 May due to the proposed relaxing of Covid restrictions at this time.

It was reported that the Tennis coaching is proving really popular for all age groups and the club has a waiting list for the younger age group.

TC has chased HBC for the Section 106 monies due following full residency of the Townend Close development. HBC confirmed the first instalment has been received and are awaiting the second instalment.

6. **Village Shop:** Nothing to report.
7. **Village Hall:** The hall remains closed. A deep clean is booked in for the end of April so that it is ready for election use on 6 May. It is anticipated that the hall will re-open for classes from 17 May.
8. **Planning:**

Decision Notifications

- a) 20/04873/FUL Rabbit Hill, Allerton Park – Retrospective application for MOT Testing centre. Approved by HBC subject to conditions.
- b) 20/04815/FUL Rabbit Hill, Allerton Park – Retrospective application for building as gym. Approved by HBC subject to conditions.
- c) 21/00153/FUL Prospect Chase Thorny Hill Lane – Erection of single storey extension. Approved by HBC subject to conditions.

Primrose Cottage, Limebar Lane – Formation of new access and driveway, erection of single bay garage and the stopping up of the existing access. The PC have received notification from HBC that this has been granted by HBC subject to conditions.

Application Notification

- d) 6.71.218.FULMAJ 21/00728/FULMAJ – Northern Energy - Land Comprising OS Field 2161 Limebar Lane, Marton. Creation of an energy distribution centre/new headquarters, including erection of office building, vehicle depot, provision of LPG and oil storage tanks, and formation of car park and new vehicular access from A168.

This has been discussed in previous meetings and TC together with other residents in the village have done a great deal of work to prepare a response. The PC have reviewed it on its merits under planning legislation, planning policy and environmental grounds.

A 5 page document detailing the concerns from the PC will be submitted to HBC but in summary the assessment centres around the following planning policies as incorporated in National Planning Policy Framework and incorporated within the recently adopted Harrogate Local Plan :-

Employment Development in the Countryside – Policy EC3
Local Distinctiveness – Policy HP3

The Parish Council believes the proposed scheme has a significant detrimental impact on the distinctiveness of the local environment by both its specific use/design and contribution to ribbon development on the A168. Its design is not of exceptional quality and does not enhance its immediate setting nor is it sensitive to the defining characteristics of the local area.

The scale/massing of new buildings and operational nature of this proposal in an attractive rural setting, affecting the local landscape and views into and across the site mean that it is contrary to Policy EC3 (Employment Development in the Countryside)

The Sequential Test submitted to justify the development of this green field site due to the lack of alternative brownfield/ employment sites was limited in its scope and missed a number of more suitable, brown field, locations.

The Parish Council's conclusion is that it objects to this application on agricultural land in a designated rural area, on grounds of policy, environment and exceptional need (sequential test).

It further agreed that the full document would be circulated to village residents for their information.

- e) PP-09473603 21/00507/LB – Corner House, Thorny Hill Lane, Grafton.
Internal alterations comprising replacement internal window, opening from kitchen to adjacent sitting area and removal of store. Agreed that the Parish Council does not object to or support the application.

9. Financial Matters: Summary of recent payments and receipts:-

Out:

Date	Item	Total £
22/02/2021	T W Joynson - Website Domain Name	£31.18
25/02/2021	E Gill - Salary	£168.21
09/03/2021	HBC - Trade Waste Refuse	£16.02
09/03/2021	E Gill - Zoom Meeting	£11.99
09/03/2021	YLCA - Training PG	£30.00
	Total out	£257.40

In:

Date	Item	Total £
26/02/2021	T Long - garage rent (part)	£96.00
	Total received	£96.00

Total monies held at 14 March 2021: **£42,444.59**

Parish Council available funds at 14 March 2021: **£5,178.54**

Payments to be authorised:

W T Webster & Sons – hedge cutting in February 1.5 hrs	£54.00
YLCA Membership Invoice	£212.00

TC will follow up on obtaining a refund from HBC for the crown lifting of the oak tree on Grafton Green for £525.60.

Tim Joynson is handing over responsibility for the village website to Phil Lee. Phil has kindly volunteered to update the site to make it more compatible with mobile devices. The Parish Council thanks Tim Joynson for his many years of valued work developing and managing the village website.

10. Correspondence

- a) Email received from both HBC and NALC explaining the desire for Parish Councils to adopt a revised “Code of Conduct for Councillors”. It was agreed to adopt the code which will be placed on file.
- b) Email from HBC Enforcement team informing us that they have investigated the use of Meadow View on Limebar Bank Road (holiday cottage), confirming this is now being used as holiday accommodation in accordance with the planning approval.

14. Any Other Business – items for next agenda:

The proposed wild flower area on Stockfield Lane has been chain harrowed and is ready for grass cutting prior to planting. SC

The meeting was closed at 8.10 pm.

Date of Next Meeting: The Annual Parish Meeting will be on Thursday 6th May 2021 at **7.00 pm** via Zoom followed by the May Parish Council Meeting.

Signed:

Dated: