

Post Office/Shop

Parish Council was informed verbally that the shop and sub-post office in Station Road will close at the end of July. We are in contact with the relevant people in the Post Office Limited network operations department to try to ensure that the post office service is not lost to the village. There are one or two potential options at the moment that could help to keep a post office service going. As soon as we have any hard news to report we will email you.

Planning Applications

Council had no objection at its April meeting to an application for the change of use of a barn and grounds to 'assembly and leisure' at Manor Farm, Station Road, by FA Benfield & Son. AVDC had approved applications for a new chimney flue and pot at Nampara Cottage, The College; and by Marsh Gibbon School retrospectively for its extension and new rooms. Our next meeting will consider an application for a single storey rear extension at 12 Castle Street.

Update on 'Ewelme Sites'

- **Site B:** We were informed on Friday that Land & Partners' application for outline planning permission for Berry Field (opposite School) has now been validated by AVDC and is on their website, ref 17/01248/AOP.
Described as 'land south of Castle Street and west of Long Herdon Farm', it is for up to 10 dwellings and a local shop, with parking and open space.
It will probably be on the agenda for MGPC's meeting on May 9th.
If you are interested in attending, please check the agenda on MGPC's website www.marshgibbon-pc.gov.uk the previous weekend.
- We still await decisions from AVDC on the outline applications for site A (Little Marsh Road/Swan Field) and site C ('Leopold Farm').

Accounts to March 31

Finance Committee on April 20th reviewed the accounts for the past 12 months for internal audit (by Justin Kelly). The Accounts should next be approved at our May 9th MGPC meeting. The overall picture is (in round numbers):

- Our balances are £6,800 higher than at the end of the previous year;
- Balances total £44,000, with £31,000 in Earmarked Reserves, £10,500 in the Business Premium account and £2,500 in the Community Account;
- Our income was up £2,000 net (at £34,000), largely due to the higher precept, a larger VAT refund and the pre-purchases at the Cemetery;
 - Our expenditure was down by £20,500, because the previous year had seen the last payment for the play/exercise equipment of £18,000;
 - The previous year's notional 'loss' of £15,700 was turned around by £22,500 to a notional 'profit' of £6,800. (This includes £1,800 of pre-paid BCC devolved services grant and so the true figure is £5,000 surplus.)
 - Unless we experience any unforeseen high costs this year, we should be in a healthy position again this time next year, having set a break-even budget on a slightly higher precept.

East West Rail Compound at Charndon. The consultation is being rescheduled due to the General Election.

Annual Parish Meeting

The open meeting on Tuesday May 30th is residents' opportunity to raise any subjects of concern for discussion. It's at 8.00 pm in the Village Hall.

Next Meeting

Next Council meeting is our Annual Meeting on Tuesday May 9th at 8.00 pm.

To comment, email Ian Metherell, MGPC chairman, at ipmetherell@btinternet.com; or call 01869 277620. Carole's email address is clerk@marshgibbon-pc.gov.uk.