

Marston St Lawrence Parish Council
Minutes of an Annual Parish Council Meeting
Held on Tuesday 9th May 2023 at 7.30pm
In the Village Hall

Councillors Present: Richard Gale (Chairman), Stephen Goodwin, Wayne Lindop, Violet Moller (arrived late), Lianne Piper-Elsey, Mick Scott and Chris Skermer

Christine Coles (Parish Clerk)

23/14. Elections

Election of Chairperson

It was proposed by Cllr Goodwin and seconded by Cllr Skermer that Cllr Gale be Chairperson.

Signing of Acceptance of Office form

Cllr Gale signed the Acceptance of Office form.

Election of Vice-Chairperson

It was proposed by Cllr Scott and seconded by Cllr Piper-Elsey that Cllr Goodwin be Vice-Chair.

23/15. To receive apologies for absence

None.

23/16. To receive Declarations of Interest under the Council's Code of Conduct relating to business on the agenda

No interests were declared.

23/17. To approve and sign the minutes of the Parish Council meeting held on 24th January 2023

The minutes were approved and signed as a true record of the meeting.

23/18. To note any Matters Arising from the minutes not included on this agenda for report only

There was a recent litter pick on 4th March which was fairly well attended. It needed more publicity. The rubbish after was collected by WNC. Other rubbish collected by residents included an engine which WNC could not pick up. A local farmer will help with this.

23/19. Public participation

No matters were raised.

23/20. To receive an update on the idea raised to use CIL funds

WNC have asked the Parish Council to submit a business case.

Action: The Parish Clerk to forward the original email with detail of how the funds will be used.

23/21. To discuss the new electricity contract

The new supplier is YU Energy. The Parish Council have been invoiced until April 2023 and the Energy Discount Scheme has not been applied yet.

23/22. To receive an update on the Marston Inn

The Chair emailed James Clarke at Hook Norton Brewery but there has been no response.

23/23. To approve the following payments:

The following payments were approved under statutory powers (the bank statement date is listed in brackets).

- £18.00 to Parish Clerk (SLCC Membership 17.05.23)

- £94.50 to The Glimpse (donation for 2022 17.05.23)
- £120.00 to Parish Clerk (replacement pads for defibrillator 17.05.23)
- £173.57 to Northants CALC (membership 17.05.23)
- £38.78 to Opus Energy (electricity 2022-23 accounts 02.11.22)
- £35.64 to EON (repair of street light 2022-23 accounts 21.11.22)
- £15.00 to Parish Council Website (work on website 2022-23 account 21.11.22)
- £375.30 to Zurich Insurance (2022-23 accounts 21.11.22)
- £370.00 to Parish Council Website (annual plan 2022-23 accounts 20.03.23)
- £49.14 to EON (Street lighting maintenance 2022-23 accounts 27.03.23)

Bank Balances

Current Account £6610.44

Savings Account £409.83

To review the budget sheet

The budget sheet was reviewed.

AGAR for year ending 31st March 2022

To approve and sign the Certificate of Exemption, Section 1 and Section 2

The internal audit has been carried out. One point raised by the internal auditor is to fully explain expenditure which is different to normal. The Parish Clerk will minute separate bank balances at each meeting.

The Certificate of Exemption, Section 1 and Section 2 were approved and signed by the Chair and Responsible Financial Officer (RFO).

Action: The Clerk to forward the Certificate of Exemption and Notice of Electors Rights to the External Auditor and prepare the papers for the website before 30th June 2023.

23/24. To receive an update on planning

No applications had been received.

23/25. Councillors Reports

The mowing of verges has begun.

Cllr Scott attended the Beat Bus recently and felt it was a good experience. He heard how they help rural communities. The police want to know about all rural issues as it helps with funding.

The Kings Coronation was an enjoyable weekend and there was a good turnout.

The local roads are being repaired with little warning.

23/26. To receive the following correspondence

- EON, Street Lighting Maintenance. EON have increased their prices for the first time since 2017. There is a requirement under BS71671 for all streetlights to be electrically tested every six years. The cost is £27.00 (excluding VAT) per light.

Action: The Parish Clerk to ask EON how the current maintenance invoice is worked out.

- Marcus Young Landscapes, Annual Pricing Review. There will be no price increase this year.

23/27. To note next meeting date

Tuesday 4th July 2023 at 7.30pm at the Cricket Pavilion

Meeting finished at 8.16pm