

**Marlon Parish Council**  
**Clerk: Elizabeth Worrall**  
**22 Wesley Avenue, Alsager, ST7 2NG**  
**Email: [marlon.clerk@gmail.com](mailto:marlon.clerk@gmail.com)**

Minutes of the Meeting of the Parish Council held at  
7.30pm Tuesday 19<sup>th</sup> September 2023

**1) Attendance:**

- a) John Rylands (Chair) (JR), Barrie Nolan (BN), David McGowan (DM), Lucy Nixon (LN), Phil Cheetham (PC), Lesley Smetham (LS)
- b) Apologies received in advance from Sue Webborn (SW) and Alistair Goodwin (AG)
- c) Lizzie Worall (Clerk) (LW)
- d) No members of the public were in attendance.

**2) Conflicts of Interest**

- a) There were no conflicts of interest declared.

**3) Minutes of Meeting 18<sup>th</sup> July 2023:**

- a) As circulated.
- b) Draft has been published  
*The minutes were approved, with no amendments, unanimously.*

**4) Matters Arising:**

- a) *The Council reviewed the action points from the last meeting. LW will format action points for the next meeting so that it is clear which items will be discussed on the agenda.*
- b) Congleton Half Marathon - adding to the website and e-mailing the Village to see if anyone will line at route at Williams Garage and Bunce Lane  
*An update was provided by JR. The details have been posted on the website. JR will contact the farmers. LW to send a reminder e-mail regarding the event.*

**5) Footpaths Report:**

- a) Update on current state.  
*We are still awaiting the report from the Congleton Ramblers commenting on the footpath from the A34. JR will chase this report.*

**6) PCSO Report:**

- a) To receive an update from PCSO, Chloe Shore, if present.  
*No report was received from PCSO Chloe Shore. LW and LS shared that PCSO Shore has now left her position and a new PCSO should start shortly (David Connor). LW will extend David an invitation to the coffee mornings once he is in post. LS will share David Connor's details once she knows them. LW will try and get details for the local police meetings to try and get an update.*

## 7) Planning Applications

- a) Marton Meadows Golf Club
  - i) [21/6443](#) - Extension Including landfill  
*Approved with conditions – it has been recognised at a landfill site, but accepted that there would be a need for this locally. Work has commenced.*
  - ii) [20/4440M](#) - Driving Range - update  
*No update and no issues reported but continuing to monitor if golf balls leave the boundary of the club.*
- b) Barlows
  - i) Enforcement notice issued?  
*LS, DM and JR had a meeting with the Head of Planning on the 30<sup>th</sup> of August and the Head of Enforcement at Cheshire East. Cheshire East have committed to review this within the next few weeks.*
- c) Cherry Barrow Farm
  - i) tipped soil and debris - update  
*As above – Cheshire East will investigate this further.*
  - 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) Brick Yard Farm 23/2596M  
*Undecided.*
- g) AOB – LS to share a list of enforcement notices. A paper copy was passed to JR, but a copy will be circulated to the clerk.

## 8) Marton Environmental Plan:

- a) Update including Wildflower Scheme  
*JR outlined the report he has received from John Percival. JR to share with the Parish Council. John Percival feels that the re-seeding has been a success. He has started coming back some of the grass. JR has arranged someone to visit on Thursday and the work should be completed in October. PC advised that the debris must be removed to avoid any issues. John Percival has suggested a budget of £500 for 2024/25, through fresh fruit trees may be an additional cost. All items of expenditure will be proposed to MPC for approval.*  
*DM asked for another copy of the Environmental Plan to be circulated. LW to ask John Percival for this. JR to arrange a face-to-face meeting with John Percival and any interested councillors to discuss schemes further. PC advised the council that any purchased mix should have Yellow Rattle included to suppress grass growth to ensure best wildflower growth.*  
*Hodgehill Lane and Davenport Lane and the Village Green fruit trees are producing fruit – LW to mention to the village via e-mail.*  
*JR extended thanks to John Percival for his effort.*

## 9) Marton School Liaison:

- a) Update  
*JR has consulted with the Headteacher – she is happy and raised no matters for the*

*Parish Council. The Parish Council have borrowed a key to the school – a long-term solution is required. The Vicar should have returned to a member of the PC – LW to consult with Carrie on whether this has been received.*

