

# MARSTON MORETEYNE PARISH COUNCIL

**Minutes of the annual meeting of Marston Moreteyne Parish Council held on Tuesday 26<sup>th</sup> May 2026 at Marston Moreteyne Community Centre, Great Linns, Marston Moreteyne commencing 7.30pm.**

**Present:** Councillors: Hugh Roberts (Chairman), Carol Carter, Bill Chandi, Janice Green, Kelvin Pell, Ted Pilbeam & Simon Thomas,  
CBC Ward Councillors Sue Clark & Saverio Bongo

**Officer:** Mrs H. Trustam – Parish Clerk.

| Minute Reference | Item                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                            | Power                                                                                  | Action by              |
|------------------|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|------------------------|
| 26/05/179        | <b>Election of Chairman</b><br><b>It was resolved</b> that Cllr Roberts be re-elected as Chairman of the Parish Council. Proposed Cllr Chandi, seconded Cllr Green. Agreed.<br>Cllr Roberts completed and signed the Declaration of Acceptance of Office.                                                                                                                                                       | Local Government Act 1972, Part 1, s15(2)<br>Local Government Act 1972, Part V, s83(4) | Clerk to keep on file. |
| 26/05/180        | <b>Election of Vice-Chairman</b><br><b>It was resolved</b> that Cllr Green be re-elected as Vice-Chairman of the Parish Council. Proposed Cllr Roberts, seconded Cllr Chandi. Agreed.                                                                                                                                                                                                                           | Local Government Act 1972, Part 1 s15(6)                                               |                        |
| 26/05/181        | <b>Apologies for absence</b><br>Apologies for absence were received from Cllr Chris Banks, Steve Lonsdale and Robert Morris.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                    | Local Government Act 1972, Part V, s85 (1+2) & Sch 12, Part VI, p40                    | Clerk to keep on file  |
| 26/05/182        | <b>Councillor Resignation</b><br>The chairman advised that he had received the resignation of Cllr Chris Martin from the parish council.<br>The resignation was noted and the chairman advised that he would send a note of thanks to Chris Martin for his work on the parish council.<br>The parish clerk advised that Central Bedfordshire Council had been notified and the relevant paperwork is displayed. | Local Government Act 1972, s84                                                         |                        |
| 26/05/183        | <b>Disclosure of local and/or disclosable pecuniary interests</b><br>No interests declared.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                     | Localism Act 2011, Sch 7, s31                                                          | N/A                    |
| 26/05/184        | <b>Dispensation Requests</b><br>None received.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                  | Localism Act 2011, Sch 7, s33                                                          | Clerk to keep on file. |

Chairman Signature .....

Date .....

|           |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                            |                                                          |  |
|-----------|--------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|----------------------------------------------------------|--|
| 26/05/185 | <b>Open Forum</b><br>No matters raised.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                    | Public Bodies (Admissions to Meetings) Act 1960, s1 (1). |  |
| 26/05/186 | <b>Central Bedfordshire Council (CBC)</b><br>Cllrs Clark spoke <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>of the approval of the planning application for Marston Vale by CBCs Development Management Committee and advised that Cllr Roberts spoke well on behalf of the parish council. Mr Long also spoke well on behalf of Marston Moreteyne Action Group. Some concessions were achieved on decisions, and the parish council will be consulted in regard to future burial provision.</li> <li>Of the East West Rail (EWR) consultation which closes on 9<sup>th</sup> June. Whilst the closure of Milbrook Crossing is at the forefront of objections, she reminded the council of other points which should be considered when discussing a response to the consultation.</li> </ul> Cllr Bongo echoed Cllr Clark's views in relation to the EWR consultation.<br><br>The chairman thanked Cllr Clark for her super representation at CBCs Development Management Committee meeting in regard to the Marston Vale planning application. | N/A                                                      |  |
| 26/05/187 | <b>The chairman brought forward Agenda item 18: East West Rail Consultation</b><br><br><b>East West Rail Consultation</b><br>The consultation papers and a draft response to the consultation had been made available to members of the parish council prior to the meeting.<br>The chairman provided a resume of additional points made in writing by Cllr Pilbeam.<br><b>It was resolved</b> to accept the draft response and to include the points made by Ward Cllr Clark and Cllr Pilbeam.<br><b>It was resolved</b> that the response be sent in letter format and not as part of the online consultation.<br><b>It was resolved</b> that the draft response be validated by Cllrs Roberts & Pilbeam prior to sending.<br><b>It was resolved</b> that a copy of the parish council's response be uploaded to the council's website.<br><br><i>Ward Cllr Clark left the meeting.</i>                                                                                                                                                  | Stakeholder consultation.                                |  |
| 26/05/188 | <b>Central Bedfordshire Council consultation: Local Plan – Scoping Consultation.</b><br>The consultation papers and a draft response to the consultation had been made available to members of the parish council prior to the meeting.<br>The chairman provided a resume of additional points made in writing by Cllr Pilbeam.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                            | Stakeholder consultation.                                |  |

