

Marchington Parish Council
Minutes of a meeting held on
14 April 2026 at Marchington Village Hall, 7.30pm

Present: Cllr Morgan (Chair), Cllr Hayhurst, Cllr Newstead, Cllr Lord, Cllr Mann, Cllr Bullock
Siobhan Rumsby (Parish Clerk); 3 Members of the Public;

1. The Chair welcomed all. Apologies received from Cllr Prince and Cllr Glover.
2. **Declarations of Interest and Dispensations on Agenda items.**
Cllr Hayhurst declared an interest in 7a.i) Birch Cross Farm application.
3. **Resolved** - The Minutes of 10 March 2026 were accepted as a true record of the meeting.
4. **Public Forum** –no representations made.
5. **Outside organisations reports**
 - a) **Local Government Reorganisation** our MP prefers the North/South split option.
 - b) **MP** – No new updates.
 - c) **Staffordshire County Council** – Allens Lane scheduled for the pothole pro machine 24/4.
 - d) **ESBC** – a consultation on Housing Allocation Policy was available until 23/4/26. Housing plans may need to be extended to coincide with the local plan.
6. **Clerk's Report** noted.
No progress on the list this month but lots of white markings in the village in preparation for identified pothole works over the year. Hall Road was noted as still dangerous, however, some temporary infills had been made. Wren Park works had been completed; tarmac has been spread into the verges close to ditches. No markings by the gas works. Some edges had been done at Hound Hill.
Emails - the .gov.uk accounts were now live but difficulties in set-up of some Councillor accounts were outstanding.
7. **Planning applications, decisions, and enforcement issues:**
 - a) **Planning Applications received:**
 - i. P/2026/00220 - BIRCH CROSS FARMHOUSE, BIRCH CROSS, MARCHINGTON: Formation of new agricultural access, erection of 1m high access gates and post and rail fencing. *Cllrs were generally in support of the application. No objections.*
 - ii. P/2026/00277 - GRANGE VIEW HIGH STREET MARCHINGTON: Felling of two Ash trees – *No objections*
 - iii. P/2026/00307 – YEW TREE HOUSE, HIGH STREET, MARCHINGTON : Crown reduction – *No objections*
 - b) **Notice of Appeal against Refusal lodged:** P/2025/00271 – Seven Stars Farm, Stock Lane, Marchington Woodlands Erection of two storey rear extension and single storey side extension
 - c) **ESBC Planning Decisions:**
Approved:
 - i. P/2025/00851 - Woodford Cottage, Moisty Lane, Marchington: Demolition of the existing rear two-storey and single-storey elements and associated outbuildings to facilitate the erection of

Accepted on..... Signed

a two-storey side and single and two storey rear extension with Juliet balcony, installation of a first-floor side window and formation of a parking area.

- ii. P/2026/00044 - LAND AT GREEN LANE, MARCHINGTON: Installation of a Energy Storage Cabinet to the support the operation of the solar farm

Refused:

- iii. P/2025/01261 – DOG & PARTRIDGE (Outbuilding), CHURCH LANE, MARCHINGTON: Installation of roof mounted solar panels to the front elevation on existing outbuilding. Cllrs requested that the previous application conditions on habitation be checked and discussed at the next meeting.

- d) A resident commented that a Certificate of Lawfulness had been issued for Hunts Croft, Allens Lane. Cllrs could not recall this coming up for consultation. A resident also noted that an application had been received on 2 April for the Moreton Lane site – Clerk to check if Draycott in the Clay PC had been consulted.

- e) **Tree Preservation Orders Review** – identification and locations ongoing.

f) Enforcement Issues

- i. Stock Lane Traffic – awaiting planning decision.
- ii. Seven Stars Farm – no further update regarding the entrance. An Appeal had been lodged for the main (refused) construction.
- iii. Moreton Lane Site, Draycott –additional works to land North of the site were being addressed and further site visit from Enforcement to take place.
- iv. Newfield Green Farm – Enforcement notice served 19 March compliance required by 20 August. Notice of appeal would need to be received before 20 April.

8. Council owned property -

a) Play areas and outdoor park areas and safety checks:

- i. Silver Lane playground:
Monthly safety report – Cllr Morgan’s circulated report was noted. Wood to be moved. A bearing had gone on the cross-trainer, DSK would be contacted to replace. Signage needs updating with new email address. Gate sign needs fixing. Loose seat on horse springy. Fencing needs replacing - Cllr Morgan to research.
- ii. Forestside:
Monthly playground and football pitch safety report – Cllr Bullock’s circulated report was noted. Grass needs cutting. The noticeboard needs replacing. Paint was flaking from the balance beam. 2 picnic benches had arrived for the play area and football pitch, awaiting installation.
- iii. Cricket Club – the season had started; Smallwood ground was being progressed.
New fencing had been installed around the pitch. The footpath will be moved and weeded to keep clear for safety. Gates were in place and will be locked, apart from the one near the bridge – signs needed to Footpath & to Cricket Club with correct wording ‘Permissive path only (can be withdrawn at any time)’. One on the bridge to first gate. Another saying public footpath to Dog & Partridge and Silver Lane.
Several tree branches were falling including the Willow tree and Poplars - need safety check. Ask Michael Johnson to look at.
Rubbish needs tidying with a skip. Some material is being re-used.
Solar panels are up and working, saving costs.

- b) **Marchington Village Hall** – Cllr Mann reported on plenty of bookings including prison officers training May-July; care home training; a School concert 9 July; adult parties; and wedding parties. A Video-Conferencing facility was now available and will be good for lectures and presentations.