

Marchington Parish Council
Minutes of a meeting held on
14 October 2025 at Marchington Village Hall, 7.30pm

Present: Cllr I Morgan (Chair), Cllr Hayhurst, Cllr Bullock, Cllr Glover, Cllr Lord
Siobhan Rumsby (Parish Clerk); 13 Members of the Public;

1. The Chair welcomed all. Apologies received from Cllrs Janette Prince, Andrew Mann, Sally Ann Newstead, and County Cllr Gareth Hales.
2. **Declarations of Interest and Dispensations on Agenda items.** Cllrs Lord and Hayhurst declared an interest in items 4 and 7(a)(i) – Barn at Newfield Green Farm.
3. **Resolved** - The Minutes of 9 September 2025 were accepted as a true record of the meeting.
4. **Public Forum** – A resident spoke regarding the application at Newfield Green Farm. A new 200-page traffic document had been submitted but not all points have been addressed. Concerns remain about the frequency of vehicles, the original documents had stated once in, once out a week; however, the new data suggested 83 in 6 days; operations 7am – 9pm. HGVs were noted on the survey. Workers are being dropped off down the road. A date of 1st October was stated to be the start of the business' quiet season, but it was evident operations continue all day. The darker nights will not be safe for a distribution unit. Residents report near misses, and one vehicle driving dangerously at speed.
5. **Outside organisations reports**
 - a) MP – an update was shared on Flooding and Aston Bridge.
 - b) Police – Report on stats in the Crown Ward were noted and appreciated. There was no further information on a nasty accident at the Blacksmiths involving a collision with the telegraph pole.
 - c) Staffordshire County Council – B5017 being monitored, Cllr Hales to be chased re camera van. The recent communication was noted about potholes estimated at many years of work. Efficiencies were being looked at.
 - d) ESBC – no reports received. Comments on open space consultation forwarded, thanks to Cllr Lord's input. A November decision was expected on Local Government Reorganisation.
6. Clerk's Report noted. Chase Cllr Hales regarding Hall Lane, badly lit by hedge and the uneven surface makes this hazardous for pedestrians to negotiate in winter.
Website: Cllr Lord had sent in photos of the Woodlands. His suggested photography competition met with approval. A Certificate of Recognition could be presented and photos used on the new website.
7. Planning applications, decisions, and enforcement issues:
 - a) **Planning Applications Received** –
 - i. P/2025/00407 - Barn at Newfield Green Farm, Marchington Woodlands: Retention of use from an agricultural building for storage and distribution of marquees and associated equipment (Use Class B8) and extension of hardstanding (Response requested to extend to 15/10).
*It was agreed to **object**. Despite the excessive 200-page traffic document, there remained road safety issues and previous points had not been addressed. The new data provided contradicts with detail in the original application.*

Accepted on..... Signed

- ii. P/2024/01302 - Bulls Head, Bag Lane, Marchington: Change of use of former public house (Sui Generis) to short term holiday let accommodation (Class C1) and retention of the bar and function space (Sui Generis) (ADDITIONAL INFORMATION RECEIVED) – Response Date: 15/10 *History of the pub contains some errors. The management plan submitted includes restrictions on timings, number of people, cars but Councillors felt this needed a more robust wording. It was agreed to **object** on the basis of an unenforceable management plan and lack of detail about who will enforce restrictions and contactable personnel on site.*
- iii. P/2025/00782 - Plum Tree Barn, High Street, Marchington: Installation of replacement of all windows and doors – Response date: 15/10. *No objections.*
- iv. P/2025/00794 –Plum Tree Barn, High Street, Marchington: Listed Building application for the Installation of replacement of all windows and doors – Response date: extended to 15/10 *No objections.*
- v. P/2025/00960 - Marchington Cricket Club, Jacks Lane, Marchington: Overall crown reduction of one Ash tree by up to 3 metres – response date 1/10. Full Council declared an interest so *no comment.*
- vi. P/2025/00854 - 21 Woodland Views, Marchington: Partial demolition of 5m high brick heating oil tank bund and walls to allow access for the removal of decommissioned heating oil tank, rear walls to be lowered to 1.5m and side walls to 1.0m, front wall to be removed altogether, the area to be used as garden seating area - Response date: 10/10 - *no objections*
- vii. P/2025/00864 - Moat Springs Barn, Hodge Lane, Marchington Woodlands: Change of use of agricultural building to form a self-build dwelling and formation of access track – Respond 17/10 – *Cllr Lord had circulated a detailed response. Key points were that the site history was misrepresented: referring to the site as an agricultural farmstead but the site has been residential since the 1990s with no evidence of agricultural use. The previous application for a gate and shared access via another property was challenged and subsequently withdrawn due to safety concerns. Although no new gate is proposed, more residential use of the access was now proposed. This raises highways safety concerns – planning reference numbers are not local, one is in Leigh which would have limited relevance. Materials were not in keeping. Councillors agreed to **object** to this application in its current form with more detailed required on what the building is to be used for.*

