



DRAFT MINUTES OF THE AMENITIES COMMITTEE **MEETING HELD ON TUESDAY 2ND JUNE 2026 IN THE OLD** **SCHOOL ROOM, MARDEN MEMORIAL HALL, MARDEN** **COMMENCING AT 8.15PM**

Marden Parish Council operates under General Power of Competence since adopted on 7th May 2024. Minute Reference 012/24.

Cllr Boswell took the meeting for the first item.

001/26 ELECTION OF CHAIRMAN

Cllr Gibson proposed, and Cllr Boswell seconded that Cllr Rabot be elected Chairman for the forthcoming Council year. All Cllrs were in favour. Cllr Rabot accepted the role of Chairman and took over the remainder of the meeting.

002/26 ELECTION OF VICE-CHAIRMAN

Cllr Boswell proposed, and Cllr Gibson seconded that Cllr Tippen be elected Vice Chairman for the forthcoming Council year. All Cllrs were in favour. Cllr Tippen accepted the role of Vice Chairman.

003/26 PRESENT

Cllrs Boswell, Dobinson Newton, Rabot (in the Chair), Summersgill and Tippen were present. Cllrs Adam and Gibson, the Deputy Clerk and County Cllr Black were also in attendance.

004/26 APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Cllrs Goda gave his apologies for this meeting.

Not in attendance: Cllr Turner

005/26 COUNCILLOR INFORMATION

Declaration of Pecuniary and Non-Pecuniary Interests

Cllr Boswell declared an interest in item 009/26 (Open Space - Southons Field) as a resident backing onto the field; Cllrs Tippen and Newton as Trustees of the Memorial Hall, declared an interest in item 013/26 (Outside Bodies Reports - Memorial Hall).

Granting of Dispensation

There were no requests for dispensation.

006/26 MINUTES OF THE PREVIOUS MEETING

Cllrs received and accepted, as a true record, the Minutes of the Amenities Committee meeting held on 28th April 2026. These were duly signed by the Chairman.

007/26 IDENTIFICATION OF ITEMS INVOLVING PUBLIC SPEAKING

The meeting was adjourned at 20.20 for the following report from County Councillor Brian Black.

County Councillor, Brian Black reported a few staff changes in his office. He was happy to support a grant for a marquee for this year's Marden Summer Playscheme. He also requested feedback on his work as County Councillor with Parish Councils and asked what they would see as improvements. Statement will be forthcoming to Cllrs at the next Full Council meeting regarding his position on his recent expulsion from the party.

008/26 DEPUTY CLERK REPORT

The Deputy Clerk Report was circulated to Cllrs prior to the meeting. The Community Payback team has been emailed to enquire whether they will be sending a team to Marden but a response is yet to be received. A test of the reflectors has been successful so we will be adding some more to the Morello Path gateway. The Clerks are currently discussing the issue of a new goal post on Southons Field and will come back to Cllrs shortly. The space for storage at the Southons Pavilion had been viewed and the Clerks will be in touch with the users with their requirements. The new machinery for the Village Caretaker is being reviewed as to whether it is needed. The Contractor has been contacted regarding a basket swing replacement.

009/26 OPEN SPACE

Playing Field

Play Inspection Report from MPC

The reports for the Playing Field Play Area, Napoleon Drive Play Area, the Sports Wall and the Outdoor Gym Equipment had been received from the Caretaker for MPC. There were no issues to report. Cllrs noted.

Changing Rooms Refurbishment

Cllrs received a report from the Clerk regarding approval the Draft Management Plan to be sent back to MBC as part of the planning condition, discussing the tender analysis from the Architect and considering the internal furnishings. Cllrs discussed and agreed that due to Cllrs Griffiths and Turner's input, a separate meeting would be arranged to include them in the discussion. Cllr Summersgill offered his advice on a tender scoring matrix.

Southons Field

Play Inspection Report from MPC

The reports for the Play Trail, Swings and Football Goal Post had been received from the Caretaker for MPC with no new issues to report. Cllrs noted.

Other Open Space

Monthly Tree Inspections

The monthly tree inspections had been received and no issues were reported. Cllrs noted.

010/26 CEMETERY**Exclusive Right of Burial Certificates**

There were no exclusive right of burial certificates received for this meeting.

011/26 PUBLIC TOILETS AND CAR PARK**Public Toilet Issues**Solar Panels

There are no further updates on the project for this meeting.

Car Park Issues

There were no car parking issues to report.

012/26 AMENITIES SUB-COMMITTEES AND SUB-GROUPS**Environmental Sub-Group**Next Meeting

The Environmental Sub-Group was due to meet again on 16th June 2026, however Cllr Boswell informed Cllrs that this would be rearranged.

013/26 OUTSIDE BODIES REPORT**Memorial Hall**

Cllr Newton reported that there were no issues to report on the Marden Memorial Hall.

Youth Issues

Cllr Rabot informed Cllrs that he has a meeting arranged with Golding Homes and Kent Cricket soon and would report back on the outcome.

014/26 AMENITIES MEETING ACTION LOG**Meeting Action Log**

The action log was updated and circulated to Cllrs prior to the meeting. Cllrs noted.

015/26 OTHER AMENITIES ISSUES FOR DECISION / NOTING**Marden Summer Playscheme**

Cllrs received a report from the Clerk on Marden Summer Playscheme 2026. Cllrs noted.

016/26 INVOICES FOR PAYMENT

The following invoices were put before Cllrs for payment:

Marden Memorial Hall – May hall hire, office rent and refuse – £366.00

Stanleys Garage – Mower/vehicle fuel - £124.28

A J Gallagher – Parish Council Insurance - £3,175.47

Community Heartbeat – Defib Pads and Safety Kit - £101.94

Kent County Council – Photocopier Rental - £108.02

Pear Technology – Annual Subscription - £312.00

Total: £4,187.71

Cllrs agreed the payments and Cllrs Adam and Rabot would authorise on Unity.

There being no further business, the meeting closed at 20.43.

Date: 25th August 2026

Signed:

Cllr Adrian Rabot
Chairman, Amenities Committee
Marden Parish Council, Parish Office, Goudhurst Road, Marden, Kent, TN12
9JX
T: 01622 832305 / 07940 241333
E: deputyclerk@mardenkent-pc.gov.uk
W: mardenkent-pc.gov.uk