

**Marston St Lawrence Parish Council**  
**Minutes of a Parish Council Meeting**  
**Held on Tuesday 6th November 2018 in the Village Hall at 7.30pm**

**Councillors Present:** Richard Gale (Chairman), Stephen Goodwin, Mick Scott, Chris Skermer and Matthew Tims

Christine Coles (Parish Clerk)

**18/58. To receive apologies for absence**  
Cllr Carletti (family commitment)

**18/59. To receive Declarations of Interest under the Council's Code of Conduct relating to business on the agenda**  
The Chair and Cllr Skermer declared an interest in item 63 as members of the Village Hall Committee.

**18/60. To approve and sign the minutes of the Parish Council meeting held on 28th August 2018**  
The minutes were approved and signed as a true record of the meeting.

**18/61. To note any Matters Arising from the minutes not included on this agenda for report only**  
The Marston Inn - There is no update from Fisher German or Hook Norton Brewery. The Asset of Community Value application was submitted to SNC. The letter has been acknowledged but there is no further news.

Movement of bottom speed sign - A letter has been sent to NCC and the matter is being considered.

Defibrillator - Training took place in the village hall and was attended by 10% of the population. The monthly checks will be carried out by Siobon Cook.

Bridge at Farthinghoe - A letter was sent to Andrea Leadsom MP. Work is due to start on 19th November and will take 3-4 weeks to complete. It was agreed to push for road repairs once the A422 re-opens.

**18/62. To approve the following payments:**

The following payments were approved under statutory powers:

£226.94 (PWL for street lights)

£49.14 to EON (street lighting maintenance)

£108.00 to mh-p internet ltd (website)

£245.60 to EON (street lighting)

£0.05 to The Estate Office (rent for childrens play area)

£6.00 to R Gale (Land Registry documents)

£359.56 to Zurich Insurance

£105.58 to Parish Clerk (hours)

£31.00 to Parish Clerk (expenses)

£20.25 to Parish Clerk (mileage)

*Action: The Parish Clerk to scan the last two electricity bills and email to the Chair.*

*To review the budget sheet*

The budget sheet was reviewed.

*To set the precept for 2019/20*

Base expenditure for the year is £3800.00 but the precept set last year of £3100.00 will not cover all costs. Large expenses continue to be the Clerks salary and expenses, the website, electricity payments and the two Public Works Loan payments. There may be possible election costs in 2019. The clerks' salary and website costs total 39% of the total precept which falls disproportionately on small councils such as ours. Councillor Goodwin again expressed concern about the cost of the website and said he would investigate other options. It was also noted that the cost of providing the street lighting had nearly doubled in three years. It was agreed the precept will have to be increased considerably to make up the shortfall. A further increase will be required in 2020/21 to ensure all costs are covered.

*Action: The precept for 2019/20 will be set at £3500.00 which represents a 12% increase. The Parish Clerk to notify SNC. The Parish Clerk to talk to Greatworth about their website.*

*To review the risk assessment*

The risk assessment sheet was reviewed.

**18/63. To discuss the grant application submitted to CDC/SNC from MSL Village Hall**

The Chair and Cllr Skermer did not take part in the discussion. A Community Grant application has been submitted to SNC for work at the village hall totalling £32,914.00. It was agreed to fully support the application.

*Action: The Parish Clerk to email Sarah Burns at SNC.*

**18/64. To discuss writing to Stagecoach about a continuation of the bus service**

Two Councillors had the idea to write to Stagecoach. The drivers have been very courteous and the service has been a huge lifeline to the elderly and young people in the village.

*Action: Cllr Skermer to write on behalf of the Parish Council and Cllr Tims to draft his own personal letter. The Chair to write to the Chair of Governors at Farthinghoe School about parking on the road.*

**18/65. To discuss whether to replace the grit bin outside the village hall**

It was agreed that Northants Highway should remove the grit bin outside the village hall and it will not be replaced.

**18/66. To receive an update on planning**

There was no update.

**18/67. Correspondence**

The following correspondence had been received and circulated:

- Northants Highways, Movement of 30mph sign
- South Northamptonshire Settlements and Countryside Local Plan (Part 2) Proposed Submission Local Plan (Regulation 19)

One item of correspondence was highlighted:

- South Northamptonshire Settlements and Countryside Local Plan (Part 2) Proposed Submission Local Plan (Regulation 19). It was noted that the confines are the same as before.

**18/68. Councillors Reports**

Cllr Skermer attended the Pothole meeting held on 1st November. She was given paperwork which will be circulated. The meeting was informative. It covered the Highways Act 1980, potholes and facts, NCC pothole policy and intervention criteria and Section 56 under the Highways Act and how to use it.

*Action: The Parish Clerk to scan the paperwork and email to Councillors.*

A request had been received from Wappenham and District British Legion Branch to pay for the wreath at a cost of £17.00. It was agreed to send a cheque payment for £17.00.

**18/69. Date, time and place of next meeting**

19<sup>th</sup> February 2019 at 7.30pm in the village hall

Other meeting dates for 2019

23rd April (APM) - Village Hall

21st May (TBC) - Village Hall

27th August - Cricket Pavilion

19th November -Village Hall

Meeting finished at 8.45pm