

Marston Parish Council Tuesday 8th July 2025

Marston Chapel, 7pm

Meeting Minutes

Present: Mark Cherrington (Chair), Jon Robbins, Phillip Bellow, Steve Bennet (Clerk) and Dawn Whiting (minute taker)

Agenda Item No	Agenda Item	Notes
1	Apologies	Jonathan Nickel, Charlie Milton, Fiona Cassidy (website admin)
2	Declarations of Interest	None Declared.
3	Approval of Minutes of previous Parish Council Meeting	Minutes were approved as accurate. Proposed PB, Seconded JR. Copies of minutes are available on request for those unable to access them digitally
4	Approval of minutes of Finance Parish Council meeting	Minutes were approved as accurate – Proposed PB, Seconded JR. Copies of minutes are available on request for those unable to access them digitally
5	Matters arising from the minutes of the previous meeting	Action Tracker Updated accordingly: 5/b/iv/101224 Cheque to be raised for £500 to Christ Church towards the notice charge. Completed, closed 8/7/25, Receipt received 2/270525 Councillors disclosable interests to be registered with WC Update 8/7/25 1 councillor outstanding 4/270525 Contact to be made with those households not signed up to Mailchimp, Completed, Action closed 8/7/25 4/270525 Info re termination of analogue land lines and the availability of free mobiles for disabled and vulnerable residents to be issued - Update 8/7/25 BT have transferred the village to digital. SB to submit article in the Bridge. 7/iii/270525 CM to attend Operational Flood Working Group meeting on 29/5/25 to champion action re flood issues in Marston, particularly at Norney Bridge. Update 8/7/25 CM attended, action closed - Ditch dug on one side, other side to be done in coming months. No threat to life so not a priority for significant works. 7/iii/270525 Issue of unclear road markings causing drivers to drive on the grass verges to be submitted to LHFIFG via an application form – closed 8/7/25 SB raised via My Wilts App 7/iii/270525 Faded white road markings to be logged on the My Wilts Closed 8/7/25 SB actioned 7/iv/270525 More info to be obtained in relation to proposed

		<p>Chapel improvements Action closed 8/7/25 Item on agenda for 8/7/25</p> <p>7/iv/270525 Solar Fund application form to be sent to Christ Church. Action completed and closed 8/7/25</p> <p>7/v/270525 No comment, No objections to be stated on the WC planning site for PL/2025/04325 Actioned, item closed 8/7/25</p>
6	Items for Discussion	<p>a. Marston Green/Common Land Contractors experienced issues during last cut, will bring additional machinery for next cut which will enable a better finish. Next year consideration to be given to No May Mow planning e.g. allocate certain areas as No Mow May, or cuts to be booked for end of Apr and beginning of June to prevent issues experienced this year. Another factor affecting the cutting is the position and condition of the ditches Action: MC to approach WC to request improvements to the ditches as they are hindering grass gutting.</p> <p>b. Rights of Way WC will no longer share legal advice re the breach. Environment Agency have stated they are not liable for repairs. In CM's absence SB read out an update on the breach from CM. CM to give further update at next meeting</p> <p>c. Planning Applications Application PL/2025/05057 was discussed at length. No objections, however agreed parish council would like to see a condition on any approval which stipulates the access is built prior to any building work to the house commences – Proposed JR, Seconded PB Action: PB to comment on WC planning site</p> <p>d. Highways Flooding – No update to give at this time. JR has taken over as Marston parish council flooding rep.</p> <p>e. Solar Community Fund administration Applications received from Christchurch for £2500 towards the wall repairs and from the Chapel for £4000 towards the renovation costs. Detailed discussion was had. Applications approved in principle however the eligibility criteria and amounts awarded are to be clarified and confirmed – Proposed PB, Seconded JR Action: JN to clarify eligibility criteria and annual fund budget. Councillors to agree final decision and awards prior to next meeting 9/9/25.</p> <p>f. Administration Matters The Chair gave thanks to Dave Hansford and Steve Bennett for their dedication to the village and Parish Council in their years as Parish Councillors. Dates for 2025/26 meetings: 9/9/25 11/11/25 13/01/26 10/3/26 12/05/26</p> <p>g. Correspondence Mr Packers correspondence regarding concerns relating to the Parish Council being the Trustees of the Common was discussed. Action: To defer to meeting on 9/9/25 when full council membership present</p>

