

**Marton Parish Council**  
**Clerk: Elizabeth Worrall**  
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Minutes of the Meeting of the Parish Council held at  
7.30pm Tuesday 5<sup>th</sup> December

- 1. Attendance:**

John Rylands (Chair) (JR), Sue Webborn (SW), David McGowan (DM), Lucy Nixon (LN), Phil Cheetham (PC), Alistair Goodwin (AG), Lesley Smetham (LS)  
Barrie Nolan (BN) was absent  
Lizzie Worall (Clerk) (LW) was present  
No members of the public were in attendance.  
No conflicts of interest were declared.
- 2. Minutes of Meeting 19<sup>th</sup> September and action points review:**

As circulated.  
Draft has been published  
*The minutes were approved, with no amendments, unanimously.*
- 3. Matters Arising:**

*John Rylands mentioned one individual who may be interested in becoming a Parish Councillor. LW is due to check numbers and whether there is a suitable vacancy. LW will report back to Councillors.*
- 4. Footpaths Report:**

Update on current state.  
*John Rylands mentioned a piece of land adjacent to Church Farm where the hedges are becoming overgrown. The company who owns the land are still in the process of registering so this is being monitored for now.*
- 5. PCSO Report:**

*LW shared a brief update on behalf of Beat Officer David O'Connor (the PCSO is returning from maternity leave and will be fully back in the role in early 2024). David has been monitoring speeding on the road between Siddington and Marton. Several offenders have been caught speeding in this area. The Parish Council had no matters that they wished to bring to PC O'Connor's attention.*
- 6. Planning Applications**
  - a. Marton Meadows Golf Club
    - i) [21/6443](#) - Extension Including landfill  
*Now in progress.*
    - ii) [20/4440M](#) - Driving Range - update  
*Driving range is now in use and will be monitored by local residents. JR raised a comment regarding light pollution – DM will review the planning application to check for any comments made on lighting.*
  - b. Barlows  
*LS, JR and DM had a meeting earlier on this year to express the Parish Council's concerns over this. DM has sent a subsequent e-mail requesting a further update on this. A partial*

update was received. LS, JR and DM will work together to raise this again with enforcement. LS will try and get a recording or written proof that the council are aware that asbestos is there and have instructed individuals to leave it in situ. DM and JR have previously not had any luck raising this directly with the Environment Agency. JR will speak with DM and will follow this up.

c. Cherry Barrow Farm

i) tipped soil and debris - update

Please see notes above on Barlows – this will be addressed in the same e-mail to planning that JR/DM will send.

ii) [22/4221M](#) - Construction of a new stable block - update  
Still undecided.

d. Brookside Cottage [22/4146M](#)

Still undecided.

e. Sandpit Farm [23/1363M](#)

Still undecided.

f. Brickyard Farm 23/2596M

Still undecided.

g. Cherry Tree Cottage – garage construction

A planning variation has been reported by a member of the public and reported. An enforcement officer has visited. The applicant will complete a planning amendment application that the Parish Council will then review.

## **7. Marton Environmental Plan:**

JR will circulate two papers from John Percival and apologised for the lateness of this circulation. This is for councillors to review and outlines the work that John Percival completes.

John Percival has submitted an invoice for payment which will cover 12 months village maintenance for the village in 2024.

## **8. Marton School Liaison:**

SW and PC raised concerns regarding parent parking in the village during school pick up and drop off times. This will be monitored. LS confirmed that the school has an obligation to ensure the area around the school is kept appropriately and this includes parent parking.

## **9. Village Maintenance:**

a. Oak Lane / Oak View Hedges / Oak Lane Footpath

The Oak Lane Footpath has been reported by a local resident. AG has previously reported this via the Cheshire East 'Fixmystreet' webpage.

JR noted that the hedge is also overgrown and is further impeding the footpath. PC asked if residents had any history of what had happened previously. JR will take pictures of the hedge of Oak Lane and return these to LW. LW will e-mail Cheshire East Highways and Property Services, confirming that the Parish council will complete maintenance this year but would be keen to review this next year.