Chairman Signature .....

Date .....

|           |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                         |                                    |              |
|-----------|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|------------------------------------|--------------|
|           | <b>It was resolved</b> to accept the draft response and to include the points made by Cllr Pilbeam.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                     |                                    |              |
| 26/05/189 | <p><b>Appointment of Committees</b></p> <p>The chairman asked members to carefully consider appointments to committees. Due to high appointments on committees, there had been several occasions during the past year where a quorate had not been achieved and the meeting could not take place.</p> <p>Members considered a several options available to it.</p> <p><b>It was resolved</b> to appoint a smaller number of councillors onto committees meaning that the quorate would be 3.</p> <p>(a) Planning &amp; Environment Committee</p> <p><b>It was resolved</b> to elect Councillors Chandi, Green, Lonsdale, Pell &amp; Roberts to the committee for the coming year.</p> <p>(b) Finance &amp; General Purposes Committee</p> <p><b>It was resolved</b> to elect Councillors Carter, Morris, Pilbeam, Roberts &amp; Thomas to the committee for the coming year.</p>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                        | Local Government Act 1972 s101(2). |              |
| 26/05/190 | <p><b>Appointment of Working Groups</b></p> <p>(a) Marston In Bloom</p> <p>Members noted that the local Youth Council is unfortunately unable to provide support for the In Bloom initiative this year, and that the remaining members of the In Bloom Working Group have since stepped down. This has left a single councillor continuing to support the project.</p> <p>In considering the future delivery of the planting and maintenance programme, the Parish Council acknowledged the significant commitment involved in planting and watering the village planters and recognised that it would not be reasonable to expect one councillor to undertake these physically demanding tasks alone.</p> <p><b>It was resolved</b> that, in the interests of ensuring the continued success of the village displays and supporting the wellbeing of the councillor concerned, quotations should be sought from local gardening contractors to undertake the planting and watering of the village planters going forward.</p> <p>(b) Wood End</p> <p>Members were advised that the Working Group had not met for over 12 months and that no future meetings had been scheduled.</p> <p>Following discussion, <b>it was resolved</b> to disband the Working Group and to consider the future use and development of the Council's land at the July Council meeting.</p> | Standing Orders                    |              |
| 26/05/191 | <p><b>Appointment to Marston Moreteyne Youth Council</b></p> <p><b>It was resolved</b> to defer this appointment due to absence of Cllr Elefterescu.</p> <p>The chairman advised that the chairman of the Youth Council has stepped down and no future meetings have been</p>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                           | Standing Orders                    | Cllr Roberts |

Chairman Signature .....

Date .....

