

## THORPE MALSOR PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of a meeting of Thorpe Malsor Parish Council held on Monday, 13<sup>th</sup> October 2014 at 8 Church Way, Thorpe Malsor.

Present: Cllr. N Roberts (Chairman), Cllr Mrs Z Powell, Cllr P Mobbs, Cllr R Walton, Clerk Mrs J Smart.

1. Apologies were received from Cllr Mrs Pope.
2. Minutes of the previous meeting were read, confirmed and signed.
3. Matters Arising

### 3.1 Neighbourhood Watch

Despite an article appearing in the Thorpe Malsor Matters newsletter there had been no response. Cllr Mrs Powell said at least two volunteers were needed and Cllr Walton said it was important to set this up as there was a need to be aware of suspicious characters about the village. It was agreed to again mention this in the next newsletter.

### 3.2 Precept

Cllr Roberts referred to the article in the newsletter asking for ideas as to how some of the money could be used for the benefit of the village. No suggestions had been forthcoming.

### 3.3 Planning: 5 Church Way

No further news from the Enforcement Officer. Cllr Mrs Powell said a raised garden with water feature was being constructed at the back and queried whether planning permission was required.

### 3.4 Junction of Gipsy Lane and Rothwell Road Kettering

The Clerk reported there had been no response to the letters sent to the neighbouring Parish Councils to Jim Harker Leader NCC and to Jim Hakewill our KBC representative. It was agreed to follow this up with emails to them.

## 4. NALC Meeting at Wilbarston Village, 6<sup>th</sup> October 2014

Cllr Roberts gave a report on this meeting called by Danny Moody NALC regarding the frustration felt by Parish Councils in the villages, and by Burton Latimer, Desborough and Rothwell Town Councils in the attitude of some of KBC officers towards them, and the iniquity of them having to pay Council Tax plus precept charge, whereas Kettering habitants paid only Council Tax and enjoyed superior facilities. A further concern was that with the adoption of Precept, KBC would seek to offload expensive items such as street lighting and grass cutting on to local councils forcing them to request higher precept amounts.

**5. Finance Report: The Clerk presented an up to date Finance Report.**

**5.1 Annual External Audit**

BDO the external auditors claimed to have returned the completed Audit forms to the Chairman on 7th September 2014 but they had never been received; BDO eventually sent a computerised version of the accounts together with a form to display showing that the Audit had been completed and an account for £42.00. Cllr Roberts proposed, seconded by Cllr Mrs Powell, that the accounts be formally approved. This was agreed unanimously.

**5.2 Precept**

The Clerk had received a letter enclosing a precept form for completion and return by 30<sup>th</sup> January 2015. It was agreed to complete this at the next meeting.

**6. Village Amenities**

**6.1 Street Light near 1 Church Way**

Cllr Roberts had reported this was not working to Jim McNally KBC.

**6.2 Street Cleaning**

The Clerk reported that, due to the wet weather, falling leaves were becoming a problem and agreed to contact KBC for the street and pavement to be swept.

**6.3 Grass Cutting – Triangle near Eagle Gates**

Cllr Mrs Powell asked that KBC be informed that they should no longer cut the grass as she would arrange for it to be done.

**6.4 Blocked Drain: Cllr Roberts had reported this.**

**7. 19 The Square**

A letter had been received from Mrs Taylor regarding drainage of The Square and problems with flooding. Cllr Roberts agreed to contact Kevin Sail from AWA for advice.

**8. Any Other Business**

**8.1 Junction of Loddington Road and Thorpe Reservoir Road**

Cllr Mrs Powell said it was impossible to see up to Loddington as the uncut grass impeded vision. The Clerk agreed to contact KBC.

**8.2 Number of Parish Councillors**

Cllr Roberts queried the number of Parish Councillors permitted and the Clerk agreed to contact Ian White KBC.

### **8.3 Website**

Cllr Roberts felt it would be an advantage to the village to have its own website. The Clerk was asked to obtain details for the next meeting. It was felt this would encourage villagers to get involved with village activities.

### **8.4 Noticeboard**

The Clerk reported that the notice board was falling apart and the notices were wet through. It was agreed to obtain quotes for a new authentic noticeboard.

## **9. Date of next Meeting was fixed for 1<sup>st</sup> December 2014.**

There being no further business, the Chairman closed the meeting.