

**Marchington Parish Council**  
**Minutes of a meeting held on**  
**8 April 2025 at Marchington Village Hall, 7.30pm**

Present: Cllr H Bullock, Cllr I Morgan, Cllr J Hayhurst, Cllr J Prince, Cllr Lord, Cllr Mann, Cllr Newstead  
Siobhan Rumsby (Parish Clerk); 7 Members of the Public

1. **Welcome and Apologies:** Apologies received from Cllr Tomkins and Cllr Glover.
2. **Declarations of Interest and Dispensations on Agenda items:** none received.
3. **Minutes:** **Resolved** to accept and sign the Minutes of 11 March 2025 as a true record.
4. **Public Forum** – no representations received.
5. **Other Organisations Updates and Reports**
  - a) MP – no updates received.
  - b) Staffordshire County Council – no updates received.
  - c) East Staffordshire Borough Council – The Chair had spoken to Cllr Hudson highlighting concerns about enforcement.
  - d) Bag Lane bus shelter – occupant has been moved on and the police have removed all remaining possessions. Police can be called if there are problems with access to bus shelter in the future.
6. **The Clerk's Report** was referred to and noted. Works are scheduled at Houndhill next week. There are 7 reports relating to Wren Park which is now undriveable. It is an important route to Uttoxeter; the issues are not just potholes, but the road and ditches are disintegrating. A gas main is close by but locations can be checked. It was agreed to flag this up with our County Councillor, cc the CEO of SCC, Patrick Flaherty.
7. **Planning applications, decisions, and enforcement issues:**
  - a) **Planning Applications Decisions – Approvals by ESBC Planning**
    - i. P/2025/00122 - The Poplars, Hall Road, Marchington: Reduce one Juniper Tree to a height of 0.9m above ground level.
    - ii. P/2024/01383 - (Bagshaws), High Street, Marchington: Listed Building application for the demolition of boundary wall fronting the highway and erection of 1.8m fence; clearance works been done; last year's application was not appealed and no apparent plans for the site.
    - iii. P/2025/00117 - Gable Cottage, High Street, Marchington: Overall crown reduction up to 30% on one Silver Birch tree (T1) and one Sycamore tree (T2)
  - b) **Enforcement Issues**

Cllr Hudson has been made aware of all issues and will raise with the Enforcement Officer.

    - i. Charnwood. It was reported that the owners have vacated the premises.
    - ii. Stocks Lane Traffic and use of premises. Enforcement officer is aware and retrospective planning application expected.
    - iii. Newlands Farm – ESBC Planning were expecting a new application so possibly no enforcement taken place pending receipt. It was agreed to ask Lisa Bird for guidance as it seems to be the case that retrospective planning never appears. It was also agreed to contact the Enforcement Officer to establish how long they will wait for an application it before action is taken.

Accepted on..... Signed .....

## 8. Council owned property -

### a) Play areas and outdoor park areas safety checks –

- i. **Silver Lane playground report:** Cllr Newstead's report had been circulated with photographs. A wooden 2 plank bench needs urgent attention as one upright is rotten, handyman to action. Whirly-gig roundabout, the matting is peeling up and may cause trip hazard. Quad Flyer - the bolt caps have degraded and need replacing.  
Signage needs wiping down and all equipment washed with soapy water to freshen up.  
Cllr Hayhurst reported that she had asked a resident to remove their dog from the fenced off area. Notices have been refreshed. Dog mess continues to be a problem and can cause serious health issues.  
A resident requested more signs on entry/exit points.  
Another resident overlooks the park and witnesses behaviour of dog owners leaving mess behind. All incidents should be report to Community & Civil Enforcement team at ESBC.
- ii. **Forestside playground report:** Cllr Tomkins' report was reviewed. An ongoing problem remains with the far gate which belongs to Evans.  
AED – no further update on the St George's Park unit.  
Living Christmas Tree - Cllr Morgan had met with the resident. Two planters provided by the prison have now been taken on and planted up by residents, they would like to place two more by the football pitch. The memorial plaque has been made. A 7ft Christmas Tree had been researched at a cost of £140. Clerk to check with Cllr Hudson and ESBC Open Spaces if permission needed for planting.
- iii. **Update on Bridge:** Cllr Morgan reported that the concrete footings are in. The metal support structure needed to be redesigned and will be bought to site. Costs have been circulated and are within budget. Assembly is due next week for the structure and hopefully the bridge open around Easter time.
- iv. **Cricket Club** – the new season officially starts 19 April. Nets were still awaited but a new shed has arrived. The club carried out a successful litter pick which raised much needed funds.  
Sincere thanks were expressed for the litter-pick, and this will be noted in the parish magazine.

- b) **Marchington Village Hall** – Cllr Mann reflected on a memorable week at the village hall, noting that the final coat of paint on the new canopy marks the completion of this long-awaited improvement. The hall will be installing a new projector for hirers which will be very useful for all.  
Boundary dispute – the Trustees' solicitor has now engaged with the other party.

## 9. Flooding and Environment

Cllrs Morgan, Mann and Prince had attended a site tour around flood risk areas along with Jamie Cooper, Chris Archer SCC Flood Management; Roy Stokes, Environment Agency; Mark Swain, Severn Trent; Kayleigh Lees, Richard Rayson, SCC Highways; Cllr Atkins SCC; and Carol Pickering, Simon Slater from our MP's office. We received good feedback regarding MPC's engagement - Cllr Morgan reported on the walk around including 7 sites:

- The Dingle – Ravine inspected; following clearing, a dam system may be incorporated. Ownership will be checked at the Land Registry and if unregistered, notices can be put up indicating the work. Implications further downstream to be considered.
- Allens Lane – a Highways issue, field run off a concern especially if any future housing were considered. Land drain effectiveness questioned and will require further liaison with Richard Rayson.

