

MARWOOD PARISH COUNCIL
MINUTES of the COUNCIL MEETING 8 December 2016
Marwood Methodist Church Hall, Guineaford

Members Present: Cllrs. C Latham, S Button, R Berry, Mrs S Darling, D Chugg, C Spear, C Wallis

Apologies: Cllrs. A Skentelbery, T Bigge. PCSO Dale Kingdon.

Disclosable Pecuniary Interests. None

Chairman's Discretion. Traffic Calming. RMB Chivenor

In Attendance: Cllr Mrs A Davis, Cllr F Tucker. M J Measures (Clerk to the Council)

4697. Minutes of the Parish Council Meeting 3 November 2016

The Minutes were agreed and signed as a true record

4698. Reports from County and District Councillors

Cllr Tucker said there will be another public consultation on the Local Plan. He reported on the trial period for the localised three-weekly collection of refuse which is due to start next Spring. The Clerk gave each Member a copy of the report from Cllr Mrs Davis highlighting the request from DCC for the public to help by informing them concerning budget making decisions.

It was at this time of the meeting, while Cllr Mrs Davis was present, that Cllrs Latham, Spear and Chugg reported on their attendance of the DCC Highways Forum on 17 November. All three Members were strident with their comments and said there was a proliferation of County staff present. The Councillors registered their concern regarding no one checking and signing-off any finished work. Discussions continued regarding the lack of maintenance to highways with particular reference to clearing drains and the causes of flooding. Cllr Mrs Davis reported: DCC staff numbers are down from 8284 to 4378; salary bill down from £158.8 to £108.218 millions; revenue savings from property disposals £2.89 millions; capital receipts from surplus property sale approx. £40 million.

Cllr Mrs Davis left the meeting at 20.10 to attend a meeting in Shirwell

4699. Police Report

Information from PCSO Kingdon: no reported crimes in the last month

4700. Correspondence

Correspondence has been sent to Councillors via e-mail. Two letters concerning the flooding in Milltown and Muddiford.

4701. Finance

Invoices passed for payment: Marwood Matters £165.50 (*printing costs 2016*); Website Management (annual fee) £60.00; Notice-It £545.00 (notice board for outside of school); M J Measures £64.85(Admin/Accomm. Oct/Nov); NDC £569.72 (Salary/AdminFee/VAT) BT £1.00 (adoption of BT Kiosk). Clerk reported the balance at 3 November as £5423.18

4701. cont'd

Precept 2017/18 The Clerk reported that the precept has not been increased over the last seven years with the exception to provide for election costs. The grant from North Devon Council for cemetery maintenance was reduced three years ago but the Parish Council agreed to continue to provide the two churches with the same amount of grant ie £500 a year. This was agreed to continue for 2017/18. The TAP Fund from North Devon Council, which was used by the Parish Council to carry out grass cutting, roadside hedge-cutting/clearance, etc. has also ceased and will not be renewed. The services of the County Council Parish Lengthsmen, whose role was to help clear drains, etc. has also ceased.

In this last year, the Parish Council has met the cost of removing debris after flooding and proving help with some drain clearing. The Council agreed to increase the precept by £500 so that some of these services could continue to assist residents.

It was agreed to request a precept of £4500.00 for the year 2017/18

Marwood Pre-school The Clerk has received a letter thanking the Parish Council for the grant of £800.00

4702. Planning Matters

No planning applications received

4703. Parish Notice Board

The new notice board to replace the one at the school has been delivered and will be put in the next few weeks.

4704. Provision of a Defibrillator

The Council agreed to adopt the BT phone box outside the Muddiford Inn in order to install a defibrillator. £900.00 has been raised by local residents and a grant of £1000.00 has been given by Fullabrook Wind Farm CIC.

Following discussion it was agreed; a) that the Parish Council will assist with the purchase of the defibrillator in Muddiford (*the Clerk will liaise with the resident representative*) and b) that the Parish Council defer discussions on providing another defibrillator in Prieford.

4705. Reports from Councillors

Parish Footpaths Cllr Mrs Darling is to hold a meeting with Simon Houghton (DCC) and Cllr Wallis to discuss future repair/maintenance of the Rights of Way.

Highways. Councillors continued to express their concern and disappointment with Devon County Highways who did not respond to calls made by Councillors at the time of flooding in Milltown. A response could have prevented the flooding from the stream.

4706. Chairman's Discretion.

a) Some members of the public had expressed their concern about the proposed traffic-calming measures in Prieford. Paul Knox, Director of Pearce Construction, replied: *"The traffic calming measures (20mph zone) were not resulting as a condition of the planning approval. The scheme is fully designed and will be brought forward by Pearce as a gift to the village rather than as a condition of planning"*.

b) The Clerk will write to the Secretary of State expressing the Council's continued support for RMB Chivenor to remain in North Devon. *The meeting closed at 20.55*

Chairman.....

date.....