|           |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                        |                 |  |
|-----------|----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-----------------|--|
|           | <p>scheduled.</p> <p>The chairman advised that he would be producing an alternative proposal at the council's June/July meeting in regard to engaging with young people and enabling them to have a voice.</p>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                         |                 |  |
| 26/05/192 | <p><b>Appointment of Representatives on Outside Bodies</b></p> <p>(a) Village Hall Committee<br/><b>It was resolved</b> to appoint Cllr Carter as parish council representative for the coming year</p> <p>(b) Playing Field Committee<br/><b>It was resolved</b> to defer this appointment to a future meeting due to the absence of Cllr Elefterescu.</p> <p>(c) Rookery South Energy Recovery CLP<br/><b>It was resolved</b> to appoint Cllr Roberts as parish council representative for the coming year.</p> <p>(d) Marston Vale Parish Council Stakeholder Group<br/><b>It was resolved</b> to appoint Cllrs Roberts &amp; Green as parish council representatives for the coming year.</p> <p>(e) EWR Central Bedfordshire Marston Vale Local Representatives Group<br/><b>It was resolved</b> to appoint Cllrs Roberts &amp; Pilbeam as parish council representatives for the coming year.</p> <p>(f) Cranfield &amp; Marston PPG<br/><b>It was resolved</b> to appoint Cllr Pilbeam as parish council representative for the coming year.</p> <p>(g) DRAX Liaison Panel<br/><b>It was resolved</b> to appoint Cllr Thomas as parish council representative for the coming year.</p> <p>(h) Pan Bedfordshire Bus Users Group<br/><b>It was resolved</b> to appoint Cllr Roberts and Ward Cllr Bongo as parish council representatives for the coming year.</p> <p>(i) Universal Studios<br/><b>It was resolved</b> to appoint Cllrs Chandi and Thomas as parish council representatives for the coming year.</p> <p>(j) Bedfordshire Police Liaison<br/><b>It was resolved</b> to appoint Cllrs Pilbeam and Green as parish council representatives for the coming year.</p> <p>(k) Community Emergency Response<br/><b>It was resolved</b> to appoint Cllr Pilbeam as parish council representative for the coming year.</p> | Standing Orders |  |
| 26/05/193 | <p><b>Parish Council Meeting Dates for 2026/27</b></p> <p>A schedule of full council meeting dates was circulated prior to the meeting.</p> <p><b>It was resolved</b> that meeting dates for Marston Moreteyne Parish Council are as follows:</p> <p>Tuesday 16<sup>th</sup> June 2026</p> <p>Tuesday 21<sup>st</sup> July 2026</p> <p>Tuesday 15<sup>th</sup> September 2026</p>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                      | Standing Orders |  |

Chairman Signature .....

Date .....

|           |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                      |                                                     |              |
|-----------|------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-----------------------------------------------------|--------------|
|           | <p>Tuesday 20<sup>th</sup> October 2026<br/> Tuesday 17<sup>th</sup> November 2026<br/> Tuesday 19<sup>th</sup> January 2027<br/> Tuesday 16<sup>th</sup> February 2027<br/> Tuesday 16<sup>th</sup> March 2027<br/> Tuesday 20<sup>th</sup> April 2027<br/> Tuesday 18<sup>th</sup> May 2027                      (Annual Parish Council meeting)</p>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                               |                                                     |              |
| 26/05/194 | <p><b>Minutes of meetings.</b><br/> The clerk advised the following amendment to the draft minutes:<br/> Minute Reference: 26/04/149: Action changed to Cllr Pilbeam.</p> <p><b>It was resolved</b> to confirm and adopt the minutes of the meeting of Marston Moreteyne Parish Council held on Tuesday 21<sup>st</sup> April 2026. Agreed.</p>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                      | Local Government Act 1972, Sch 12, Part VI, p41 (1) |              |
| 26/05/195 | <p><b>Matters arising from the minutes.</b><br/> A written report providing an update on matters following the previous meeting was received and noted.</p>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                          | N/A                                                 |              |
| 26/05/196 | <p><b>Howes Drive Pumping Station.</b><br/> Ongoing situation. The complaint has now been raised on behalf of residents formally by CCW with Anglian Water who now have 10 working days to respond.</p>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                              | N/A                                                 | Cllr Pilbeam |
| 26/05/197 | <p><b>The Heart of Marston</b><br/> Two requests were received seeking permission to use the Community Centre and the adjoining open space free of charge for a Car Boot Sale and an Outdoor Cinema event. Members were reminded that the Parish Council had already agreed to support two events organised by the Heart of Marston free of charge during the current financial year. Members discussed the costs associated with opening and closing the Community Centre and considered whether a nominal charge should be applied. Other members expressed the view that the Council should continue to support the charity, noting that the Heart of Marston had previously provided support for Parish Council events.</p> <p><b>It was resolved</b> to grant permission for the use of the Community Centre and open space for the Car Boot Sale and Outdoor Cinema events free of charge. Members agreed that no further free use of the facilities would be granted during the current financial year.</p> <p>It was further agreed that the Parish Council should determine the number of free events it is willing to support each year at the Community Centre and open space and discuss this arrangement with the Heart of Marston.</p> | Local Government Act 1972, s145.                    |              |

Chairman Signature .....

