



Marbury and District Parish Council

Marbury Village Hall

Thursday 29 January 2026 7.30pm

Present:

Councillor Joe Briggs (Chair), Councillor J. David, Councillor Rob Perry and Councillor M. Turnbull

Apologies:

Councillor J. Makin Councillor Phil Shakeshaft, Councillor Fiona Wilson (Vice Chair), Ward Councillor James Pearson and Revd Veronica Green

In Attendance:

Representative from Wrenbury Parish Council – Councillor Lyndon Jones

Absent:

Councillor T. Leese

61. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

Members were reminded of their obligation to declare any disclosable pecuniary or non-pecuniary interests and, where appropriate, to leave the meeting during consideration of the relevant item.

There were no declarations of interest.

62. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

The minutes of the meeting held on 20 January 2026 were approved as a true and correct record.

63. BOROUGH COUNCILLOR JAMES PEARSON

No report was received due to the Ward Councillor's absence.

64. PUBLIC PARTICIPATION

No members of the public were in attendance, and no questions were raised.

65. MATTERS ARISING / UPDATES FROM PREVIOUS MEETING

65.1 Police Update

Councillors expressed their thanks to Sharon Jones (7149), Police Community Support Officer (Nantwich Rural, covering Wrenbury Roads), and to Gary Foulton for their continued assistance and support. It was noted that there will be a reduction in PCSO coverage across Cheshire East.

65.2 Church Update

There was no update regarding St Michael's Church.

65.3 Cemetery Update

Correspondence from the Clerk to Whitchurch Town Council had been received and read to Members. The update advised that all works were continuing as planned, with generally positive feedback from cemetery visitors.

It was noted that a tree failure in the older section of the cemetery had caused damage to some historic graves. While Whitchurch Town Council does not hold responsibility for the headstones (with all graves being out of Exclusive Rights of Burial), repairs are being carried out sensitively.

Incorrect information had been shared on social media attributing the damage to contractors; Whitchurch Town Council had responded publicly to clarify the situation.

Consideration is also being given, following positive feedback from the 2025 "Britain in Bloom" initiative, to entering the cemetery as a standalone entry this year.

65.4 Grounds Maintenance

A complaint had been received regarding the size and strength of the Jubilee silver birch tree. Members previously noted that, should issues persist, removal may become necessary. Leaves would be arranged to be cleared by the Village Hall, and the condition of the tree would be reviewed in the spring.

An update confirmed that the issue remains unchanged: the tree is healthy but continues to cause problems and may ultimately require removal.

A local contractor who undertakes grass cutting on an ad-hoc basis will be approached again to assist when required.

65.5 Neighbourhood Plan

The Neighbourhood Plan was progressing through Regulation 14. Councillors approved printing costs of £30 for two copies of the draft plan to be circulated, with one copy to be placed in St Michael's Church.

65.6 CILC Update

Quotes had been received for improvements to the Village Hall car park. It was noted that the intention is to fund the works using CILC monies, subject to further funds becoming available.

The Clerk is liaising with the Canal Trust regarding permission to install a bench at Quoisley Lock (Steer) Bridge. Subject to costs, this would be funded via the precept. The Clerk is continuing to follow this matter up.

65.7 Highways Matters

Councillors discussed ongoing issues affecting Hollyhurst Road. The Parish Council has escalated concerns to the local MP, Cheshire East Council, and the Ward Councillor. Residents have experienced prolonged disruption, including:

- Loss of refuse collection and postal services; and
- Serious concerns regarding access for emergency services.

No response had been received at the time of the meeting; however, Members were assured that the matter had been formally raised.

It was also noted with regret that attendance at Parish Council meetings has declined, which limits opportunities for residents to raise concerns directly.

66. CORRESPONDENCE / CLERK'S UPDATE

The Clerk provided a correspondence update.

Two Councillor resignations had been received and were formally accepted, both for genuine reasons:

- Councillor Tracy Leese – personal reasons
- Councillor John David – relocation from the area

Members expressed their thanks and sadness at the resignations. The Clerk will notify Cheshire East Council so that the vacancies can be advertised on the Cheshire East website and the Marbury Parish Council website, in accordance with procedure.

67. PLANNING MATTERS

25/3182/FUL – Full Planning Application

Land off Hollins Lane, Marbury, Cheshire East, SY13 4NA

Proposal: Steel-framed building for storing feed and farm machinery

Ward: Wrenbury

Parish: Marbury & District

Date received: 02/01/2026

An email had been sent from The Clerk to Planning on 24th December, outlining local concerns regarding this application.

Councillors were also updated on the refused and Agreed Planning Applications detailed in Appendix A.

68. FINANCIAL AFFAIRS

All payments listed were approved.

Date	Payee	Details	VAT £	NET £	Total £
30/10/2025	Service Charge	October	0.00	6.00	6.00
25/11/2025	B/P to D Foulkes	November pay	0.00	237.38	237.38
25/11/2025	B/P to HMRC	November	0.00	56.80	56.80
30/11/2025	Service Charge	November	0.00	6.00	6.00
15/12/2025	b/p AVOW	December	0.00	21.00	21.00

15/12/2025	HMRC	December	0.00	56.80	56.80
22/01/2026	B/P	January	0.00	237.38	237.38
22/01/2026	B/P to HMRC	January	0.00	56.80	56.80
20/01/2026	Community Heartbeat	Defibulator	20.00	100.00	120.00
22/01/2026	Marbury Village Hall	Hire of Hall	0.00	90.00	90.00

68.2 To approve the Auditor to audit the 2025/26 accounts – Jane Lunt approved.

68.3 Replacement Parish Council Notice Board

The Clerk advised that the current notice board has broken, has been temporarily repaired, and now requires replacement. Several local companies have been approached for quotations.

It was agreed that the Clerk would explore collaborating with a nearby Parish Council also requiring a notice board, with the aim of obtaining better value for money through a joint order. The replacement notice board will be funded from the precept.

69. DATE OF NEXT MEETING

The next meeting will take place on:

- 19 March 2026 (noted)

The meeting closed at 9.00 pm.

Signed: _____ **Chair**

Date: _____