



Minutes of the Annual Meeting of Marbury & District Parish Council

Held at Marbury Village Hall on Tuesday 19 May 2026 at 7.00pm

Present

Councillors Joe Briggs (Chairman), Marian Turnbull, Janet Makin, Fiona Wilson (Vice-Chairman), Philip Shakeshaft, Nigel Green and Rob Perry.

Also in attendance: Ward Councillor James Pearson

1. Apologies for Absence

Apologies were received and accepted from Councillor Lyndon Jones.

2. Chairman's Welcome and Annual Report

The Chairman, Councillor Joe Briggs, welcomed everyone to the meeting and reflected on the activities and achievements of the previous year.

Highlights included:

- Completion of the new water mains installation in Marbury and District Parish Council, which has improved the resilience of the local water supply.
- Further flooding incidents during the year, with special thanks recorded to the Cliff family for their continued assistance and support during these events.

- Appreciation expressed to Wrenbury Parish Council for keeping Marbury Parish Council informed of developments affecting the wider area.
- Thanks given to Councillor Marian Turnbull for organising the successful Hog Roast event and to all those who supported it.
- Recognition of the service provided by former Councillors John David and Tracey Leese.
- A warm welcome and thanks extended to newly co-opted Councillors Nigel Green and Lyndon Jones.
- Special thanks are recorded to Debbie Foulkes, Clerk/RFO, for her continued work and support to the Parish Council.

3. Election of Chairman

Councillor Joe Briggs was proposed, seconded and unanimously elected as Chairman of Marbury & District Parish Council for the municipal year 2026/27.

The Declaration of Acceptance of Office was duly signed.

4. Election of Vice-Chairman

Councillor Nigel Green was proposed by Councillor Philip Shakeshaft and seconded by Councillor Marian Turnbull.

Resolved: That Councillor Nigel Green be elected Vice-Chairman for the municipal year 2026/27.

The Declaration of Acceptance of Office was duly signed.

5. Declarations of Interest

No declarations of interest were made.

6. Reports from Local Organisations

- **Women's Institute** - No report was received.
- **Village Hall Committee** - Councillor Marian Turnbull provided an update on behalf of the Village Hall Committee.

The Village Hall continues to host a range of successful community events including:

- a) Cheese and Wine evenings;
- b) Bingo events;

- c) Community breakfasts;
- d) Artisan Markets held on the last Saturday of each month.

It was noted that efforts continue to encourage participation from newer residents, particularly those who have recently moved into the area. The Committee continues to invest in improvements and equipment for the Village Hall.

- **St Michael's Church** - Councillor Nigel Green provided a report on behalf of Reverend Veronica Green. Thanks were expressed to the Parish Council for its support. A recent church inspection had been completed and works had been undertaken to thin out several trees to improve safety for residents and visitors.
- **Police / Police Cluster Meetings**

Members noted that Police Cluster Meetings have resumed. Sharon Jones, the local police representative, now covers a larger area which includes Nantwich.

- **Other Community Organisations** - No additional reports were received.

7. Other Reports / Guest Speakers - There were no guest speakers or additional reports.

8. Public Participation - No members of the public wished to speak and no questions were received.

9. Approval of Minutes

Resolved: That the minutes of the meetings held on 15 May 2025 and 19 March 2026 be approved as a true and accurate record.

10. Appointments to Outside Bodies

The following appointments were agreed:

Organisation / Group	Representative(s)
Police Cluster Meetings	Cllr Marian Turnbull
Pan-Parish Highways Group	Cllr Philip Shakeshaft
Cemetery Board	Cllr Joe Briggs (with Cllrs Fiona Wilson and Philip Shakeshaft as support representatives)
Village Hall Committee	Cllrs Janet Makin and Marian Turnbull

11. Matters Arising from Previous Minutes

11.1 Neighbourhood Plan

The Neighbourhood Plan representative had informed the Clerk that responses to the formal consultation were still being received. The consultation closed on 15 May 2026 and two responses had been received to date.

11.2 Cemetery Matters

An update had been received from Whitchurch Town Council.

The tree damage caused by recent storms continues to be addressed. Whilst some comments on social media have questioned the cause of the damage, officers continue to manage the matter appropriately.

A tree survey has been completed and proposals to address overgrown trees will be considered by the relevant committees before approval by full council later in the summer, subject to nesting bird restrictions.