Accepted on..... Signed .....

- Green Lane: Bank erosion and road safety flagged. Richard Rayson advised to add Green Lane to the road closure scheme and close it when necessary. Bollards need replacing.
- Tree planting opposite the Orchard: some concerns were raised due to possible root damage.
- Prison: Draycott in the Clay PC confirmed that the man-made structure does fill with water. It was thought to be an attenuation area possibly built prior to the prison. It may take water from Industrial Estate.
- Dog & Partridge embankment at end of car park: a pinch-point was identified; the landowner has put some clay down; access from the other side will be attempted. However, any works might exacerbate issues downstream.

Fairford Bridge has been repaired following a road vehicle accident – two Amey vans had since appeared measuring the brook.

## 10. Highways & Footpath issues

### a) Highways issues

- A50 Roadworks meeting – representatives of Marchington and Draycott Parish Councils had met with Balfour Beatty and Richard Rayson. Repairs are scheduled before being handed back to National Highways. A contraflow will be in place to meet up with further works. There will be a diversion on the A515 from Sudbury island. Enabling works to be carried out before full works commence 2 June to 19 July. Works at Ashbourne interchange will involve a complete closure from 31 May to 2 June. July/August will involve resurfacing the island at Sudbury – expect overnight closures. Measures including weight restrictions to be in place. Draycott in the Clay PC raised concerns that Aston Bridge is weak and will not be able to take extra traffic. It was agreed Cllr Prince would compose a letter of support to Derbyshire County Council and involved our MP to engage with the appropriate Derbyshire MP. Signage will be in place for the Moreton Lane 7.5ton restriction and this will have traffic management when needed.
- Buttermilk Hill landslide – no update.
- Woodroffes Cliff – we have asked if grit bins can be redistributed as a barrier; this has been placed on holding pending appointment of a new county councillor.
- Gorsty Hill – Cllrs Newstead and Lord had looked at the area. It was confirmed it is Highways owner. White lines had been refreshed but it appears that part of the carriageway has been lost on one side. They will arrange to have a site meeting with Sam Griffiths to look into low maintenance options. The Chapel has been sold.
- Hound Hill – Cllr Morgan had suggested a site meeting would be beneficial with landowner and he is happy to meet with him.

## 11. Finance

- The Schedule of Receipts and Payments, Quotations was reviewed and authorised.
- A Working Group had met to look at the process behind grants and supporting village groups. An overarching grant awarding policy document was being drafted for submission to the May meeting. Levelling Up legislation means that Churches can be supported for items other than grounds maintenance.

## 12. Correspondence and phone calls – all noted.

- The website was not showing Minutes entered for 2025, the Clerk was attempting to resolve and had in the meantime sent out Minutes to anyone requesting them.
- Queen's Bench - licence to plant had been delayed due to SCC staff on leave.

Accepted on..... Signed .....

### 13. Items for input onto next agenda:

- Background to a prospective planning application for 3 luxury camping pods at Moisty Lane.
- Bridge – Dog & Partridge the wall has moved towards the brook, possibly been hit. This will be monitored and may involve a structural engineer. The footpath sign is starting to move, and our handyman will be asked to temporarily fix.
- Apologies from Cllr Newstead for 13 May.

<b>Marchington Parish Council - Schedule of Receipts and Payments</b>		<b>Meeting Date</b>	08/04/25		
<b>Date</b>	<b>Monies received:</b>	<b>£</b>	<b>Solar Transfers</b>	<b>Total</b>	
03/03/25	Interest - Gold A/c	£61.66			
21/03/25	Uttoxeter Cricket Club	£343.48			
	<b>TOTAL OF RECEIPTS</b>	<b>£405.14</b>	<b>£0.00</b>	<b>£405.14</b>	
<b>Date</b>	<b>Invoices/Money to be paid out:</b>	<b>Net</b>	<b>Vat</b>	<b>Total</b>	<b>Chq No.</b>
08/04/25	Clerk Salary Travel and Expenses	£733.37	£1.93	£735.30	2755
08/04/25	J Lloyd - handyman	£635.65	£32.71	£668.36	2756
26/03/25	ESBC - Trade Bin MVH	£109.20		£924.96	2757
26/03/25	ESBC- Roadsweeping, litter, bins	£679.80	£135.96		
27/03/25	SPCA - Cllr Induction x 2	£70.00	£14.00	£84.00	2758
08/04/25	Marmax Products Ltd	£1,616.40	£323.28	£1,939.68	2759
	<b>TOTAL OF PAYMENTS</b>	<b>£3,844.42</b>	<b>£507.88</b>	<b>£4,352.30</b>	
	<b>Bank Balance as at</b>	31/03/25			
	Current Account	£1,006.77			
	Gold Account	£43,267.15			
	Solar Account **	£65,822.01			
	<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>£110,095.93</b>			
<b>** NOTE: Solar account Bank Interest paid annually on 1st January</b>					
<u>Quotation for approval as circulated:</u>					
Cowlishaw Structures Ltd: Supply of Structural Steelwork, foundations and installation, Bridge at Marchington Silver Lane playing fields		£10,760 plus VAT			

Meeting Closed at 21.07

**Next Meeting : 13 May 2025, Marchington Hall, 7.30pm**

Accepted on..... Signed .....