



DRAFT MINUTES OF THE FULL COUNCIL MEETING HELD ON TUESDAY 11TH AUGUST 2026 AT THE ALLENS, ALBION ROAD, MARDEN COMMENCING AT 7.30PM

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

063/26 PRESENT

Cllrs Boswell (in the chair), Dobinson, Gibson, Griffiths, Newton, Rabot, Summersgill and Tippen.
The Clerk was also in attendance.

064/26 APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Apologies were received from Cllrs Adam and Goda.
Borough Cllr Russell also gave her apologies.
Not in attendance: Cllr Turner.

065/26 COUNCILLOR INFORMATION

Declaration of Pecuniary and Non-Pecuniary Interests

Cllr Gibson declared an interest in item 069/26: allotments as a resident of Highwood Green.

Changes to Register of Interest

The Clerk confirmed that all Cllrs registers of interest had been redacted. However, notification had been received from MBC to add additional wording which would be added shortly. Cllrs agreed for the Clerk to undertake this on their behalf.

Granting of Dispensation

There were no requests for dispensation.

066/26 MINUTES OF THE PREVIOUS MEETING

Cllrs received, and accepted, as a true record the Minutes of the Parish Council meeting held 14th July 2026. These were duly signed by the Chairman.

067/26 IDENTIFICATION OF ITEMS INVOLVING PUBLIC SPEAKING

No members of the public were in attendance.

The meeting was adjourned for the following items:

PUBLIC FORUM

No members of the public were in attendance.

EXTERNAL VERBAL REPORTS (if in attendance)

County Councillor Report: Not in attendance

Borough Councillors Report: The Local Government Review has been announced with Maidstone being included in West Kent. Work is going on behind the scenes to

appoint Committees etc with the Shadow Councillors will be elected in May 2027. No decision has been made on whether to bring Parish Council elections forward to next year.

Police: Not in attendance

The meeting was reconvened to discuss item 068/26 onwards.

068/26 CLERK'S REPORT

The Cllrs had received and noted the Clerk's report.

069/26 PARISH MATTERS

Reports from MBC and KCC

No written reports had been received for August as several of the other parishes within the ward did not hold a meeting this month. Updates would be provided in September if relevant.

Police Update

Crime Figures

Cllr Rabot provided a report based on the most recent crime figures for June on the Kent Police website. 28 crimes recorded with 18 being violent/anti-social behaviour.

Other Police Matters

The next drop-in session was due to be held on Friday 25th September at the Vestry Hall from 10am.

Issues at Southons Field with people coming through from Appledown Grange and the telephone exchange, sometimes with catapults, and breaking down the fencing. This has been reported to 101 but Cllr Boswell could not obtain contact details for BT to report direct.

Communication

Newsletter

The Summer edition of the newsletter had been delivered and was available on the website. The next edition of the newsletter was currently being drafted.

Water Issues

The Clerk continued to chase Katie Lam MP for a response regarding correspondence sent on water issues in the parish.

Infrastructure Spend Plan (ISP)

There were no new updates on the ISP.

Changing Rooms Refurbishment

The architect had contacted the Clerk to suggest phasing the work into two sections (1) refurbishment of the building; and (2) extension of the storage areas. This was to try and get the costings down to meet the S106 funding available. Cllrs agreed to the phasing of the project and Cllr Griffiths would contact the architect to take this forward.

Public Conveniences – Solar Panels

The Clerk had chased the solicitors again for confirmation of agreement to commence works.

Cllr Griffiths agreed to manage this project going forward.

Allotments

The details discussed at the last meeting had been sent back to Redrow. However, Redrow were querying the agreement for a commuted sum. The

Clerk had sent over a copy of an email received in 2020 providing details of this agreement.

Full Council Action Log

Cllrs noted the action log. Cllrs were asked to view this to ensure that there were no actions outstanding for themselves to undertake.

