

**Marston St Lawrence Parish Council**  
**Minutes of a Parish Council Meeting**  
**Held on 18<sup>th</sup> February 2025 at 7.30pm**  
**In the Village Hall**

**Councillors Present:** Richard Gale (Chairman), Stephen Goodwin, Violet Moller and Chris Skermer

Christine Coles (Parish Clerk) and two villagers

- 25/01. To receive apologies for absence**  
Cllr Mallace (work) and Cllr Scott (personal)
- 25/02. Co-option of New Councillor**  
Imogen Coningsby was co-opted onto the Parish Council. She signed the Acceptance of Office form.
- 25/03. To receive Declarations of Interest under the Council's Code of Conduct relating to business on the agenda**  
No interests were declared.
- 25/04. To approve and sign the minutes of the Parish Council meeting held on 10<sup>th</sup> December 2024**  
The minutes were approved and signed as a true record of the meeting.
- 25/05. Public participation**  
The villager present spoke about building and tree work which have been carried out in the village conservation area without planning permission. These are examples of further urbanisation within the village and there are flagrant breaches of planning law taking place within the Conservation Area. He asked if all issues that have taken place in breach could be considered. The Councillors present replied that previous conversations had taken place with one owner re tree work which happened before Christmas. It was agreed then the situation would be kept under review. The Parish Council had not been told about the recent planning application (2025/0058/LDP) but know of the detail now. This has been queried with West Northants Council. It was agreed the Parish Council would be objecting to the walls and pillars which represent further domestication outside the village confines and in open countryside. The Chair to draft a response to WNC planning and the applicant.
- 25/06. To receive an update on the Marston Inn**  
A meeting has been arranged with Hook Norton Brewery on 21<sup>st</sup> February at 2pm. The Chair and Cllr Moller will attend. Planning permission was given in November 2022. This meeting will be an information gathering exercise. An application has been resubmitted to West Northants Council to list the pub as an Asset of Community Value (ACV). The business plan was included with the ACV application and this is potentially a viable plan to be made into a pub again.
- 25/07. To discuss the forthcoming Parish Council election in May 2025**  
Every parish, town, community and unitary council in Northamptonshire has elections on 1<sup>st</sup> May 2025 and each existing parish, town, community and unitary councillor retires. If an existing Councillor wishes to stand for re-election for another four year term they must submit a nomination paper by 4pm on Wednesday 2<sup>nd</sup> April 2025.
- 25/08. Financial Report**  
**Bank Balances**  
Current Account £2039.12  
Savings Account £5039.35

**To approve the following payments:**

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

£140.60 to YU Energy (January – 08.01.25)

£16.38 to YU Energy (January 08.01.25)

£149.94 to YU Energy (February - 10.02.25)

£16.98 to YU Energy (February – 10.02.25)

\* £30.00 to MSL Cricket Club (use of pavilion for meeting)

£128.63 to Parish Clerk (hours)

£32.20 to HMRC (tax)

£14.40 to Parish Clerk (mileage)

£50.00 to Parish Council website (move to .gov.uk - 07.02.25)

£218.40 to Marcus Young Landscapes (dog bin emptying)

One payment was queried.

\*The Chair to query the invoice received from MSL Cricket Club.

*To review the budget sheet and risk assessment*

The Parish Council are working to budget and the risk assessment was reviewed.

**25/09. To receive an update on planning**

A planning application from The Glebe House was received. Covered under item 25/05.

**25/10 To receive the following correspondence**

- Highways, Road closure on part of Thenford Road (12<sup>th</sup>-14<sup>th</sup> May). The detail was noted.

**25/11. Councillors Reports**

Complaints about potholes continue and in particular when driving back from Greatworth. They will be reported on FMS.

Parking on pavements continues. A note will be put in the next Glimpse.

An email from Parish Council website was received after the agenda had been published and has to be discussed tonight. It had been circulated. Due to a loss of business the charges will have to be increased. The community package will increase from £400.00 per annum to £550.00 per annum. A new Service Level of Agreement was sent which includes what is included in the new package. An upgrade will provide six new pages which is a benefit. A decision has to be made by 31.03.25.

*Action: The Parish Clerk to ask Northants CALC about minimum information and accessibility requirements that are needed for a website.*

Thanks was given to Cllr Skermer for all her time spent on the Parish Council. She will not be re-standing for election in May. She has carried out 23 years service.

**25/12. To note next meeting date**

Annual Parish Meeting on Tuesday 8<sup>th</sup> April 2025 at 7.30pm

Meeting finished at 8.35pm