

# MARWOOD PARISH COUNCIL

## Report of the COUNCIL MEETING 21st April 2016

Marwood Methodist Church Hall, Guineaford

**Members Present:** Cllrs. C Latham, Mrs S Darling, R Berry, C Wallis, A Skentelbery, T Bigge, S Button, C Spear

**Apologies:** Cllr Mrs A Davis, PCSO Grantham

**Disclosable Pecuniary Interests:** None

**In Attendance:** Cllr F Tucker, M J Measures (Clerk to the Council), two members of the public

### **Minutes of the Parish Council Meeting 17 March 2016**

The Minutes were agreed and signed as a true record

### **Reports from County and District Councillors**

Cllr Tucker said a consultant has been appointed by NDC to develop plans for Seven Brethren at a cost of £50,000. The Planning Committee agreed that a short factual position statement regarding the Council's policy relating to wind energy will be sent to all Councillors for future discussion and decision. The proposed option, is allocating in the emerging Joint Local Plan, an area of search, suitable in principle for wind turbines. Cllr. Tucker said there is an increase in the number of telephone scams concerning the Council Tax. Anyone receiving such calls should notify the appropriate contact (BT,NDC, etc,)

No report from Cllr Mrs Davis

### **Police Report**

The Clerk reported that the new Police Officer is PCSO Grantham. The one recorded crime in the last month was for failure to provide a specimen of breath (occurred on the A361)

### **Correspondence**

Information had been sent to all Councillors via e-mail.

Broadband Voucher Scheme. A recently launched Voucher Scheme to provide subsidies to install alternative broadband technology to premises across Devon and Somerset

### **Finance**

Invoices passed for payment: DALC Annual Affiliation £167.13 (*inc. VAT*).

The Clerk reported the balance at 21 April 2016 as £10362.87. This includes £726 from the Transparency Fund for Smaller Authorities and the full refund of £2912 from NDC from the TAP Fund. The Clerk had sent to all Councillors, a copy of the accounts (*subject to audit*) for the year ending 31 March 2016 showing a closing balance of £8530.06. The Clerk showed

Members the March bank statement and the accounts ledger which the Chairman initialled as agreeing.

Section 1 – Annual governance statement of the Annual Financial Return was read to Councillors who answered “YES” to the eight questions concerning the effective financial management of the accounts. (Question nine is not applicable). The Chairman signed the Statement and the Clerk will contact the Internal Auditor to carry out the full audit.

### **Planning Matters/Applications**

60918 – *Whitefield Villas. Extension to dwelling.*

**Recommend : Approval**

60933 – *Land adj. Ring O' Bells Prieford. Reserve Matters for erection of 12 dwellings (outline permission 59023).* Members examined the plans and further information was requested concerning any problems resulting from storm water and details of the pond and overflow of water

**Recommend : Approval**

### **On-going Matters**

Parish Notice Boards. The Clerk confirmed the order of seven new oak parish notice boards

### **Reports from Councillors**

Parish Footpaths. The Clerk emphasised the total grant of £2000 from DCC made up of two separate grants: initial grant of £500 and an additional grant £1500 (mainly for work to footpath 33

Highways/Transport. Members continued to express their concern and frustration concerning the traffic lights on the B3232 at Milltown. Cllr Spear said several men (including a work-force of six) have been to look at the problem and nothing has been done even though it was reported last November. He, and other Councillors, said the problem can be fixed very easily at little cost.

The question was asked, “can this work be done by local operatives?”

Cllr Mrs Davis had commented to the Clerk that it is probably from the Structures Team in Exeter who have been e-mailed to ask, but they have a very long lead in time for works

The Clerk will again contact DCC Highways and Cllr Andrea Davis

Pot holes should be reported direct to DCC via the relevant website.

### **Chairman's Discretion**

The Clerk said he will ask at the AGM for Councillors to agree fixed days/dates/times for Parish Council Meetings. He will e-mail them for their comments.

The co-option process for the vacancy of Councillor will be discussed at the next meeting.

*The meeting closed at 20.35*

*M J Measures*