Byelaws

Following receipt of the letter from the Secretary of State Cllrs Adam and Newton along with the Clerk had met to go through the queries. Changes had been tracked and the Clerk had resubmitted the application.

Annual Parish/Residents Meeting

Cllrs agreed to hold next year's Annual Residents meeting as a social event inviting village organisations along with residents.

070/26 COMMITTEE REPORTS

Amenities Committee

There was no Amenities Committee meeting held in July.

Planning Committee

Cllrs noted the Planning Committee draft minutes of meeting held on 21st July 2026.

Finance Committee

There was no Finance Committee meeting had been held in July.

Conferences/Meetings/Webinars/Other attended

Those in attendance to update the meeting on the following:

20th July – Memorial Hall meeting: report to be given at Amenities Committee meeting.

20th July – closing date for Deputy Clerk applications. Cllrs were informed that interviews were due to take place on 20th and 24th August.

20th to 31st July – Marden Summer Play Scheme: A report would be submitted to the Amenities Committee meeting.

23rd July – Meeting with Chairman/Vice-Chairman: meeting held to discuss end of Play Scheme during Clerk's absence.

10th August – Resilience Planning meeting: Notes circulated

10th August – Highways Working Group: Notes circulated

Conferences/Meetings/Webinars/Events forthcoming

18th August – Environmental Sub-Group – Cancelled. Cllrs were asked to consider daytime meetings as it may be easier for attendance.

19th and 20th August – Golding Homes "Sports Mash Up" – this is currently being advertised.

071/26 CORRESPONDENCE

Cllrs received, and noted, the following items:

Marden Parish Council Office Correspondence Log – July

Marden Parish Church Magazine

KALC Newsletter

Clerk/Council publications

072/26 FINANCE

Bank Statements:

Revenue Accounts

Nat West: £18,206.72

Unity: £163,432.37

Capital Account

CCLA: £57,614.34

Payments for Approval

Payments agreed via email and authorised between meetings

Employees – MPC/Play Scheme staff salaries (Budget Code 4000)

£13,397.86

Authorised by Cllrs Dobinson and Tippen 04/08/26

Alison Hooker – Play Scheme supplies (Budget Code 4015) £185.14

Parent – Play Scheme refund (Budget Code 4015) £112.00

Authorised by Cllrs Dobinson and Tippen 07/08/26

Payments agreed authorised at August Full Council Meeting

HMRC – August NIC/PAYE (Budget Codes 4000/4002) £4,240.17

Alison Hooker – reflector strips (Budget Code 4235) £23.70

Viking – Office/Public Conv. Supplies (Budget Codes 4071/4328) £178.91

Stanleys – Mower/Vehicle fuel and supplies (Budget Codes 4310/4316)

£137.91

Marden Memorial Hall – July Office rent/refuse (Budget Codes 4070/4074)

£300.00

Paul Waring – July contract mowing (Budget Code 4014) £208.68

Castle Water – cemetery water supply (Budget Code 4302) £20.34

Castle Water – Changing Rooms water supply (Budget Code 4225) £17.23

Kent County Council – photocopier charges (Budget Code 4065) £40.84

Total: £5,167.78

Agreed by all Cllrs and authorised by Cllrs Dobinson and Rabot.

073/26 HIGHWAYS AND PUBLIC TRANSPORT

Highways

Highways Improvement Plan (HIP)

The Highways Working Group had met yesterday to discuss the Highways Improvement Plan and to review the list with the matrix previously used to ascertain priority. The new priority list for 2026 had been circulated to Cllrs and it was agreed to submit this to Kent Highways along with a request of an update for outstanding work.

Speed Watch

Cllr Summersgill would arrange future dates and circulate to the speed watch group.

Public Transport

Nothing to report.

There being no further business the meeting closed at 20.38pm

Cllr Anne Boswell

Chairman

Date: 8th September 2026

Marden Parish Council, Parish Office, Goudhurst Road, Marden

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