

Marston St Lawrence Parish Council
Minutes of the Parish Council Meeting
Held on Tuesday 14th November 2017 in the Village Hall at 7.30pm

Councillors Present: Richard Gale (Chairman), Daniela Carletti, Chris Skermer, Mick Scott, Matthew Tims
Christine Coles (Parish Clerk), and two villagers

- 17/38. To receive apologies for absence**
Cllr Goodwin
- 17/39. To receive Declarations of Interest under the Council's Code of Conduct relating to business on the agenda**
There were no interests to declare.
- 17/40. To approve and sign the minutes of the Parish Council meeting held on 2nd August 2017**
The minutes of 22nd August 2017 were approved and signed as a true record of the meeting.
- 17/41. To note any Matters Arising from the minutes not included on this agenda for report only**
The Marston Inn - The Chair gave an update. A couple of Councillors had been to visit the Red Lion PH in Ilmington. The pub is of a similar size and has some attractive features. An email has been sent to James Clarke at Hook Norton Brewery (HNB) but no response has been received. HNB did previously offer some assistance in producing figures. There has been little progress since the last meeting.
- 17/42. Public participation session**
Lisa Roberts spoke about the recent visit by the Hunt. She felt the whole situation was chaotic, dangerous and intimidating. Mrs Roberts did write a letter of complaint to the Hunt. She has received a response. The Hunt have said they will examine the day and look how to improve procedures. The Chair explained it is not a Parish Council matter and they do not own any land. There had been one complaint. Had there been more the Parish Council could have got involved. The Chair thanked Mrs Roberts for bringing the matter to their attention.

Mr Scott asked how much money would be left in the New Homes Bonus Grant? The Chair replied £1600.00.
- 17/43. To discuss a New Homes Bonus Grant application for the purchase of a defibrillator**
There is £4080.00 available in a New Homes Bonus Grant. The deadline for the next applications is 30th November. The idea of a defibrillator and cabinet had been discussed previously. It was agreed to submit an application for £1300.00 for the purchase and installation of a defibrillator and cabinet.
Action: The Parish Clerk to complete the application form.
- 17/44. To discuss a safe play area for the village hall**
There is a small sum of money available and a suggestion was previously made to put a fence up outside the village hall to enable the children to have a safe place to play. The general opinion was that it was not a good use of the money. A suggestion was made to use the money and organise a Children's Christmas party.
Action: Councillors to think of ideas of how to use the money.
- 17/45. To receive the Clerks report**
Planning
New applicatons

- S/2017/2560/FUL, Part two storey, part single storey front and side extension, single storey rear extension at 7 Merestone. No objections.
- S/2017/2578/LBC, Listed building consent to rebuild gable end wall of Dovecote. No opinion would be given.
- S/2017/2060/LBC, Listed building consent for the addition of three roof lights in the east and west elevations of courtyard Barn A (Amendment to listed building consent S/2017/0889/LBC) at Marston Hill Farm. No objections.

Finance

The following payments were approved under statutory powers:-

£127.18 to mh-p internet ltd (website costs - Hosting and domain renewal)

£36.00 to Northants CALC (training course for Clerk)

£226.94 to PWL (street lighting)

£49.14 to EON (street lighting maintenance)

£216.09 to EON (street lighting)

£347.11 to Zurich Municipal (Insurance)

£170.00 to Parish Clerk (hours)

£46.10 to Parish Clerk (mileage)

To discuss and review the risk assessment sheet

A risk assessment sheet had been prepared and circulated by the Parish Clerk. It was approved.

Action: The Parish Clerk to send to the website editor.

To approve the Annual Return for year ending 31st March 2017 and discuss the Issues Arising Report

The external audit has been completed. There were two issues arising. The first issue was the amendment to the fixed asset figure for 2016/17. Both years must be prepared on the same basis. The second issue was the amount of borrowing being incorrectly stated in the annual return. The Annual Return and certificate was then approved and accepted.

