

Marston Montgomery Parish Council

Minutes of the Parish Meeting

Held on Monday 13th October 2025

Present:

- Mick Butler
- Peter Collyer
- Liz Archer
- Councillor Steve Bull
- Angela Hughes
- Vicki Parker
- Alex Stephen

1. Apologies for absence

- Councillor Sue Bull
- Steve George
- Matt Bates
- Nick Brown
- Jan Lomax

2. Declarations of interest

None

3. Minutes of the last meeting Monday 8th September 2025

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

4. Matters arising from previous meetings:

- No parking signs for school railings – Matt Bates to organise. It was agreed that the signage was postponed, awaiting the erection of new fencing (proposed date of March 2026)
- Blocked drains on the road towards 'Ashbourne Glamping' – confirmation was required from Matt Bates, upon his return, regarding any action that was taken.
- All other matters were discussed within the other points on this week's agenda.

5. Public participation

Angela Hughes spoke about 'Harry's wood' and the option for the Parish to lease the land to retain availability for those in the village to use.

At present, the ground is maintained as a favour to Angela by Gordon Skipper, with no contract in place.

It was discussed that the lease may incur significant expense to the parish, with regard to maintenance and insurance and would need to be looked into in more detail. Suggestions included a volunteer group to maintain the area – this could be initiated by inviting residents to a meeting and discussing plans going forward. It was agreed that the above be brought up in the next meeting, when other parish councillors are present.

Another option was to offer the land to the Woodland Trust, should the parish council decide not to lease the area.

Angela also asked about the land used for the old village hall – this is something that will be discussed at the next meeting, when more councillors are available. Open suggestions of a carpark, grassed area or sale of the land were mentioned. Again, this is something that could be offered at a more open meeting, whereby local residents would be invited to vote on the options.

6. Planning

Mick Butler provided details of two planning re-applications:

25/00937/PDA – The Spinney, Marston Bank (consultation end date 28.10.2025)

25/00929/FUL – Shaw Lane Farm, Shaw Lane, Marston (consultation end date 21.10.2025)

Mick Butler, Peter Collyer and Liz Archer, as parish councillors, agreed they had no objection to the above applications.

Alex Stephen is to submit both consultation checklists before the deadlines listed above.

7. Banking/payments

The following payments were unanimously approved and agreed.

Defib signage renewal at the cost of £171.59 to Helen Foley. Cheque agreed and signed by Peter Collyer and Mick Butler; Liz Archer to deliver the cheque to Helen.

Clerk's timesheet to be published before the next meeting.

BM Robinson had been paid in full for the grass cutting on the play area – contact will be made to confirm if the last cut has now been done. Concern over growth within the last few weeks due to the change in weather.

8. Website

To be discussed with Matt Bates at the next meeting.

9. Communications

None

10. Any other business

- Speed limits around the village were discussed, with the suggestion of vehicle-activated speed indication signs. It was noted that neighbouring parishes had these signs installed. However, the data on speed reduction within those areas and the effectiveness of the devices were not available at present.
- Councillor Steve Bull confirmed that the above had been discussed on numerous occasions within the area, too. He stated that Cubley parish has initiated a community speed watch programme, with the help of the local PCSO.
- Suggestions will be discussed at the next meeting, in the presence of more councillors.
- Clerk responsibilities to be discussed between Jan Lomax and Alex Stephen.
- Mick Butler to discuss the assembly of the poppies onto the lampposts with Matt Bates. It was proposed that this needed to be done within the next couple of weeks to ensure they are in place for Remembrance Day.
- Liz Archer had received 'wellbeing signs' from a resident who would like them to be placed on the benches around the village. It was suggested that the signs could be presented around the village rather than affixed to the benches themselves – further discussion required for exact locations.

11. Date of next meeting

Monday 10th November at 7:30pm