Whitchurch Town Council advised that new members would shortly be appointed to the Cemetery Action Group and requested confirmation of Marbury Parish Council's representatives.

11.3 Football Pitch / Recreation Matters - No update was available.

11.4 Grounds Maintenance and Environmental Matters

Members noted positively that Cheshire East Council had recently undertaken grass cutting around the play area and other locations within the parish.

12. Other Matters Arising Relevant to the Parish Council - No additional matters were raised.

13. Planning (Appendix A)

Members considered the planning applications, decisions and updates detailed in Appendix A.

Particular discussion took place regarding application 26/1635/PRIOR-6 – Marbury Heyes, relating to the proposed erection of an agricultural building for winter housing of dairy replacement stock. Members noted that the application documentation appeared to contain limited supporting information regarding environmental considerations and the management of associated agricultural operations. Concerns were raised that there was no clear reference to slurry storage arrangements or other related infrastructure within the submitted details.

Resolved: That the Clerk/RFO contact Cheshire East Council to seek clarification regarding the information provided in support of the application.

The Parish Council also noted:

- New planning applications received since the previous meeting;
- Planning applications currently awaiting determination;
- Planning decisions received since the last meeting; and
- Other planning notifications and updates as detailed in Appendix A.

14. Borough Councillor Update

Borough Councillor James Pearson provided an update.

Members were informed that Cheshire East Council's Annual General Meeting had recently taken place, resulting in the appointment of a new Leader and Cabinet structure. The administration comprises a combination of Independent and Labour councillors.

Councillor Pearson advised that:

- Four Scrutiny Committees have been established.
- He has been appointed Chair of the Place, Planning and Highways Scrutiny Committee.
- A Shadow Cabinet structure has also been created, including responsibility for libraries and leisure services.

An update was provided on Baddington Bridge, where approximately £1.5 million of central government funding has been allocated. The bridge currently remains open in one direction whilst works continue.

Councillor Pearson also reported that funding had been secured for four Speed Indication Devices (SIDs) across the ward. Following discussion, Members supported the installation of a SID on Bradley Green Lane.

Members also discussed:

- Highway maintenance issues and potholes.
- Ongoing disruption associated with United Utilities works.
- Concerns raised by residents and employees regarding road conditions.

Councillor Marian Turnbull commented on the "Go Too" bus service, noting that while it is a valuable initiative, usage appears limited due to difficulties experienced with the booking application.

15. Financial Affairs

Members reviewed the following payments:

Date	Payee	Details	Total (£)
27/04/2026	D. Foulkes	April Salary	237.38
27/04/2026	CHALC	Subscription/Training	190.00
27/04/2026	HMRC	PAYE April	56.80
27/04/2026	The Parish Notice Board Company	Notice Board	677.01
30/04/2026	Bank Charges	April	7.00

Resolved: That the above payments be approved.

16. Annual Governance and Accountability Return (AGAR) 2025/26

Members considered the AGAR documentation.

Resolved:

- To approve of Sections 1 and 2 of the AGAR until the June 2026 meeting.
- To bring the AGAR documents back for formal approval and signature once the Internal Audit process has been completed.

17. Review of Governance and Policy Documents

Members reviewed the following documents:

- Standing Orders
- Financial Regulations
- Scheme of Delegation
- Risk Assessment 2026/27
- Asset Register 2026/27
- Payroll Procedures
- IT, Data Protection and Freedom of Information Policy
- Reserves Policy

Resolved: That the above documents be approved, subject to minor amendments.

It was also noted that the Parish Council website should be updated to reflect that meetings are held on Thursdays.

18. Agreement of Meeting Dates for 2026/27

Resolved: That meetings be held at 7.30pm at Marbury Village Hall on the following dates:

- **11 June 2026**
- **17 September 2026**
- **19 November 2026**
- **28 January 2027**
- **18 March 2027**

19. Any Other Business

Members enquired whether further Community Infrastructure Levy (CIL) funding was expected.

Action: Clerk/RFO to contact Cheshire East Council to establish whether any further CIL allocations are due to the Parish Council.

Closure of Meeting

There being no further business, the Chairman thanked everyone for attending and closed the meeting at 8.30pm.

Signed:

Chairman

Date: