

MARWOOD PARISH COUNCIL
Report of the Council Meeting 14 December 2023
Marwood Methodist Church Hall, Guineaford

The meeting started at 19.30 due to the late arrival of the Clerk due to a road traffic hold-up.

Members Present: Cllrs. C Latham, D Chugg, A Bend, R Berry, A Harvey-Bryant, N Plumb, D Hunt, K Down, C Wallis,

Apologies: Cllrs Cllr J Hunt. Cllr A Dav is

In Attendance: M J Measures (Clerk to the Council).

Interests. None **Chairman's Discretion.** Defibrillator

Minutes of the Parish Council Meeting 16 November 2023

The Minutes were agreed and signed as a true record.

Police Report

Copy sent to Members

Reports from County and District Councillors

The Clerk had sent a copy of a report from Cllr Hunt to all Members concerning the availability of some grants, including the Delamere Dairy Foundation; Community Emergency Resilience Fund (for those affected by storm events); also information of the new NDC online portal regarding Council tax, business rates and benefits.

Correspondence

Relevant correspondence, including proposed road closures in Springfield Cross to Bridge House; Draft Transport Strategy notice of consultation.

Finance

Invoices agreed for payment: C F Wallis £187.00 (P3); R Balment £183.60 (P3); (see Minute 5290); Kingfisher Direct £396.00 (salt bins); C F Wallis £170.00 (hedge cutting and salt bin). North Devon Council £717.32 (Dec + NJC Pay Award) The Clerk reported he has received the grant of £430.00 from North Devon Council towards the purchase and installation of the salt bins. Balance at 14 December £4101.00.

Precept 2024/25. The Clerk informed Members that DALC has indicated that the annual subscription will be £274.00 for 2024/25 and that the estimated expenditure by the Parish for the next three months will be just over £3000 with £278.00 VAT being recovered. Members considered all the possible financial implications and unanimously agreed to request a precept of £9000.00. This will be discussed again and the final amount ratified at the January Meeting.

Planning Matters

NDC will be holding a Planning Seminar for Town and Parish Councils on 31 January 2024 at Brynsworthy. Cllr Bend indicated his probable attendance.

Reports from Councillors

Parish Footpaths Cllr Wallis reported on the work that he and R Balment had carried out on footpaths 2, 6, 13, 16 and bridleways 30, 32 covered by the DCC Parish Paths Partnership Scheme.

Highways. Drainage problems in Middle Marwood are being investigated by DCC

Council e-mail address

Cllr Plumb reported that the new e-mail address can now be used. He gave everyone an instruction guide to create and use the new e-mail addresses. The Chairman thanked Cllr Plumb for organising the new system.

Bench Seat

The seat has now been installed.

Salt Bins

Three salt bins have been delivered and one has been installed and filled with salt near Marwood School. Cllr Wallis said another should be sited at the top of the hill near the school at the junction.

Chairman's Discretion

Defibrillator. Cllr Plumb reported that he has been in contact with a company who will update the existing defibrillator and a temporary replacement was installed. There is some confusion concerning the location of another defibrillator in the Parish but no one knows where. Cllr Plumb ensured Members that the one near Muddiford Inn is still operational. He will continue to investigate the confusion and report back to Council. The Chairman thanked him for sorting this out.

Next Meeting. The next Parish Council Meeting will be on Thursday 18 January 2024 to confirm the final request for the precept.

The meeting closed at 20.22

