



Marbury and District Parish Council

Marbury Village Hall

Thursday 19 March 2026 7.30pm

Present:

Councillor Joe Briggs (Chair), Councillor Nigel Green, Councillor Lyndon Jones, Councillor J Makin, Councillor Rob Perry and Councillor Phil Shakeshaft

Apologies:

Councillor Fiona Wilson (Vice Chair), Green Councillor M. Turnbull and Revd Veronica Green.

In Attendance:

Ward Councillor - James Pearson

70. DECLARATIONS OF INTERESTS

No declarations of interest were made by Members.

71. TO APPROVE THE MINUTES

The minutes of the meeting held on 29 January 2026 were approved as a correct record.

72. BOROUGH COUNCILLOR UPDATE – James Pearson

Councillor Pearson reported on matters relating to Cheshire East Council, as well as issues affecting the Parish.

He advised that he held a delegated budget which could potentially support the purchase of grit bins. Members were therefore asked to consider approving the purchase, subject to securing funding from the Ward Councillor.

Updates were also provided on a number of issues, including:

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- Hollyhurst Bridge clearance on 20 February, with ongoing concerns regarding mud and flooding.

- Highways and drainage matters, including inconsistencies in data recording systems and loss of historical culvert records.
- Capital works discussions including Holyhurst, CCTV and larger infrastructure allocations (including a £31m scheme and £1.2m allocation for Station Road).
- Concerns regarding next financial year allocations and high-risk areas (including Bradeley Lane, and School Lane works).
- Utility works at School Lane where United Utilities had withdrawn a water main.
- Road closures causing communication issues between utilities and the Council.
- Resurfacing at School Lane was considered beneficial.

It was also noted that Councillor Phil Shakshaft had been in contact with Cheshire East regarding drains and road conditions.

.73. PUBLIC PARTICIPATION

No members of the public were present and no questions were raised.

74. CO-OPTION ELIGIBILITY REQUIREMENTS

The updated Co-option Eligibility Requirements document (Appendix A) was approved.

75. CO-OPTION OF MEMBERS – MARBURY WARD

The Council considered applications to fill two casual vacancies on Marbury Ward.

It was resolved that Unity Trust Bank be instructed to update authorised signatories on the Parish Council bank account as follows:

- Councillor Nigel Green added as a signatory
- Councillor Lyndon Jones added as a signatory
- The Clerk was to chase the bank to ensure Councillor Marian Turnbull remained authorised to approve payments
- Assistance was also requested for Councillor J Makin regarding payment authorisation setup

Voting was recorded as follows:

- Councillor Rob Perry approved and Councillor Janet Makin seconded (for Councillor Nigel Green)
- Councillor Joe Briggs approved and Councillor Phil Shakshaft seconded (for Councillor Lyndon Jones).

76. MATTERS ARISING / UPDATES FROM PREVIOUS MEETING

- **Police Update**

It was reported that incidents had occurred involving tyres being slashed. It was also noted that Sharon Jones, Police Community Support Officer, had retained her role and been assigned a larger ward area.

- **Church Update**

Councillor Nigel Green thanked the Parish Council for support of the parish magazine.

- **Cemetery Update** – A tree survey had been commissioned and was completed the previous week. The findings would inform any necessary tree works to be

undertaken later in the year, or sooner if required, noting that the works were unlikely to be low-cost. Repairs in the section of the old graveyard damaged by the fallen tree were nearing completion; the hedge had been re-established, the affected graves had been sympathetically repaired and re-laid where possible, and any remaining ground damage was to be re-seeded in due course.

- **Canal & River Trust Update**

Members were informed that the cost of installing a bench between Steerbridge and the canal locks would be approximately £4,000. This was considered excessive and was not approved.

- **Grounds Maintenance**

The contractor was to be contacted to ensure grass cutting was completed prior to the “no mow” period to allow safe use of the playing areas by children.

- **Grit Bins**

An update was noted regarding the purchase and filling arrangements for two grit bins.

- **Neighbourhood Plan**

A progress update was noted.

- **Community Infrastructure Levy (CIL)**

There was no update.

- **Grant Funding – Park Update**

An update on grant funding opportunities for the parish park was noted.

77. CORRESPONDENCE / CLERK UPDATE

Correspondence had been circulated to Members prior to the meeting. No further updates were raised.

78. PLANNING MATTERS

Planning applications were considered as detailed in Appendix B.

Members also discussed concerns that some individuals may feel intimidated during planning discussions and noted the importance of following appropriate procedures to ensure all residents could safely express views.

79. FINANCIAL AFFAIRS

79.1 Expenditure Approval

The following payments were approved:

Date	Payee	Details	Net £	VAT £	Total £
15/12/202 5	B/P AVOW	December	21.00	0.00	21.00
15/12/202 5	HMRC	December	56.80	0.00	56.80
22/01/202 5	Direct Debit	Direct Debit Public work loans	1441.79	0.00	1,441.79
26/01/202 6	D Foulkes Jan Pay	Faster Payment	237.38	0.00	237.38

26/01/2026	HMRC	b/p HMRC - January	56.8	0.00	56.80
26/01/2026	Marbury village hall	inv 1123	90.00	0.00	90.00
26/01/2026	Community Heart	prof 20779	100.00	20.00	120.00
31/01/2026	bank charges	Jan Charges	6.00	0.00	6.00
28/02/2026	bank charges	Feb Charges	6.00	0.00	6.00
02/03/2026	B/P D Foulkes	Feb Pay	237.38	0.00	237.38
02/03/2026	HMRC	Feb Charges	56.80	0.00	56.80
16/03/2026	B/P D Foulkes	March Pay	237.18	0.00	237.18
16/03/2026	HMRC	March Charges	56.80	0.00	56.80
11/03/2026	Avow	Payroll	46.00	0.00	46.00
01/03/2026	Chester Solutions	Website and email domains	310.00	0.00	310.00
09/03/2026	St Michaels church	Parish Magazine contribution	380.00	0.00	380.00
Total					3359.93

79.2 Budgetary Report

The Clerk provided an update on the budgetary position, which was reported to be on target.

79.3 Notice Board Replacement

A potential location for a parish notice board at the Village Hall was also discussed, with confirmation that the Village Hall committee would be meeting the following week. The replacement and cost of the Parish Council/Village Hall notice board (Appendix D) was approved.

79.4 Procurement Thresholds

Procurement threshold updates (Appendix E) were noted for information.

80. DATE OF NEXT MEETING

It was agreed that the next meeting would be held on **Tuesday 19 May 2026**.

The Clerk would confirm future Village Hall bookings, with a preference expressed for consistency in meeting days.

81. ANY OTHER BUSINESS

An issue regarding sewage on farmland was raised. It was noted that the consultation had now closed and the matter related to national policy considerations.

82. CLOSE OF MEETING

The meeting closed at **8.50pm**.

Signed: _____ **Chair**

Date: _____

Meeting closed at 8.40pm