

**Marston St Lawrence Parish Council**  
**Draft Minutes of the Parish Council Meeting**  
**Held on Tuesday 8<sup>th</sup> March 2016 in the Village Hall at 7.30pm**

**Present:** Cllr's Richard Gale, Daniela Carletti, Stephen Goodwin, Mick Scott, Chris Skermer, Matthew Tims, Christine Coles (Parish Clerk) and one villager

**16/37. Apologies**

None.

**16/38. Declarations of Interest**

There were no interests to declare.

**16/39. Co-option of new Councillor**

Blu Talbot was co-opted onto the Council. She signed the appropriate forms which would be kept on file.

**16/40. To approve the minutes of meeting held on 8th December 2015**

The minutes of the meeting of 8th December 2015 were agreed and signed, proposed by Cllr Skermer and seconded by Cllr Carletti.

**16/41. Matters arising (for information only)**

*Village leaflet* – This is work in progress.

*Moving of 30mph signs* – A letter was sent to NCC Highways and they have replied to say requests for changes in speed limits are referred to the Speed Limit Review Panel for consideration. This includes various officers from the Road Safety and Traffic Engineering teams and a representative from the Polices Safer Roads Team who has delegated authority from the Chief Constable with regard agreeing changes to speed limits. The request will be considered by the group taking into account comments raised by the Parish Council, the general characteristics of the area, in addition to speed and collision data. The group meet once a month and this has been passed to them. Speedwatch was discussed briefly as there has to be a minimum of ten volunteers and 40% support from the village. This could be quite onerous for a small village. It was felt that flashing signs are more effective. Once the white line appears outside Long Cottage, that stretch of road will be narrow and drivers will have to drive slowly.

**16/42. Open Forum**

There were no residents present at the meeting.

The Parish Clerk spoke about a letter received today from Marcus Young Landscapes who empty the dog bin on a fortnightly basis. They are discontinuing the fortnightly service and will start collecting on a weekly basis. This will ensure the bins are not overflowing and can be lifted and managed far easier by their staff. Councillor's agreed with this decision. It will start week commencing 4<sup>th</sup> April 2016.

**16/43. To receive a progress report on the new parish website**

The parish website is now up and running. A report has been received on the website activity which the Parish Clerk will circulate. Councillors were really pleased that the planning consultant involved with the work at the pub had been on the website and downloaded previous minutes.

**16/44. Planning**

One application had been received since the last meeting:

*S/2016/0212, Demolish side and rear outbuildings, single storey rear extension, two storey side extension and porch alterations at 11 Merestone Houses.* No objections raised by the Parish Council.

**16/45. Finance**

*The following payments were approved under statutory powers:-*

- £132.00 to M & P Scott Builders (work to bus shelter)
- £72.00 to mhp internet ltd (website)
- £19.18 to mhp internet ltd (website)
- £170.13 to EON (electricity)
- £93.60 to Marcus Young Landscapes Ltd (emptying of dog bin)
- £49.14 to EON (street lighting maintenance)
- £150.00 to Parish Clerk (hours)
- £12.00 to Parish Clerk (mileage)
- £715.19 to mh-p internet ltd (website)
- £444.00 to mh-p internet ltd (website)
- £226.94 to PWLB (lighting)

Proposed by Cllr Tims and seconded by Cllr Goodwin.

*To confirm that the Parish Council will remain opted-in to the Sector Led Body arrangements for the procurement of external audit.*

Auditing procedures for smaller authorities continue as before but the procurement process will change from 2017. From the start of the 2017/18 financial year smaller authorities can choose to have their own auditor appointed to them by a new '**sector-led body**' (SLB) or they can decide to procure their own. Smaller authorities with a turnover of less than £25K will be exempt from having to submit an annual financial return but will need to have an auditor appointed in case there are questions from the electors to be resolved. The SLB will be the first point of contact in such a case. A small fee will be charged to cover the whole five year period and will be payable before the start of the new audit arrangements in April 2017. The one off SLB fee is estimated to be less than £100 however this may be subject to change as the SLB is set up.

It was agreed by all Councillors that the Parish Council will remain opted-in to the Sector Led Body arrangements for the procurement of external audit.

**16/46. Correspondence**

**From**

- Office of Northants Police Crime Commissioner, Plans to improve road safety
- Inspector Phil Kings, Northants Police (communication)
- NCC, Moving of 30mph signs

**To**

- NCC Highways, Moving of 30mph signs

**16/47. Date, time and place of next meeting,** Annual Parish Council Meeting on Tuesday 10<sup>th</sup> May 2016, in the village hall at 7.30pm.

The following meeting dates for the remainder of 2016/2017 were agreed:

23<sup>rd</sup> August – Cricket Pavilion

15<sup>th</sup> November 2016, Village Hall

21<sup>st</sup> February 2017, Village Hall

Meeting finished at 9.30pm