Regarding the pathway, DM proposed arranging a sit-down meeting with residents. AG proposed that this was informally, and JR confirmed that a range of residents on Oak Lane should be consulted. LW will invite Louise ???, John Percival, Sue Platt, Richard, Phil and Sally

*to a sit-down meeting with one or more Parish Councillors.*

**b. Village Green**

*PC has received a quotation from Top Rank Civils for the pathway installation and the re-siting of the Village Green. This is a cost of £3,035.50 plus VAT and the additional pathway to the Davenport Arms, if done at the same time, would be £1,745.50 plus VAT. The council were keen to proceed and approved this unanimously. JR is in the process of discussing a possible grant to fund part of this.*

*PC to confirm with Cheshire East that the Parish Council have permission to complete the work before this proceeds any further. The work will also not commence until the grant is received.*

*It was resolved to present this item to the Village as part of the Parish Council's plan for financial year 2024. This will be done at the Village meeting. There will not be a vote on this item.*

**c. Wildflowers**

*This was completed last year. PC feels that this was not too successful due to the weather in summer. PC is hoping that the wildflowers will mature and there will be a better flowering in 2024. The area will be cut back and re-seeded in February and March 2024.*

**d. Litter pick**

*No update.*

**e. Dog mess**

*This has not been an issue since the last meeting. JR will arrange the signs, as discussed at the September meeting.*

**f. Other matters**

*John Percival has completed a brief visual assessment of the trees and they appear safe. The resident adjacent to the Spinney will continue to monitor the trees.*

*The Capesthorne Estate confirmed the council rent the land on the Spinney and the pond on Messuage Lane.*

*The bin has been assessed by JR. JR and PC will assess the bin again and ensure that no water is getting in.*

**10. Village Matters:**

**a. Coffee Morning and Davenport Arms**

*The Coffee Mornings have been a success with 12 – 15 residents attending. Mulled wine and mince pies will be arranged for the December meeting.*

**b. Boxing Day Walk**

*This was proposed by JR and will be further considered by JR. An update will be provided by JR should this go ahead.*

**11. Highway and road safety matters:**

**Update**

*AG shared an update. There is an approx. £800 charge for Cheshire East Highways to attend site and give their permission and then a £108 per annum charge to keep the speed camera registered with Cheshire East. A concern has been raised regarding light, with some blockage of foliage from trees on Cheshire East land. AG believes a tractor with a flail would be likely to cut back the foliage enough to site the camera and ensure enough light reaches the*

device. It was resolved to purchase the camera and write the cheque.  
DM proposed an item at the Village Meeting to reinstate the speed camera programme, which was completed by volunteers and residents.

## 12. Parish Council Website

*There was no update.*

## 13. Finance

a. Current Accounts

*An update on the accounts were supplied by LW and signed by the Chair.*

b. Adoption of budget 2024 -25

*The budget was approved and it was resolved to apply for a precept of £3,500.*

c. Cheques for Signature

*The below cheques were approved for signature and payment.*

d. Online banking discussion

*LW will write a set of written protocols for online banking for adoption in February. JR to continue process of online banking.*

e. Arrangements for internal audit

*Councillors will consider who they may wish to appoint for the internal audit, for discussion at the next meeting in February 2024.*

f. Clerk pay rise

*It was resolved to move to the new NALC pay scales, and pay the clerk the new SCP 12 rate as of January 1<sup>st</sup> 2024.*

Date	Description	Chq. No.	Amount
05/12/2023	E Worrall expenses	801	£66.20
05/12/2023	E Worrall Q3 salary	802	£264.78
05/12/2023	HMRC Q4	803	£66.20
05/12/2023	E Worrall Q4 salary	804	£264.78
05/12/2023	John Percival	805	£328.98
05/12/2023	Chair's Expenses	806	£50.00
05/12/2023	Elan – Speed Sign	807	£2,807.99

## 14. Chair's remarks and reports from members attending external meetings

Update

*John Rylands had attended the local PCC meeting.*

## 15. Correspondence

*The matter raised by the resident had been dealt with earlier in the meeting. There was no other correspondence.*

## 16. Any other matters for discussion:

Update from Lesley Smetham

*LS was in attendance and provided an update – there are several consultations taking place currently. The Green Spaces Consultation and the Leisure provision consultation were*

*discussed.*

**17. 2024 meetings:**

- a. Tuesday 6th February 2024
- b. Tuesday 12th March 2024 (Village Meeting)
- c. Tuesday 14th May 2024 (includes AGM)
- d. Tuesday 16th July 2024
- e. Tuesday 17th September 2024
- f. Tuesday 3rd December 2024