Date .....

|           |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                              |                                          |     |
|-----------|------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|------------------------------------------|-----|
|           | <p>Cllr Thomas raised questions regarding the Community Centre's finances, the latest update from the solicitors, and the scope and timing of roof repairs.</p> <p>The Chairman advised that he would meet with Cllr Thomas separately to discuss these matters. It was noted that Cllrs Roberts, Cllr Pilbeam and the Parish Clerk had been authorised by the Parish Council to progress the building repairs with the developer.</p> <p>Cllr Pilbeam advised that financial reports had been presented at the last Finance &amp; General Purposes Committee meeting in regard to the community centre.</p>                                                                                                                                                                                                                 |                                          |     |
| 26/05/198 | <p><b>Crime Statistics, Bedfordshire Police Liaison and Priority Setting</b></p> <p>(a) Parish crime statistics for April 2026, were circulation prior to the meeting. Statistics were accepted.</p> <p>(b) Bedfordshire Police Liaison meeting. Next meeting scheduled for 8<sup>th</sup> July. Cllr Pilbeam advised that he would not be able to attend. Cllr Green to deputise in his absence.</p> <p>(c) Local Policing Team – not present.</p>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                          | Local Government & Rating Act 1997, s31. | N/A |
| 26/05/199 | <p><b>To receive reports from the following outside organisations</b></p> <p><b>It was resolved</b> to receive all written/verbal reports which had been circulated prior to the meeting / made available at the meeting.</p>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                |                                          | N/A |
| 26/05/200 | <p><b>To receive written reports from the following Working/Steering Groups</b></p> <p>(a) Marston In Bloom.</p> <p>(b) Wood End. No report received.</p>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                    |                                          | N/A |
| 26/05/201 | <p><b>Marston Moreteyne Youth Council</b></p> <p>No report provided.</p>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                     |                                          |     |
| 26/05/202 | <p><b>Parish Clerk's Report – for information only</b></p> <p>It was resolved to receive and accept the parish clerk's report which had been circulated.</p>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                 | N/A                                      | N/A |
| 26/05/203 | <p><b>List of correspondence received – for information only</b></p> <p>(a) Central Bedfordshire Council – Free Carbon Literacy Training for Town &amp; Parish Councils – received 15.05.26</p> <p>(b) Phonely/Liquid 11 – Free Resource for your residents – PSTN landline switch-off checklist – received 14.05.26</p> <p>(c) NALC Chief Executive's bulletin – received 14.05.26</p> <p>(d) Central Bedfordshire Council – Have your say on plans for a new Linmere Ward, Houghton Regis – received 12.05.26</p> <p>(e) OPCC – Round 2 Funding Opportunity – received 11.05.26</p> <p>(f) Central Bedfordshire Council – Slides &amp; Timetable Local Plan 9 received 11.05.26)</p> <p>(g) Beds Assn of Town &amp; Parish Councils – Notification of AGM to be held on Wednesday 14<sup>th</sup> October 2026, at the</p> | N/A                                      |     |

Chairman Signature .....

Date .....

|  |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                           |  |  |
|--|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|--|--|
|  | <p>Rufus Centre, Flitwick. The parish council is able to nominate up to 3 representatives to attend. It was agreed to circulate the information closer to the meeting date.</p> <p>(h) Central Bedfordshire Council – Town &amp; Parish Council update, May 2026 (received 07.05.26)</p> <p>(i) NALC Chief Executive’s bulletin – received 07.05.26</p> <p>(j) Central Bedfordshire Council - Reminder! In person Town and Parish Council forum - 13th May 2026 (received 07.05.26)</p> <p>(k) NALC - Utility Aid - Smarter energy solutions (received 06.05.26)</p> <p>(l) NALC Chief Executive’s bulletin – received 30.04.26</p> <p>(m) The National Allotment Society – National Allotment Survey (received 28.04.26)</p> <p>(n) CPRE Bedfordshire - April round-up - Planning updates, places to explore and opportunities to get involved (received 27.04.26)</p> <p><b>It was resolved</b> to receive the above correspondence which had been circulated prior to the meeting.</p> |  |  |
|  | There being no further business to transact, the meeting was closed at 9.05pm.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                            |  |  |

Chairman Signature .....

Date .....