

Marston Montgomery Parish Council

Minutes 10.11.2025

Present:

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| Councillor Steve Bull | Mick Butler |
| Peter Collyer | Liz Archer |
| Steve George | Matthew Bates |
| Alex Stephen | |

1. Apologies for absence

Councillor Sue Bull

Nick Brown

2. Declarations of interest

None

3. New Parish Clerk

New Clerk, Alex Stephen, voted in by Councillors. Mick Butler contacted DALC to confirm the rate of pay to align with the national pay scale. This was agreed at the meeting. Steve George to generate a role statement.

Alex will arrange an introductory email to external contacts. Chairman Mick Butler will review this.

4. Minutes of the last meeting Monday 13th October 2025

The Minutes of the last meeting were agreed and approved as a true record of the meeting. They were proposed by Paris Councillor Mick Butler and seconded by Parish Councillor Peter Collyer.

5. Matters arising from previous meetings

Harry's Wood – Councillors agreed that the best course of action was for Mrs Hughes to offer the land to the Woodland Trust in the first instance.

Matthew Bates will re-report the blocked drain alongside Ashbourne Glamping.

6. Phone box/Book club

Steve George and Mick Butler to perform a structural assessment and review the liability to the parish council, prior to any decisions being made. This will include reviewing any insurance that is in place on the phone box.

7. Old laptop/Printer

Steve George agreed to reset and clean the device in view of donating it.

Steve will also look into the cost of a printer for the parish to use.

8. Public participation

None

9. Planning:

- **25/01018/FUL – Mr N Brown, Long Chimneys Farm**
- No objections

- **25/01020/PIP – Mr S Hughes, Old Hall Farm**

The following comments from the parish councillors have been submitted to Derbyshire Dales Planning:

- Suggested access from Riggs Lane, not Pearl Bank
- Applicant to disclose the reason for the application and the purpose of the building.
- Applicant to consider the church in the design of the build.

- **25/01026/FUL – Mr D Pointon, The Stables Waldley Lane**
- No Objections

- **25/01048/PDA Mr M Marshall- Mount Farm**
- No Comments submitted

10. Banking/payments

- **Banking Mandate** - Steve George suggested that Alex should have the ability to initiate payments, but not authorise. Two councillors would still need to authorise the payment to enable the transaction. This will need to be discussed further. For now, Steve will set up access to online banking for Alex for reconciliation purposes.
- **Jan final invoice/cheque** – agreed, signed and paid by cheque
- **Ben Robinson invoice/cheque** - agreed, signed and paid by cheque. The amount of £225 was paid for the additional three mows of the play area.
- **Alex invoice/cheque** - agreed, signed and paid by cheque
- **Reclaim VAT** - Alex to look into reclaiming VAT for the parish. An estimated claim amount should be presented at the next meeting.
- **Precept 2026** – Insurance and maintenance costs to be reviewed – Steve George to send updated spreadsheet to Alex. Alex to collate expenses for the 25-26 period to give a better understanding of requirements for 26-27.

11. Website

- Matthew Bates showed costings from Zonkey.
- Initial start-up cost of £920.00 + VAT, which includes a 2-year domain licence and development support.
- It was agreed that the cost of the website set-up and maintenance would be broken down over two payments to absorb the running cost for year 2 and support cash flow for the parish. Exact amount of the two payments TBC.
- All parish councillors were in favour of the above.

12. Communications

None

13. Any other business

- Speed limits around the village were discussed again. Councillor Sue Bull will pass over the concerns to Steve Bull. It was suggested that contact with the local PCSO may be beneficial.
- Parking alongside The Crown was noted as an ongoing issue. During busier times, it would be impossible for an emergency vehicle to pass through. This will also be discussed at the next meeting with suggestions on how this could be avoided. Signage was proposed, but councillors were unsure how effective this would be.
- Mick Butler gave thanks to Mr Wallace for his assistance with affixing the poppies for Remembrance Day.

14. Date of next meeting - Monday 8th December 2025