



## Minutes of Marston Parish Council meeting held on 8<sup>th</sup> April 2026

Meeting opened 19:00 pm

Signed as a true representation of the minutes taken at PC meeting

Chair: Marion Potts

Signed:

Date:

### Present

**Parish Councillors:** Marion Potts (MP), Amanda Nixon (AN), David Wallace (DW), Phil Carter (PhC)

**Ward Councillors:** Phil Marshall

**Police:** None

**Apologies for absence:** Simon Tate (ST)

**Declarations of interest:** None

**Dispensations:** None

**Public Forum:** Josiah Klemperer (potential new Councillor) attended meeting

**Meeting Chaired by MP, Minutes taken by YH(Clerk).**

**Approval of minutes from parish council meeting on 11<sup>th</sup> March.**

The minutes were approved and signed by. MP

### Actions from Last Parish Council Meeting

Owner	Topic	Action	Date set	Status
All	Hall Store Room repairs	YH is waiting for a response from Paul Antrobus, other companies have not responded to request for quotes – will chase.	12.02.25	C/F
All	Policy and procedures update	Updates and new policies required. No further progress at this time. Clerk to look at other small Parish Councils and arrange councillors meeting to discuss our requirements to move forward	12.02.25	C/F
MP	Hall curtains/blinds	Decorating is now in progress. Once finished we need to agree on a colour for the blinds and progress	12.03.25	C/F
All	Fire Compliance	ST has received the quote for 2 fire doors. Vote was passed for ST to progress this as a priority in order to be compliant. No further progress.	12.03.25	C/F
MP	Benches at Higher Marston	MP has contacted CWAC to confirm that there are no objections. We can now apply for the licence and proceed with	09.07.25	C/F



		the project. Options have been forwarded to Councillors in order to make a choice on design. No further progress		
All	Review of communication systems	Internal communication works well. Facebook is successful showing an increase in followers. Instagram is a good way to communicate with younger residents. AN to create a Parish Council account	10.09.25	C/F
All	Advert for councillors	AN advised on 2 possible candidates previously but there has not been any further progress on these. Joseph Klemperer has attended this meeting as a potential candidate however	10.09.24	C/F
All	Activities Action Plan 2026	Date for litter pick Saturday 18 <sup>th</sup> Apr @11am. DW has been liaising with Salt Works and we hope to confirm June 14 <sup>th</sup> for a coordinated event.	12.11.25	C/F

## 1. Parish Councillors reports and items for future agendas

None

## 2. Ward Councillor report

The report is now bi-monthly; however, Ward Councillor Phil Marshall raised some issues at the meeting;

There are ongoing issues in the planning department with resources stretched and the introduction of AI meaning that objections and applications can be raised with little effort needed from the individual raising the application or objection. This will inevitably result in further pressure on the department. In addition, there is increased use of legal professionals in the planning application process leading to more complicated and time-consuming applications. The council is considering steps to identify where applicants have used AI and the possibility of rejected these.

The Hynet North West Hydrogen Pipeline was also discussed. Initial plans show that this may come close to Antrobus and will inevitably impact our rural communities. In addition, there are also plans for the Peak Cluster Carbon Pipeline. CWAC are in consultation with government regarding concerns including community impact, costs and commercial viability of these projects and the impact on tax payers.



The revised Cheshire West and Chester housing target was also discussed, which is set to increase from approximately 500 to around 2,000 homes per year

### **3. Council Communication systems**

AN will create an Instagram account which we hope will reach younger residents. Care must be taken to ensure that this does not simply mirror what is on Facebook and our website.

### **4. Marston Community enhancements – Higher Marston Benches & Earles Lane Fingerpost renovation**

Licence application is still pending for Higher Marston benches. A provisional quote has been obtained for the Fingerpost renovation but it was suggested that we also obtain one from our regular maintenance provider. YH will contact Kevin.

### **5. The Big Lunch run by the Eden Project**

DW has been liaising with the Salt Works and we need to confirm the date with them which has been agreed by councillors (14<sup>th</sup> June). We need to agree what format this will take. We could do the catering ourselves depending on volunteers. Outside caterers are also an option as are the in-house caterers at the Salt Works. YH has a friend who is a musician so will contact her regarding entertainment for the event. AN will also contact Pastry Shoes regarding entertainment.

### **6. Councillor Recruitment**

Potential new councillor (Josiah) attended our meeting and will confirm whether he would like to take up the post.

### **7. Councillor's handbook & Health & Safety Policy Manual, IT Policy.**

Councillors agreed that we need to schedule a meeting to discuss/review current policies as they require updating. YH to arrange.

### **8. Permission in Principle to residential development at The Avenue Marston**

No further update, awaiting decision.

### **9. Planning application for Change of Use of Agricultural Buildings (Barns A to D) to commercial storage at Lane Ends Farm**



Marston Parish Council has raised an objection to this application along with a number of residents. Lynn Gibbon has also been in contact with planning raising the issues with the application including the narrow access lane being unsuitable for HGV's. Young people are still accessing the property which is unsafe. The police have been informed but no action has been taken as far as we are aware.

## **10. Finance**

- a) Payments agreed as per list
- b) Bank reconciliation/statements agreed and signed
- c) Budget reviewed

## **11. Correspondence**

To note correspondence received as per attached list

## **12. Any other business**

We have secured a stall at the Christmas event at the Salt Works on 13<sup>th</sup> December. DW will be meeting with the SW on 17<sup>th</sup> Apr for discussions. Regarding other Parish Council events during the year, residents have suggested Prize Bingo and music evenings.

## **Date of next meeting 13<sup>th</sup> May 2026**

Meeting closed at 20:56 hrs

Completed by Yvonne Hinkson, Clerk/RFO.