

**Minutes of the Parish Council Meeting held on Tuesday 17<sup>th</sup> September 2024 at 7.30pm at Marton Primary School**

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**Part 1 Public and press present**

**Present**

Cllr. John Rylands  
Cllr. Lucy Nixon  
Cllr. Barrie Nolan  
Cllr. Phil Cheetham  
Cllr. David McGowan  
Cllr. Lesley Smetham – Ward Councillor  
Elizabeth Worrall – Clerk

**Apologies**

Cllr. Sue Webborn  
Cllr. Alistair Goodwin

**PART 1 - PUBLIC AND PRESS**

There were no public and press present.

**1. To receive and approve apologies for absence**

There were two apologies for absence – Cllrs. Goodwin and Webborn both sent apologies in advance of the meeting.

**2. To receive any declarations of interest**

There were no declarations of interest.

**3. Vice Chair (as per previous meeting)**

Cllr. Webborn had confirmed that she is no longer in a position to continue in the role of Vice Chair or to chair meetings ahead. Cllr. McGowan confirmed that, while he is not able to step up as Chair or Vice Chair in a formal capacity, he would be willing to Chair meetings in Cllr. Rylands' absence.

**4. To receive and resolve to approve the minutes of the Parish Council meeting held on 20th May 2024**

It was **RESOLVED** to approve the minutes from May 2024.

**5. To receive and resolve to approve the minutes of the Parish Council meeting held on 16th July 2024**

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Minutes of the Parish Council Meeting 17<sup>th</sup> September 2024

Signed

Dated

It was **RESOLVED** to approve the minutes from July 2024.

**6. To receive an update on footpaths**

It was noted that a speedy repair has been done on the footpath over the brook, near to Cocksmiss Lane. It was **RESOLVED** that the Clerk would submit a thank you to the footpath team for their work to repair this.

**7. To receive an update on planning applications**

It was **RESOLVED** that the Parish Council would separate planning applications and enforcement issues in the minutes and agendas ahead.

**a) Marton Meadows Golf Club**

**i) 20/4440M - Driving Range**

It was **RESOLVED** to remove this from the minutes ahead. It was **RESOLVED** that the Clerk will send a thank you e-mail to the golf club, noting that the Parish Council had noticed very few issues regarding stray balls, and have had no comments from residents regarding this.

**ii) 24/2357M – car park**

This is still undecided.

**b) 22/4221M - Construction of a new stable block**

This is still undecided.

**c) Brookside Cottage 22/4146M.**

This is still undecided. It was **RESOLVED** that Councillor McGowan would send an e-mail to the planning team, asking for an update, on behalf of the resident.

**8. To receive an update on Planning enforcement issues.**

**a) 21/6443 - Extension Including landfill**

There has been no update on this since the last meeting.

**b) Barlows**

There is no update on this since the last meeting. Cllr. Rylands will get contact details for the individuals involved and Cllr. McGowan and the Clerk will send through.

**c) Cherry Barrow Farm – tipped soil and debris**

There has been no update on this since the last meeting.

**d) Marton Church**

Cllr. Rylands and Cllr. McGowan are in correspondence with the Planning Enforcement Officer regarding this.

**e) AOB**

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Cllr. McGowan noted his displeasure at the lack of response from the Planning Team and the slow response from Planning. Regarding the asbestos waste, Cllr. Smetham will review the minutes of the meeting and will share the discussion had with Marton Parish Council. If the minutes are no longer available, Cllr. Smetham will try and arrange a meeting with the Councillor in charge of planning.

**9. To receive an update on Marton Primary School**

There was no update from Marton Primary School. Cllr. Rylands had written to Sue Furness to note the cleaning work done. Individuals, affiliated with the school, had commended the Parish Council with the work that has been completed.

**10. To receive an update on Village Maintenance Projects**

**a) Marton Environmental Plan**

John Percival had completed an application for a bursary to assist with the weirs. It was **RESOLVED** that Councillor Rylands will contact John Purcival and ask for a status update on this.

**b) Planters**

Cllr. Nolan noted that the joints were splitting on some of the planters. Both Cllr. Nolan and Cheetham believe that the planters will do another summer, and will not need to be replaced until Winter 2025 – 2026 at the earliest. Cllr. Nolan suggested that some remedial work could extend the life – Cllr. Cheetham will look into this.

A working party will take place on the morning of October 26<sup>th</sup> 10.30am, meeting at the Primary School, to remove the summer bedding plants, as well as any other village maintenance. It was **RESOLVED** that the Clerk would send an e-mail to the village, and a reminder closer to the time.

**c) Oak Lane / Oak View Hedges**

This issue has now been resolved – the hedge looks neat and all green waste has been picked up. The Parish Council commended Sue Platt for her work to help ANSA progress this work.

**d) Village Green**

A working party took place in August 2024. The Parish Council agreed that the evergreen trees would be moved – the larger tree will be in the middle and the smaller ones will be placed on either side. This will allow for some more lighting to be installed and to help the Christmas display later this year. Thanks were extended to both Cllr. Cheetham and the working party.

**e) Wildflowers**

Stuart Massey, a local farmer, has offered to lead a refresh of the wildflower patch. This will commence this Autumn, and a further update will be provided at the next meeting.

**f) Litter pick**

Another commendation was extended to ANSA. Cllr. Nixon had collected a can of nitrous oxide, which had disposed of on a walk. Cllr. Nixon contacted ANSA, who had previously supported with litter pick items and they arranged for collection of this the same day.

The next litter pick will take place on the 2<sup>nd</sup> November, meeting 10.30am on the Village Green. Cllr. Nixon will arrange this, and the Clerk will include this in her updates to the village (see Item 10b).

