

Marston St Lawrence Parish Council
Minutes of the Parish Council Meeting
Held on Tuesday 15th November 2016 in the Village Hall at 7.30pm

Present: Cllr's Richard Gale (Chairman), Daniela Carletti, Stephen Goodwin, Mick Scott, Chris Skermer, Matthew Tims, Christine Coles (Parish Clerk) and Val Furniss (Clerk to Middleton Cheney Parish Council)

16/71. Apologies

None

16/72. Declarations of Interest

There were no interests to declare.

16/73. To approve the minutes of the Parish Council meeting held on 23rd August 2016

The minutes were approved and signed.

16/74. Matters arising from previous minutes (for information only)

There were no matters to discuss.

16/75. Open Forum

Val Furniss, Clerk to Middleton Cheney Parish Council attended the meeting to discuss the closure of the doctors surgery in their village. The practise has been there a long time. There are a number of elderly patients in the village and people had moved to the village because there was a doctors surgery. The main surgery in Banbury currently has 18,000 patients. The bungalow has been put up for sale without any notice and there was no consultation. Middleton Cheney Parish Council have applied for the bungalow to become a Community Asset. The application has been acknowledged and the Parish Council will hear in 8 weeks whether it has been accepted or not. The bungalow is on the market but has not been sold yet. The Parish Council have written to the NHS and MP Andrea Leadsom. The problem is in recruiting doctors. 3000 people were using the surgery before it closed and a petition has been set up to encourage support. Some patients have moved to the surgeries in Brackley but these are getting full because of the new developments being built. The Practise Manager is very supportive of what the Parish Council are doing and she asked Mrs Furniss to write to the NHS. A peaceful gathering will take place on 26th November at 10.15am outside the Co-op store in the village.

The doctors are currently carrying out home visits for the housebound people and giving flu injections. They are doing their best under the circumstances. Mrs Furniss spoke of 'Help At Hand' which is a voluntary service and picks up and takes patients to medical appointments. The charge is 48p per mile and the patient pays the hospital parking charges.

Councillors noted that this is unfortunate circumstances and the practises and staff are under immense pressure. The practise could not sustain itself as the practise owned the property.

Action: The Parish Clerk to put a notice on the board. The notice to be put on the Facebook page.

16/76. To agree and set the precept for 2017/18 (paper circulated)

A precept/budget sheet had been circulated. Reserves are ample. It was agreed to set the precept for 2017/18 at £3000.00 (the same as 2016/17).

Action: The Parish Clerk to notify SNC.

16/77. Planning

- S/2016/2544/FUL, Installation of a water treatment plant (retrospective) at Marston Hill Farm, Sulgrave Road. No objections.

- *S/2016/2686/FUL, Install metal gate at Littlefield Bungalow, The Green.* The property is set back from the road but requires planning permission because of the size and scale of the gate. Neighbours have objected but the SNC Planning Officer has visited and is set to approve the application. It was agreed as there are no grounds to object, the Parish Council would not comment on the application.

An update was given on an older application:-

- *S/2016/1952/FUL, Two storey side extension, new porch to front, lantern light and stove flue to rear at 9 Merestone, The Green.* The application was withdrawn.

16/78. Finance

The following payments were approved under statutory powers:-

- £226.94 (PWL for street lights)
- £108.00 to mh-p internet ltd (website)
- £49.14 to EON (electricity)
- £197.57 to EON (electricity)
- £150.00 to Parish Clerk (hours)
- £12.00 to Parish Clerk (mileage)

To approve and accept the Annual Return 2015/16 and consider the Issues arising report

The external audit is complete. The Annual Return for 2015/16 was presented to the council and approved and accepted. The appropriate notice is on the board. One issue was raised, an incomplete asset register.

Action: The Clerk to add more detail to the asset register.

16/79. Correspondence

From

- Sophie Johnson, Sudden closure and sale of Middleton Cheney GP surgery
- Brackley Police Station, November update (circulated)
- Stephen Mold, PCC Police and Crime Plan Consultation (circulated)
- Cllr Ron Sawbridge, HS2 (circulated)
- Keep the Horton General Campaign, The Clerk to ask if there is a standard letter.

An additional item of correspondence was received from Bruce Benyon at Hook Norton Brewery. A meeting has been held with a new architect and planning consultant to look at the pub and the proposed development. He has been instructed to go away and come up with a proposed scheme for the whole site. A meeting will then be arranged with the Parish Council. He knows the site and feels the success of the application will be driven by support from the community and the Parish Council. One thing they are looking at is the feasibility of re-building the construction of the bottom end of the pub (where the toilets are) to allow for a trade kitchen. This idea is up for discussion. Cllr's were pleased with the positive response. It was noted that the gardens at Thenford House will be opened a lot more next year and the closest pubs will benefit from passing trade.

16/80. Date, time and place of next meeting, Parish Council Meeting on Tuesday 21st February 2017, in the Village Hall at 7.30pm.

Meeting finished at 8.30pm