To agree and set the precept for 2018/19

A draft precept sheet had been circulated. Main areas of spend continue to be the Clerks salary, website costs and electric for the street lights. It was noted that the grant towards website costs which was £600.00 this year will not be available next year. Therefore based on the existing precept of £3000.00, income for 2018/19 is anticipated to be £3100.00 and proposed expenditure allowing for inflation is £3764.00. There will therefore be an anticipated reduction in reserves of £660.00. However, as the anticipated reserves at the start of the year are £4146.00, and somewhat in excess of that recommended (one year's precept), the loss can be absorbed. It can be seen that expenditure will be more than the existing precept in future although the situation will improve when the Public Works Loan is repaid. In view of the likely on-going deficit it was RESOLVED to set the precept for 2018/19 at £3100.00 (3% increase on this year) and reviewed again next year. A copy of the agreed precept sheet would be attached to these minutes and put on the website.

Action: The Parish Clerk to notify SNC.

Correspondence

From

The following correspondence had been received and circulated:

EON, Street Lanterns

SNC, Parish Council event on 23rd November

SNC, Peer Review

NCC, Mobile Library Dates from Community Grant budget notification

Northants County Council, Budget Consultation 2018-19 Phase 1

Northants County Council, Libraries and Information Service Review 2017 Consultation

Northants CALC, County Council Medium Term Financial Plan

Northants CALC, Budgeting and precept
Police and Crime Plan 2017-2021
Lisa Roberts, Bicester Hunt in village on 4th November

17/46.

Councillors Reports

Cllr Scott to inspect the bus shelter which has loose wood on one side.

Cllr Scott to inspect the notice-board which requires attention.

17/47.

Date, time and place of next meeting

Tuesday 20th February 2018 at 7.30pm in the Village Hall

Meeting finished at 8.45pm

Marston St Lawrence Parish Council

Precept Proposals

2017/18		
Income		
Bank Account	3,978.37	4,146.33
Precept	3,000.00	3,000.00
VAT Reclaim	226.55	100.00
Website grant	600.00	0.00
	<u>7,804.92</u>	<u>7,246.33</u>
Expenditure		
Clerks Fees	595.00	612.85 3% increase per NCALC
Clerks Expenses	98.60	101.56 3% increase - inflation
Insurance	347.11	364.47 5% increase - historically more than inflation
Agency Svs (Northants CALC)	167.57	172.60 3% increase per NCALC
Hire of hall	72.00	72.00
Electricity	1,035.75	1,060.92 New payment rates
Public Works Loan	453.88	453.88
The Glimpse	94.50	94.50 Not changed for years
Website	571.18	588.32 3% increase - inflation
Dog bin emptying	187.00	192.61 3% increase - inflation
Audit		
Other	36.00	50.00 Estimate
	<u>3,658.59</u>	<u>3,763.70</u> Overall 2.8% increase
Balance c/f	<u>4,146.33</u>	<u>3,482.63</u>
2018/19		
Income		
Bank Account		4,146.33
Precept		3,000.00
VAT Reclaim		100.00
Website grant		0.00
		<u>7,246.33</u>
Expenditure		
Clerks Fees		612.85 3% increase per NCALC
Clerks Expenses		101.56 3% increase - inflation
Insurance		364.47 5% increase - historically more than inflation
Agency Svs (Northants CALC)		172.60 3% increase per NCALC
Hire of hall		72.00
Electricity		1,060.92 New payment rates
Public Works Loan		453.88
The Glimpse		94.50 Not changed for years
Website		588.32 3% increase - inflation
Dog bin emptying		192.61 3% increase - inflation
Audit		
Other		50.00 Estimate
		<u>3,763.70</u> Overall 2.8% increase
Balance c/f		<u>3,482.63</u>

Dated 04/11/2017

We should also consider whether this will be affected by defibrillator, any other items