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

Present: Cllr I Morgan (Chair), Cllr Hayhurst, Cllr Newstead, Cllr Lord, Cllr Mann, Cllr Glover
Siobhan Rumsby (Parish Clerk); Cllr P Hudson; 5 Members of the Public;

1. The Chair welcomed all. Apologies received from our Cllr Prince and Cllr Hales.

2. **Declarations of Interest and Dispensations on Agenda items**. Cllr Hayhurst declared an interest in 7.a.ii. Smallwood Manor Farm application

3. **Resolved** - The Minutes of 13 January 2026 were accepted as a true record of the meeting.

4. **Public Forum** –no representations received.

5. **Outside organisations reports**
   a) **MP** – No new updates.
   b) **Police** – Neighbourhood Policing Framework received. The patch would hopefully be getting a response team from Uttoxeter and more local policing.
   c) **Staffordshire County Council** – a Local Government Reorganisation public consultation is now open to 26 March. MPC would consider their response at the next meeting. Individual responses were encouraged. Cllr Hudson felt the transition was rushed.
   Flooding - Gulley cleaning had helped thanks to help from former Cllr, Philip Atkins.
   Staffordshire County Council Tax had proposed a 3.99% increase.
   d) **ESBC** – Cllr Hudson reported on a meeting scheduled to recommend a 2.89% increase in council tax. The meeting would also consider a clamping down on racism proposal which Cllr Hudson will be supporting.
   Lottery funding application for the Museum of Brewing had failed; a recovery plan and alternative funding was to be proposed.
   Local Plan - Housing developments – there were none expected for this area but there was a large development in Uttoxeter for 300 houses; it was thought the road infrastructure cannot cope.
   Food waste bins were being rolled out. The next round of Community Fund starts in April - £1500 per Cllr per application, must be applied for by organisations not Parish Councils.
   An Emergency Road Closure at Fairford for 3 weeks was referred to – it is only closed for emergency flood.

6. Clerk's Report noted.

7. Planning applications, decisions, and enforcement issues:
   a) Planning Applications received:
      i. P/2026/00044 - LAND AT GREEN LANE MARCHINGTON: Installation of an Energy Storage Cabinet to the support the operation of the solar farm. *No objections*
      ii. P/2026/00096 - SMALLWOOD MANOR FARM UTTOXETER ROAD NETHERLAND GREEN - Erection of a roof over existing open air muck store. *No objections*
   b) **ESBC Planning Decisions:** None received.
   a) Tree Preservation Orders Review – identification and locations ongoing.
   c) Enforcement Issues

i. Stock Lane Traffic – a retrospective planning application had been forwarded from Lower Stocks Lane Farm.
ii. Seven Stars Farm – it was reported that the wall and gates are under investigation by ESBC's Planning Enforcement Officer.
iii. Moreton Lane Site, Draycott – no updates

8. Council owned property -

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

i. Silver Lane playground:
Monthly safety report – Cllr Prince's report noted. Cllr Hayhurst report a hole in the fence on Silver Lane; Cllr Morgan to alert the property owner.

ii. Forestside:
Monthly playground and football pitch safety report – Cllr Lord's report and photos were discussed. The play area needs spring cleaning. The noticeboard is rotten and signage needs attention. The existing noticeboard on Hillsea Crescent will be repurposed for use in the play area when replaced with the new one. Weeds and brambles need cutting back. A picnic table had been suggested by young resident. The current bench is in standing water. Cllrs welcomed the idea of replacing the bench with a picnic table. It was also felt there nowhere to sit and watch the football. Cllr Mann to investigate recycled picnic tables. ESBC Community fund would be a good source of funding, but the Parish Council cannot apply. Goals need replacing and new nets – this is a budgeted item.

iii. Cricket Club – currently waterlogged. A pile of concrete needs moving. Covers for machinery are standing in water. Cllr Bullock to report. The club have obtained grant funding for solar panels, a planning application will need to be prepared by the club and submitted via the Parish Council.

b) **Marchington Village Hall** – Cllr Mann reported on healthy bookings. A contractor has been engaged for decorating the main hall on 9/10 March. Serco had booked June/July training sessions. The boundary plan submitted by the neighbours' solicitor was not accepted by the Trustees. The planning application for solar panels had been validated. Clerk to check dates.

9. Flooding and Environment

a) Cllrs Mann and Hayhurst attended a Flood Liaison meeting in Draycott in the Clay, and a circulated report was summarised at the meeting. Repairs to Aston Bridge, scheduled for the summer holidays, were discussed. It was noted that the issues may be linked to quarry activity, and the MP will look into this. Severn Trent confirmed they will not be upgrading the sewerage network, stating that existing capacity is sufficient. Councillors agreed to raise concerns with the MP regarding the flood plain. It was also questioned whether Aston Bridge has undergone a thorough inspection, as any collapse could result in a long-term closure. Marchington would not be able to sustain the traffic if used as a diversion route.

b) Recent flooding was reviewed, with Friday's water levels reaching just under 1.5m. The gulley at the end of Jacks Lane remains blocked, although others have been cleared. Water continues to pool at the speed hump, causing run-off onto driveways, worsened by vehicles travelling at speed. This issue will be followed up with the County Council and Cllr Hales.

10. Highways & Footpath issues

a) A50 Roadworks – no updates.
b) Woodroffes Cliff – location for grit bin to be found.

c) Gorsty Hill triangle – the project would be promoted at the village hall Valentine's event and in noticeboards and social media. Cllr Newstead is researching the history of the green. Prison to be approached for help with wooden bollards and benches. It was agreed to add the tree to the TPO application list. It was suggested Marchington Woodlands Village Hall committee could apply for CCF funding for the triangle.
d) Hound Hill – no further updates and there was a branch down.
e) 34 Church Lane – it was noted the property is in the conservation area. The Health & Safety Executive can be called in by SCC. A resident has fallen; the water is not draining away from the clay surface and kerb edges are obscured. It was agreed to write to the property owner to alert them to the concerns.
f) Footpath off Hall Road – Cllr Morgan had met with owner of the hall and permission was granted for the Ramblers Association to do the necessary work.

11. Finance

a) Schedule of Receipts and Payments - authorised as listed.

12. **Correspondence and communications - noted**

a) Prison vehicles – reported
b) Historical interest – Cllr Morgan assisting research.

13. **Items requested for input onto next agenda**:

LGR consultation response
Newfield Green Farm Barn – enforcement.

Next Meeting : 10 March 2026, Marchington Village Hall
Meeting Closed: 20.53

Marchington Parish Council - **Meeting Date** 10/02/26
Schedule of Receipts and Payments

Date	Monies received:	£	Solar A/c	Total
02/01/26	Interest - Gold A/c	£66.46		
20/01/26	Transfer from Solar A/c - Tennis Club award		399.99	
	TOTAL OF RECEIPTS	£66.46	£399.99	£466.45

Date	Invoices/Money to be paid out:	Net	Vat	Total	Chq No.
10/02/26	Clerk Salary, NI Travel and Expenses	£757.38	£1.93	£759.31	2813
10/02/26	M. Johnson	£1,210.00	£242.00	£1,452.00	2814
10/02/26	Forvis Mazars	£210.00	£42.00	£252.00	2815
10/02/26	A. Mee	£260.00		£260.00	2816
	TOTAL OF PAYMENTS	£2,437.38	£285.93	£2,723.31	

Bank Balance

Current Account	£1,009.85
Gold Account	£47,446.73
Solar Account	£61,461.93
TOTAL	£109,918.51

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