7	Finance	Balances unavailable. Will be brought to 9/9/25 meeting
8	Correspondence	No further correspondence received
9	Date of Next Meeting	9/9/25
10	Closure of Meeting	
11	Any Other Business	

Outstanding Actions

Item No	Action	Responsible Person	Update
4/ii/101224	Further horticultural advice to be sought re planting a permanent "Christmas" tree on the common.	JN	Update 24/2/25 – JN to obtain quotes for a red oak 27/5/25 - None available atm. Action carried forward.
Items raised at Village meeting 27/5/25	Future of MPC marquee, generator and trailer to be decided, hire out, use, sell	MPC	To be added to next MPC meeting agenda
2/270525	Councillors' disclosable interests to be registered with WC	SB	Update 8/7/25 1 councillor outstanding
4/270525	Info re termination of analogue land lines and the availability of free mobiles for disabled and vulnerable residents to be issued	SB/DW	Update 8/7/25 BT have transferred the village to digital. SB to submit article in the Bridge
6/270525	Recommendations for future mowing of the Common Land to be explored. Could include a village survey.	FC	FC to also look into having a wild flower area (previously Action 4/i/101224)
7/ii/270525	Jubilee Footpath sign to be installed	SB & CM	
9/270525	Mr Cash to be approached re historic letter issued by MPC re land ownership at Norney Bridge	SB	
9/270525	Land ownership at Norney Bridge to be researched and clarified with Land Registry	MC	Bench area doesn't belong to anyone according to Land Registry. Bank hedge line maintenance falls to homeowners

9/270525	Options appraisal to be compiled to include the 2 most likely options of separate Trust and MPC & continuation of joint Trust and MPC. Options appraisal to be brought to future MPC meeting once drafted.	SB	item on agenda for 8/7/25 - Future discussion to take place when full council in attendance
11/270525	Website commissioning to be discussed and brought back to future meeting	JN/FC	
11/270525	Traveller Procedure/policy to be drafted	SB	08/07/2025 Members of the public have access rights but not rights to camp. Private land - it is the responsibility of the land owner to take legal action against anyone illegally camping on their land. Public land - it is the responsibility of the council to take action. Need to establish if common land is classed as private land. If classed as private, who would be responsible MPC or The Trust? SB to seek legal advice from WC legal team
11/270525	Recommendations for AI technology to support minute taking in future to be sent to DW.	ALL	
5/080725	Info re termination of analogue land lines and the availability of free mobiles for disabled and vulnerable residents to be issued	SB	update 8/7/25 BT have transferred the village to digital phone connections. SB to submit article to the Bridge
6/a/080725	No Mow May - Agree to allocate certain areas to No Mow May, or book cuts for end Apr and beg. June to avoid cutting issues	MC	
6/a/080725	WC to be approached re condition of ditches as they are hindering grass cutting	MC	
6/b/080725	Further update on Semington Brook to be given at Sept meeting	CM	
6/c/080725	No objections, agreed comment to be submitted to WC planning site	PB	Update 9/7/25 – PB submitted comments
6/e/080725	Solar Fund criteria to be shared with councillors and uploaded to website	JN	

6/e/080725	Councillors to further discuss Christchurch and Chapel applications against the criteria and agree if applications meet the criteria amounts to be awarded from annual budget. To be agreed ahead of next meeting 9/9/25	ALL	
6/f/080725	Parish Council meeting dates to be published in The Bridge	DW	
6/g/080725	Mr Packers correspondence re Common Land trustees to be discussed at meeting 9/9/25	SB	
7/080725	Balance of Parish Council funds and Solar fund to be brought to Sept meeting	JN	