b) ESBC Decisions noted –

Approved:

- i. P/2025/00662 - Twenty Acres Farm, Hodge Lane, Marchington Woodlands: Erection of rear two storey and single storey extensions, erection of porch to front elevation including alterations to door and installation of window, replacement roof to rear dormer and installation of roof light.
- ii. P/2025/00684 - Woodroffes Hall, Hodge lane, Marchington Woodlands: Application under Section 19 of the Planning (Listed Building/Conservation Areas) Act 1990 to vary Condition 2 of Listed Building Consent P/2024/00992 for the conservation and repairs to the timber frame - South side east gable - installation of steel brackets to engineers detail; South gable - Removal and replacement of decayed bressummer, installation of steel brackets, remove and replace concrete panels with lime plastered insulated panels; window lintel - install steel reinforcing plate to engineers detail amendments to include removal of all cementitious infill panels to south elevation
- iii. P/2025/00847 - Laundry Cottage, Bag Lane, Marchington: Felling of one European Willow tree

Refused:

- i) P/2025/00164 - Bridge Cottages, Church Lane, Marchington: Raising of ridge height to detached garage to facilitate first floor extension for home office and storage and conversion of ground floor to form craft/hobby room

- c) **Tree Preservation Orders Review** – A list of all 18 trees protected in conservation area had been circulated. Cllrs were interested to note that the whole of the green space at Hillsea Crescent at Forestside including 15 trees was protected. Cllrs noted significant trees as being 2 horse-chestnut trees at Yew Tree House and 2 sequoias further along the road; a hornbeam on the triangle in front of Marchington Village Hall which may not have a TPO. A full list of important trees would be drawn. There were no TPOs in the Woodlands.
- d) **Moreton Lane Site, Draycott**; there is no current planning application in. The last one was for the entrance to allow for articulated lorries. 11 acres had since been sold to Wilshees, waste management and aggregates company. Cllr Hudson is investigating. It is largely a green space but with some concrete pads. A neighbouring resident is in dispute over the land. Resident to contact Draycott Parish Council.
- e) **Enforcement Issues**
 - i. Charnwood – it was agreed to return to ESBC enforcement with County's position.
 - ii. Stock Lane Traffic – horses and the marquee business continue to aggravate traffic issues.

8. Council owned property -

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

- i. Silver Lane monthly playground report: Cllr Newstead to complete.
Bench Replacement – ironwork to be moved. Delivery expected Friday.
Bench at MWVH – 2 quotations had been received for installation, quote 2 accepted being under budget at £500.
Annual Playground Inspection Report to be checked further for any items.
- ii. Forestside: Cllr Morgan had looked at the pitch; contractor to revisit.
Annual Playground Inspection Report to be checked.
Cllr Morgan felt that playground equipment would soon need upgrading. Plus new goal posts, all for a future discussion. Forestsiders to be approached to take ownership. It was felt there were not enough pitch space in the village generally.
- iii. Christmas trees – ESBC had confirmed permission to plant a living Christmas tree Hillsea Cres.
Both Village Halls prefer cut trees due to insufficient growing space.
- iv. Cricket Club: the mower is to be serviced and repaired; a new roller had been acquired; the club were to enter a 3-year contract with Smallwood for the use of their facilities - changing facilities need upgrading and grants to be sourced. There are 14 cricket teams.
Tree surgeon to check what further work was required on the willow tree, a branch had fallen. A tree partially in the brook needs cutting back.
- v. Tree work quotation received for work at Silver Lane, horse chestnuts encroaching onto neighbouring stables. This work was a safety issue due to stormier weather. Best endeavours to get another quote but all agreed to accept the quote received if unable to get a comparative quote within 2 weeks.

