

Minutes of Market Overton Parish Council Meeting

Held in The Village Hall on Wednesday 6th July 2016 at 6.00pm

2016/540	Present	Cllrs Stewart (Chairman),Robins, Marlow ,Buff ,Ryder, Hills and the Clerk Also present: Sarah Thomas- a member of the public	
2016/541	Apologies	Cllr Sanderson	
2016/542	Welcome to new Cllr Hills & to complete Declaration of Office/ Register of Interests	The Chairman welcomed Tim Hills to the Parish Council and Cllr Hills then signed his Declaration of Office and Register of Interests. The Clerk will forward the Register of Interests to Rutland County Council as required	
2016/543	To discuss School Bus Update	Chairman suggested, and it was agreed, that Agenda Item No.11 be brought forward as Sarah Thomas was present to address Council on this issue RCC issued a consultation document on "Home to School" Policy and Parish Council were invited to respond. Sarah Thomas (ST),a local parent, addressed Council. ST said that as the School Bus Escort had been currently been withdrawn by RCC there were 3 key areas to be addressed:- <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1) Seatbelts- The Law does not require children under 14 on school buses to wear seatbelts. ST found this unacceptable and wanted Drivers to be contracted to ensure they do. Without an Escort this would be difficult to implement. 2) Accountability- Register must be provided on the bus to log children getting onto bus and departing bus at school 3) Parents need to instruct use of seatbelts and ensure good behaviour of children on bus. Again difficult to implement. <p>It was Resolved that Clerk writes to RCC to ensure measures are adopted for maximum safety</p>	
2016/544	Declarations	There were none	
2016/545	To approve the minutes of the Parish Council Meeting held on 1 st June 2016	These were agreed	
2016/546	To deal with Matters Arising from meeting of 1 st June 2016	The donation to the Cricket Club is an Agenda Item to be discussed later.	
2016/547	To authorise payments of accounts	The Clerk reported as of today the funds in HSBC were: Current a/c £1075.39;Savings a/c £24,656.46 The following payments were authorised:- <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1) Amanet £154.79 (computer hard drive back-up) 2) Clerk's Salary for May £118.70 3) HMRC £95.00 Tax on Clerk's Salary for 3 months 4) Cory Grass Cutting £273. 60 	

2016/548	Neighbourhood Plan (NP) Update	Currently awaiting notification from RCC that the 6 weeks consultation period has finished. At that stage Parish Council will be able to apply for funding towards costs of drawing up a NP. An agreed Questionnaire will be circulated to all residents of the village which will give them opportunity to express their views and therefore their participation in the NP.	
2016/549	To discuss MOPC Website	Following the Clerk recently requesting Cllrs to consider the current Parish Council Website for feedback at this meeting, it was felt by Councillors that it was not fit for purpose. This was especially in comparison to other Parish Council websites. As" Transparency" was a legal requirement for the Public with regard to all Council Business and Financial transactions, it was felt also the current site was not "user friendly" It was Resolved that the Clerk commence the implementation of an upgraded website facilitated by a website designer, including comparison initial costings for this service. The Clerk would also enquire about specific grants which may be available for this facility by Government bodies	
2016/550	To discuss Street Lighting	The Clerk reported that RCC is currently undergoing a full review of taking on the total responsibility for all Parish and Town Council Street Lighting and Maintenance costs. An initial proposed costing for Market Overton for 2016/17 would be £590 This would be reimbursed to MOPC by RCC in the 2017/18 Financial Year. The Clerk reported this was competitive, especially as MOPC would have no ongoing repair and maintenance overhead. It was Resolved that we adopt the above initiative	
2016/551	To discuss Planning Application for MOPAA	The Chair outlined the reason for the Planning Application by the Parish Council on behalf of MOPAA and the Lodge Trust. Following his conversation with RCC Planning Dept, it was agreed that the cost of an Application would be reduced by 50%.if the Parish Council made the Application. This had been Resolved at the previous Council Meeting and the Clerk reported that he had now completed the Planning Application including a cheque for £97.50 on behalf of MOPPA. It was Resolved that the Parish Council would bear the cost of the Planning Application of £97.50 as further support for MOPAA	
2016/552	To discuss donation for Cricket Club	Following the request from Cllrs at the last meeting on 1 st June, the Clerk contacted the Secretary of the Club to identify to Council exactly what the money would be spent on and what cost. The Clerk reported they were looking for £500 to be spent on items of cricket equipment to aid coaching. Following some discussion, It was Resolved the Council would donate £300 to the Club.	
2016/553	To discuss Feast Weekend with Main Street closure	The Chairman invited Cllrs to give their views on the weekend and specifically the Road closure of main Street. Following discussion, the general feeling was that the road closure was beneficial in terms of safety ,notwithstanding some individual correspondence concerning apparent lack of communication about the closure. However, it was felt that this was not a Parish Council matter in any event and in fact the Feast Weekend Committee who organised the event, together with RCC Highways, were responsible for the closure. Statutory Notices had been published as well as local Press including "Outreach" and therefore this was not a Parish Council direct responsibility.	
2016/554	Date of next Meeting	Wednesday, 7th September 2116	