

Marston Parish Council Tuesday 13th January 2026

Marston Chapel, 7pm

Meeting Minutes

Present: Mark Cherrington (Chair), Philip Bellew, Jonathan Nickell (Finance), Jon Robbins, Steve Bennet (Clerk)

Apologies: Cllr Charlie Milton, Members of the public Dave Hansford & Lambert Courths

Also Present Dawn Whiting (minutes) and Fiona Cassidy (Website and Marston Village Green working group),

Agenda Item No	Agenda Item	Notes
1	Apologies	Cllr Charlie Milton, members of the public Dave Hansford & Lambert Courths
2	Declarations of Interest	None Declared
3	Approval of Minutes of previous Parish Council meeting	Minutes of Parish Council meeting on 11 th Nov 2025 approved as accurate. Proposed JN, Seconded PW.
4	Matters arising from the minutes of previous meeting	Action Tracker updated accordingly: Completed Actions: 8/090925 Councillors to agree plans for village Christmas decoration i.e. tree, lights, etc – Christmas tree was purchased and erected on The Green. Councillors thanked Mr Whiting for building a Christmas tree for NB. 5/a/111125 Link flyers to be circulated by Mailchimp – Circulated on 17/1//25 and again with draft mins for Nov meeting. 5/e/111125 Proposed budget to be compiled ahead of Nov admin meeting, to include all annual council expenses including future election fees. 5/f/ii/111125 Christmas tree to be purchased for The Green and Light tree for Norney Bridge – closed as per item 8/090925 above. 5/f/iii/111125 Article to be submitted to Bridge and circulated by Mailchimp inviting villagers to express an interest to join The Village

		Green Working Group – Action completed, article in December issue. 7/h/111125 Notification of bird flu, and risk of neighbouring footpath to be followed up – Action closed, risk diminished. 5/e/090925 Summary of original Solar Fund set up detail to be compiled and brought to the Nov MPC meeting. This to form an agenda item in Nov – Discussed at Nov meeting therefore action closed. 5/j/3/090925 Landowners to work together re clearing ditches. Howards to be approached re deeper digging of ditches along Long Street and surrounding area. 13/1/25 - Landowner confirmed discussions have taken place, however Long Street ditches cannot be cleared due to water course.
5	Items for discussion Common Land Footpaths Highways Solar Fund Finance	a) Common Land i) Common Land maintenance schedule MC to hold back scheduling contractor pending MPC working group proposal. JN to advise contractor that plan will be worked up and shared post March. ii) Common Land working group 8 people met to discuss ideas. Plan to be worked up to treat areas of the land differently/mixed regime. Proposal to be brought to March MPC meeting. Any proposals must be presented to all commoners for agreement. iii) Report on work of Parish Steward Steward last visited Marston on 21/11/25. Next due 22/1/26 - Norney Bridge bench area to be cleared. SB to write to TR re severity of pot holes on Long Street. SB to collaborate with affected businesses. PB to support an analysis of current potholes b) Footpaths. i) Update on Horse Path flooding WC are still looking into this issue. c) Highways i) Flood resilience work update No new work undertaken since last MPC meeting on 11/11/25

		ii) Report on damage to bridge at Norney Bridge Cages within the verge have slumped, are empty and are pulling away from the bank, plus the verge is falling away - WC and TR advised. Engineer will be sent out to survey, date yet to be confirmed. Advanced notice of planned works: 16/2/25 Lower Rd on way to Erlestoke will be temporarily closed. 13/3/26 – Pot hole repair from Norney Bridge to Close Lane will be undertaken. iii) Application for horse signs on roads A 2nd request has been received. SB to suggest traditional horse signs rather than BHS ones. PB has requested highways improvement form to support this suggestion. Member of public suggested pedestrians walking in road safety signs to also be included in the highway improvement application. d) Solar Fund Applications i) None received e) Finance Report i) Finance update Current balances: £16,637.89 MPC £45,453.93 solar fund ii) Setting the precept for the financial year 2026/27 MPC unanimously agreed precept increase of £8.01 pa based on D rated property for year 2026/27. This is aligned to neighbouring village precept increase. JN proposed, JR seconded. JN to submit details to WC.
6	Closure of meeting	Meeting closed @ 19:45
7	AOB	None raised Next meeting will be held on Tuesday 10th March, 7pm in The Chapel.