**g) Litter signs**

The litter and dog mess signs have been installed in the village. The Parish Council noted that these were very visible, and no issues had been noted since the installation.

**h) Dog mess**

See Item 10G above.

**i) The Spinney**

The residents at the Spinney have reported that the trees are unsafe. Cllr. Rylands has spoken to the Estate Manager, at Capesthorpe, who will arrange an individual to attend site and review the trees and see if they can assist. It is expected that, regardless of the outcome of Capesthorpe's review, the Village will need to complete some of the maintenance of the lower branches and smaller trees.

A discussion was had regarding low usage of the Spinney. The following ideas were **RESOLVED**:

It was proposed that the Parish Council arrange a BBQ, on the Spinney, on an annual basis. This will be discussed further at future meetings.

In the circular mailer (see Item 10b), the Clerk will mention that the Spinney is a Council asset and is free to anyone to use and will ask for any ideas.

The Clerk will contact the school and ask them to share a reminder about the space via their channels.

**11. To receive an update on Village Matters**

**a) Coffee Mornings / La Popote**

The next coffee morning will take place on the 25<sup>th</sup> September at La Popote (for a change of scenery and some variety of location). This will then take place on the 3<sup>rd</sup> Wednesday of each month.

**b) Marton Wakes**

Cllr. Nolan shared a brief update. It was felt by the PCC that this had been the best Marton Wakes for several years. Turnover was c. £9,000 and profit is still to be confirmed. The Parish Council commended the Marton Wakes team on what looks to be a record year and look forward to Marton Wakes in 2025!

**c) Christmas Tree Lights**

It was **RESOLVED** that Cllr. Nolan would contact Rigby's to ask if they would be willing to sponsor the town Christmas lights. It was **RESOLVED** that the Parish Council will arrange a small light switch on at 6.30pm on the 6<sup>th</sup> December – Cllr. Rylands will ask the carol singers to attend as they may be able to get better numbers. It was noted that the Carol singers are due to visit the left side of the village this week. The Clerk will contact the school, to see if they are able to grant access for the Parish Council to host a small drinks reception after (mulled wine, hot chocolate, nibbles).

**d) Harvest Festival**

Cllr. Nolan noted that Harvest Festival Service will take place at 4.30pm on the 6<sup>th</sup> October.

**12. To receive an update on Highway and road safety matters**

Cllr. McGowan noted that the broken road signed has been repaired. Cllr. Rylands will speak with Cllr. Goodwin regarding the highways purchases that they may wish to make using the Ward Councillor budget.

**13. To receive an update on the Parish Council website**

There was no update.

**14. To receive and resolve to approve the accounts for payment:**

BALANCE OF ACCOUNT = £4,434.89 as of August 15th 2024

**PAYMENTS MADE**

£41.82	HMRC (old overdue payment)
£116.24	Phil Cheetham expenses
£51.07	John Rylands expenses
£20.00	Cheshire Community Action
£142.40	HMRC (for Quarter 2)
£60.00	DM Payroll Services

**PAYMENTS RECEIVED**

£4.00	Clerk Payment (returning Salary overpayment)
£6.29	Interest (end July)
£60.00	Cheque for planters

**PAYMENTS TO BE APPROVED**

£143.40	Arien Signs
£214.00	Zurich Insurance
£142.80	HMRC
£214.18	Clerk Salary (July – September)
£17.64	David McGowan expenses

The Bank Reconciliation was reviewed and signed by the Chair. It was

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**RESOLVED** to approve the above payments.

The Clerk will circulate the insurance schedule to all Parish Councillors for their review.

**15. To receive updates from any members attending external meetings**

The Clerk shared a brief update on the Parish Council Liaison Group meeting. It was **RESOLVED** that the Clerk will include an ask regarding any volunteers for individuals who may wish to take part in a “speed watch.”

**16. To note any other correspondence, including a report from the Cheshire East Ward Councillor (if present) and the PCSO**

Cllr. Smetham noted that Cheshire East’s financial situation is still dire. There are some changes taking place regarding the National Planning Policy Framework. The Clerk will circulate the consultation regarding the National Planning Policy Framework to all Councillors; for Councillors to consider their response. There is a new company that is managing the car parking charges for Cheshire East and so it is expected that there will be a new app that individuals will need to use.

There was no PCSO report to share.

**17. Any other business**

It was **RESOLVED** that the Parish Council would ask Eddie Rush to speak at their Annual Village Meeting (in addition to Melusine Velde). Cllr. Nolan will make the first approach.

The Clerk will circulate the rental agreement that covers both the Spinney and the pond to all Councillors.

**18. To note the date of the next meeting 3rd December 2024 and the meeting dates for the first half of 2025 as below**

4<sup>th</sup> February

11<sup>th</sup> March – Village Meeting (Annual Parish Meeting)

13<sup>th</sup> May – Annual Parish Council Meeting

### **Action Points**

- The Clerk will submit a thank you to the footpath team, for their work repairing the footpath over the brook near Cocksmiss Lane.
- The Clerk will send a thank you e-mail to the golf club, noting the lack of stray golf balls being sent from the driving range.
- DM to e-mail Planning Officer, to try and progress Brookside Cottage's Planning Application.
- LS to try and arrange a meeting with the Councillor in charge of planning, along with DM and JR, to discuss Marton's ongoing concerns regarding several planning enforcement issues.
- JR to ask John Purcival for an update on the bursary to improve the waterways.
- Clerk to send out Village Mailer, containing details of the litter pick, the working party, advertising the Spinney, "speedwatch" members and details of the coffee morning.
- BN and JR to ascertain the Christmas lights that are needed and to then ask Rigby's regarding sponsorship of the new Christmas lights.