

Marston Sicca Parish Council

Serving Long Marston, Meon Vale & Shackleton

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Draft Minutes of Ordinary Parish Council meeting held at Long Marston Village Hall 17th August 2026 7.30pm

Members Present: Cllr. Ian Johnsey (Chair), Cllr. Noel Davis (Vice Chair), Cllr. Bill Tempest, Cllr. Colin Parrott, Cllr. Mark Salter, Cllr. Tom Jackson
County Councillor, Cliff Brown
District Councillor, Stuart Keighley
Also present: 5 members of the public

1. Apologies

Apologies received from Cllr. Steve Barker

2. Declarations of Interest

None

3. Public Open Session

3.1 A member of the Shackleton Residents Assoc. enquired about a grant application that had been submitted to the Clerk. The application was acknowledged but due to the review of existing financial commitments and potential high utility costs, consideration had been delayed.

3.2 A member of Meon Vale Residents Association informed councillors that an aerial photograph of the woodland had shown the scale of work required and the likely significant costs involved.

Indicative costs had also been provided for the wetlands, including pond dredging estimated at around £27,000. The potential impact on residents' management charges was a concern.

3.3 Questions about SWLP was raised by two Long Marston residents, members advised the matter was on the agenda and would be discussed later in the meeting.

3.4 Cllr. Keighley discussed ASB and the concerns over motor bikes being used on the Greenway to Shackleton, the police had been notified.

4. Minutes of the Previous Meeting

Resolved: the minutes of the meeting held on 15th June 2026 were accepted as an accurate record of the meeting and were signed by the Chairman.

5. District & County Councillor Reports

5.1 County Councillor Cliff Brown commented on the drought, noting that his early term in office had focused on flooding concerns. He had attended a meeting with the fire brigade, where landowners' responsibilities for fire breaks were discussed, including the brigade's powers to require action where necessary. Due to the weather, increased fire risk and stretched resources, it was confirmed that the fire brigade had no further reserves.

5.2 Members were advised that significant work had been carried out to reduce the number of potholes.

5.3 District Councillor Stuart Keighley reiterated the fire risk in the local area, citing an incident in a neighbouring parish where sparks from agricultural machinery had inadvertently caused a small fire.

6. Chairmans Comments

The Chair gave a brief review of the topics now being tackled by the parish council including more complex planning matters.

7. Parish Council Assets

7.1 A summary of AMC meeting held 13th August 2026

- (i) Members resolved to provide an agreement to use Meon Vale Sports Field with specific conditions. Fee to be £3300pa. PC Risk Management Policy was also agreed to include reference to sporting activities. The PC insurance company had also been notified of the planned activity and had seen both the archery club and PC risk management schedule
- (ii) Tariff for asset use was discussed including potential offset if clubs maintained the sport field area. Policies were also revised.
- (iii) To appoint the professional cleaner for the MV Village Hall
- (iv) To secure quotations for decoration to the MV VH entrance and main hall
- (v) Guttering repairs and cleaning to MVVH has been organised for September

7.2 Signage to Barley Fields Play area needs updating.

Resolved: Replace the sign with max cost of £38 as per the quotation received by the clerk.

7.3 Pavilion and request from the trustees to position benches on PC owned sports ground

Resolved: Request a plan showing where the benches will be sited.

7.4 Members were advised after repeated chasing, Preim had confirmed their invoice for central asset maintenance will be sent shortly and will start from December 2025. The Clerk had reverted with a query over potential surplus.

8. Clerks Verbal Report on Outstanding Matters

8.1 The information requested from Bryt to enable the transfer of the energy supply to Octopus has been received, and the formal application to Octopus has been submitted. An outstanding bill remains with Bryt; however, the invoices are inconsistent, with missing dates, duplicated dates and no meter readings included.

Resolved: Chase Octopus for a formal quotation and discuss a settlement figure with Bryt.

8.2 The Clerk confirmed a lease agreement for the Village Hall had been prepared and had been sent to PC solicitor for their perusal.

8.3 Members felt the parish council website needed to be improved and resolved to work with Parish online. Clerk to organise transition.

8.4 Contact at SDC had not progressed the request sent in March 2026 to position a further bin to Meon Vale sports field. The request has been resubmitted with what2words location.

9. Finance

9.1 Council members had received a payment review and bank reconciliation.

Resolved: Approval of the bank reconciliation and noted payment items on the agenda

9.2 Clerk/RFO presented a budget summary (actual vs. budget YTD):

- (i) Invoices have yet to be received for Management costs
- (i) Exceeded budget for funds to Pavilion were running@ £160.
- (iii) Invoices out to Londis and leisure centre cannot be processed until invoices are received from Preim.
- (iv) The allotment committee has been chased for outstanding £700 rental fee.

9.3 A YTD summary of Village Hall trading figures (bookings) had been circulated and discussed. The treasurer of the VH committee requested a copy.

9.4 The Clerk explained the increase in the asset register value to Moore & Co.

10. Planning Matters

10.1 26/01906, Forest Farm, Long Marston. Proposed permission in Principle for the erection of a single bungalow. Marston Sicca PC supports the erection of a single bungalow in the curtilage of Forest Farm. Having visited the site, the PC were satisfied that this is a sustainable site and that the position and distance in relationship to Forest Farm does not cause significant visual harm to it, or other surrounding dwellings which are well screened.

26/00972/FUL, 19 Rumer Close, Long Marston – Proposal for a first- floor side extension with part garage conversion, porch, canopy and internal alterations.

Resolved: No Objections

25/02627/REM – Land off Long Marston Road, Welford – Reserve application for approved planning permission 22/00051/OUT. Amendments have been submitted to increase car parking spaces to comply with SPD, alterations to streetscape, site layout for units 1&2 as well as a reduction in the open storage area.

Resolved: No Objection

10.2 SWLP

(i) Members discussed the background to Shackleton 'Garden Village' and the reported breaches of planning conditions. Meetings had been held with SDC and Cala Homes to address key concerns, including planning conditions reverting to Cala. The questions raised by the Parish Council remain unanswered.

(ii) With members' agreement, the Chair allowed members of the public to raise questions about the SWLP. Concerns were expressed that the plan could urbanise the area and that residents should be provided with more information.

(iii) Cllr. Jackson outlined the key points of the plan and explained why, following further consideration, it was considered flawed. Members debated each point, taking into account the information provided at the previous Parish Council meeting on the inclusion of options. Cllr. Tempest reported that he had attended meetings in Mickleton on the SWLP and its traffic impact, as well as further meetings with Clifford Chambers residents about the overall plan.

Resolved: Members agreed that this important matter required further detailed consideration and resolved to hold an extraordinary meeting as soon as possible.

11. Councillor Reports

No pressing matters were discussed

12. Correspondence

The clerk advised members of the quote received from Kompan regarding the faulty equipment in Barley Fields play area.

Resolved: To reply to Kompan to requesting a reduction as the climbing frame had been fixed.

13. Next Meeting

September 21st Meon Vale Village

Meeting closed 19.40

Debbie Woodliffe

Parish Clerk