

MINAL PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of the Remote Meeting Held on 18 August 2020

1. **Present:**
John Bevan – Chairman
Brian Devonshire – Vice Chair
Ruth Kolish
Guy Gagen
- Apologies Accepted:**
Rob Bailey
Anna Whitehead
- In Attendance:**
Sir Nigel Thompson
Sue Hine Clerk/RFO
2. **Declarations of Interest:** None
This meeting was held remotely via Zoom in accordance with the Coronavirus Pandemic Regulations 2020.

3. **Motion – Minal’s withdrawal from the Marlborough Area Neighbourhood Plan – MANP**

The meeting had been called following Preshute’s withdrawal from the Marlborough Area Neighbourhood Plan. To comply with regulations for Neighbourhood plans all parties to the plan are required to redesignate the area for the plan. Council Chair John Bevan had proposed a motion for Minal to also resign from the plan. JB expressed concerns at the announcement by the Government that planning rules and regulations would be relaxed and could allow developers to over-rule County Councils where Neighbourhood plans existed. He questioned whether the Neighbourhood plan was worth continuing and the costs involved. In reply Sir Nigel Thompson acknowledged that the Government planning strategy was under review but stated that Neighbourhood plans would still be an integral part of the process as they acknowledged local views. In particular the protections afforded for green spaces, playgrounds and, in Minal, the playing field would give strength against any planning application. RK expressed concern at Preshute’s strategy as it would give no voice or protection for the parish. NT agreed with her point stating that it could leave Preshute open to developer’s proposals. BD stated that the MANP team had been patiently working for some time and he considered there was no logical reason to withdraw now. A vote was taken with a show of hands. The Clerk stated the votes from Councillors Rob Bailey and Anna Whitehead who had advised their votes to her by email. The vote was 5 votes to 1 for remaining in the MANP and not resigning.

4. **Motion – Redesignation of the Marlborough Neighbourhood Area for the MANP plan**

All Councillors had been sent and studied the proposed new area. A vote was taken and it was unanimous that:

As a qualifying body for the production of the Marlborough Area Neighbourhood Plan, Minal Parish Council agrees to the removal of Preshute

Parish from the Marlborough Neighbourhood Area and agrees that it now comprises the parishes of Marlborough, Mildenhall and Savernake.

5. Any Other Business

Nigel Thompson asked about the signs advertising the Red Lion at Axford along the A4 and in Stitchcombe village. The Clerk advised that Councillor Brian Devonshire had raised this in the Spring and the Clerk had contacted Highways at Wiltshire County Council. They had advised that it was the responsibility of the proprietor/owner to remove signs. The Clerk had also contacted Ramsbury Parish Council and been advised by Chair, Sheila Glass, that at that point the Red Lion was undertaking limited openings and reviewing its position. Councillor Ruth Kolish suggested that she raise it at the next Cat G meeting.

Action: RK

Meeting finished at 6.50pm – next meeting Monday 14 September