## **10) Village Maintenance:**

- a) Planter damage  
*A working party is planned for Saturday 30<sup>th</sup> September 10am to empty the planters after the summer. BN will purchase some wallflowers to be planted on the same day. The work is to include a tidy up of the Spinney, the Spinney bin and a look at the re-seeding on the Village Green.*
- b) Oak Lane / Oak View Hedges  
*Reports have submitted to the Council by LN following the last meeting. No work has been completed yet.*
- c) Village Green  
*PC is doing a site visit with Rankin Civils on Thursday 21<sup>st</sup> September. Pricing will follow the meeting.*
- d) Wildflowers  
*See update above – to remain on the agenda.*
- e) Litter pick  
*LW to thank villagers who just pick up the litter in the area. A ‘full pick’ will be planned for April next year. Thanks was extended to LN.*
- f) Litter signs  
*The signs have been installed. Thanks was extended to DM.*
- g) Dog mess  
*There was no update.*
- h) The Spinney Waste Bin  
*Thanks for Sue to her efforts in identifying this. The working group will look at this on Saturday 30<sup>th</sup> September.*
- i) Trees near to the Spinney  
*Andrew will advise the council if this is an issue. The council noted this to monitor over the winter. LW to try and get a copy of the lease to check the process. LW to ask John Percival to complete a visual assessment. LW to schedule an e-mail to Andrew each year.*

## **11) Village Matters:**

- a) Coffee Morning and Davenport Arms  
*Dates proposed 18<sup>th</sup> October 22<sup>nd</sup> November, 20<sup>th</sup> December ,17<sup>th</sup> January, 21<sup>st</sup> February. All Wednesdays – 11am – 12pm.*

## **12) Highway and road safety matters:**

- a) Update  
*No report on speeding matters received.*
- b) Speeding Sign  
*Approval was given to AG’s proposal. The Parish Council expressed the view that speeding in the village was a clear concern and that the proposed sign meets the requirement of the issues raised in the Neighbourhood Plan (page 38). AG to confirm prices, confirm technical specification (will this get sufficient sunlight for the solar*

panel to work?) and instruct the signs to commence Production. Invoice and expenditure to be signed off at next meeting once invoice confirmed. LS to apply for the Highways budget to support this sign installation.

c) Speed Guns

This was discussed. This will be raised with the PCSO when they are in post. JR will also discuss further with Neda at Church Farm.

### 13) Parish Council Website

a) Update

JR thanked LN for her ongoing endeavours.

### 14) Finance

a) Current Accounts

Accounts were supplied by LW.

b) Cheques for Signature

The below cheques were approved for signature and payment.

c) Online banking discussion

JR noted that he had submitted a request to Natwest for Online Banking but LW advised no correspondence had been received.

d) Budget for 2024/25

A draft budget was supplied to all Councillors.

Date	Description	Chq. No.	Amount
19/09/2023	Zurich	797	£214.00
19/09/2023	David McGowan (posts for litter bins)	798	£12.60
	<b>Spoiled cheque</b>	<b>799</b>	
19/09/2023	John Rylands (community engagement – thank you meal for previous clerk) <b>Amendment May 2024 – it is noted by the Council, for clarity, that a larger receipt, covering the whole of the meal, was produced. Only a partial payment was made, as agreed by the Council, to cover the previous Clerk’s meal.</b>	800	£70.80

### 15) Chair’s remarks and reports from members attending external meetings.

a) Updates

LS provided an update on the meeting at the Sand Quarry. LS’s experience is that, at least for Eaton, there is minimum disruption to residents. Common issues are lighting and impact on the wildlife.

JR will attend the local Parish Council forum on the 16<sup>th</sup> of October.

There is a service to install the new Mayor for Cheshire East. Councillors to confirm if they can attend. LS noted constraints within Cheshire East Council’s budget, particularly regarding SEN. Management changes were also noted.

The Parish Council will confirm D-Day celebrations (if any are to be held) at the

*Village Meeting in 2024.*

**16) Correspondence**

- a) No correspondence received since the previous meeting.

**17) Any other matters for discussion:**

- a) Update from Lesley Smetham  
*Car park consultation (closing 18<sup>th</sup> October) and FlexiLink consultation (closing end September) are both open. Any villagers interested should complete the consultations online. LW to share details with LN for the website. Local Enterprise Arrangements are being reviewed. Ongoing consultation with drainage is still in process.*

**18) Confirmed dates 2023/24 meetings:**

*The below dates were confirmed:*

- Tuesday 5th December 2023
- Tuesday 6th February 2024
- Tuesday 12th March 2024 (Village Meeting)
- Tuesday 14th May 2024 (includes AGM)
- Tuesday 16th July 2024
- Tuesday 17th September 2024
- Tuesday 3rd December 2024

*Electronic diary invites will be sent to Councillors.*