- b) **Marchington Village Hall** – Cllr Morgan reported that they are still awaiting permission for solar panels. £15k grant monies had been received.
A resolution is being sought with the neighbours' solicitors over the boundary issue; bookings for the remainder of 2025 are healthy; upcoming events are a quiz and a talk on Scott in Antarctica.

9. Flooding and Environment

- a) Cllr Prince had circulated an update from a recent meeting with Tim Pickering, EA. Natural Flood Management is the only area for funding sources but with limited funds. No data in terms of readings taken. Funding sources to be pursued. More dam locations to be identified. A Saturday working party had been arranged meeting at the Dog & Partridge.

10. Highways & Footpath issues

- a) A50 Roadworks. A38/A50 Northern Relief Corridor to be done. Cllrs noted the weight restriction between Yoxall and Kings Bromley.
- b) Woodroffes Cliff – Cllr Hales to revisit.
- c) Gorsty Hill triangle – an application for licence to plant to be submitted once plan formulated.
- d) Hound Hill – canopy work awaited.
- e) Church Lane grit bin – options and prices had been circulated. The costing of £108 was agreed.
- f) Hall Road – nothing to report.

11. Finance

- a) Schedule of Receipts and Payments - authorised as listed.
- b) The completed AGAR 2024/25 was noted. Reserves need to be earmarked.
- c) Online banking – the application needed to be resubmitted due to access problems – Cllr Bullock to replace Cllr Glover in order to set up the account.

12. Review of Policies:

Health & Safety; Disciplinary; Grievance; Equality; Anti-Bullying & Harassment; Privacy; Delegated Responsibilities; Media; Co-option; Tree Management; Interest & Dispensation – all adopted with no changes.

Reserves Policy – amendments as circulated and amended, now adopted.

13. Correspondence and phone calls – all noted.

- a) Pre-purchase flooding enquiries Church Lane property; *Clerk responded*
- b) SPCA invitation to Local Councils Conference 24/11/25, 10am, Uttoxeter Town Hall, Cll Morgan to attend.
- c) Resident query regarding works on Moreton Lane (opposite Biffa site); *Clerk responded*
- d) Clerk to chase the Duchy regarding reinstatement of the bridle path

14. Items for input onto next agenda: none requested

Meeting Closed at 21.30; **Next Meeting : 11 November 2025, Marchington Woodlands Village Hall**

Schedule of Receipts and Payments					
Date	Monies received:	£	Solar Transfers	Total	
01/09/25	Interest - Gold A/c	£56.29			
19/09/25	ESBC - Precept	£16,877.68			
	TOTAL OF RECEIPTS	£16,933.97	£0.00	£16,933.97	
Date	Invoices/Money to be paid out:	Net	Vat	Total	Chq No.
14/10/25	Clerk Salary, NI Travel and Expenses	£759.20	£6.07	£765.27	2789
14/10/25	Perennial Grounds maintenance Inv 10130	£460.99	£92.20	£553.19	2790
14/10/25	Vision ICT - initial design website	£570.00	£114.00	£684.00	2791
14/10/25	SPCA - training planning	£35.00	£7.00	£42.00	2792
14/10/25	Stephen Clewes - bench Silver Lane	£150.00		£150.00	2793
14/10/25	The Play Inspection Company	£279.00	£55.80	£334.80	2794
14/10/25	ESBC - Trade Refuse	£109.20		£924.96	2795
14/10/25	ESBC - Roadsweeping & litter	£679.80	£135.96		
14/10/25	MVH - 2nd half grant	£500.00		£500.00	2796
14/10/25	MWVH - 2nd half grant	£500.00		£500.00	2797
14/10/25	St Peter's Church - 2nd half grant	£750.00		£750.00	2798
14/10/25	St John's Church - 2nd half grant	£750.00		£750.00	2799
14/10/25	Mr J Lloyd	£383.00		£383.00	2800
	TOTAL OF PAYMENTS	£5,926.19	£411.03	£6,337.22	
Bank Balance					
	Current Account	£1,007.96			
	Gold Account	£52,210.13			
	Solar Account **	£61,799.59			
	TOTAL	£115,017.68			
** NOTE: Solar account Bank Interest paid annually on 1st January					

Accepted on..... Signed