

Marhamchurch Parish Council

Tuesday 23rd September 2025

A meeting of Marhamchurch Parish Council was held on the above date at 7:30pm, in Marhamchurch Sunday School Rooms.

Councillors Present:

Vice-Chair Cllr Edwards, Cllr Biddick-Bray, Cllr Burnett, Cllr O'Sullivan.

Also in attendance: County Cllr N Chopak and Clerk E Hawkins.

1 member of the public was present for the meeting. In the absence of the Chairman, Vice-Chairman Cllr Edwards opened the meeting and welcomed everyone.

Record and Approve Apologies.

25/198

Cllr Perry sent his apologies, away on holiday. It was resolved to approve the apology. Proposed Cllr Burnett. Seconded Cllr Biddick-Bray. Unanimous.

Confirm Minutes from the August Extraordinary Meeting and ratify all decisions taken therein.

25/199

It was resolved to approve the minutes and ratify all decisions made at the meeting held on Tuesday 5th August 2025. Proposed Cllr Biddick-Bray. Seconded Cllr Edwards. 3 in favour. 1 abstained due to not being at the meeting.

Welcome to new Cllr Burnett.

25/200

Cllr Edwards officially welcomed Cllr Burnett to the Council. Cllr Burnett will provide Register of Interests and signed Cllr Statement of Assurance to Clerk asap.

Declarations of Interest.

25/201

(i) None.

Dispensations.

25/202

a) To note approved dispensations relevant to items on the agenda:

(i) None.

b) To review new dispensations requests.

(i) None.

Matters Arising.

25/203

None.

Public Open Session.

(To receive statements, questions, and answers from the public on an agenda item)

25/204 No comments.

Signed: _____ Chairman. /2025

Correspondence:

25/205

Circulated via email.

- (i) Local Council online training: Neighbourhood Planning and Neighbourhood Priorities Statements - Tuesday 30 September, 4.00-5.15 pm.
- (ii) Communication from resident re 'Allotment' site.

The matter was discussed with Cllrs. It was agreed to respond to resident and if specific questions raised to direct them to Clerk or Cllr Chopak. Clerk to reply to resident drawing attention to the Statement published on the website in July 2025 re the site.

Planning.

25/206

a) **Decision Notices/Updates:**

None.

b) **Planning Applications/Appeals:**

Any late planning applications received will be discussed but not decided under this section.

- (i) **PA25/05707** | Proposed extension and alterations to existing dwelling including enlarged vehicular access | Minack Pinch Hill Marhamchurch.

Following a review and discussion, Marhamchurch Parish Council unanimously voted no objection to the application. Proposed Cllr Biddick-Bray. Seconded Cllr Burnett.

- (ii) **PA25/06699** | Construction of two replacement dwellings including demolition of existing dwellings | Land And Buildings Adjacent To The Bay View Inn Marine Drive Widemouth Bay Bude

Following a review and discussion, Marhamchurch Parish Council unanimously voted no objection to the application. Proposed Cllr Biddick-Bray. Seconded Cllr Burnett.

To receive oral or written reports and authorise any action:

25/207

- a) Chairman – No updates.

- b) Cornwall Councillor.

Challenges with Cornwall Council budget and there are significant changes pending.

Highways budget has increased, which is positive. 4.99% Council Tax increase is likely due to huge costs of Adult Social Care and Children's Services. Challenging times for Cornwall Council.

Falmouth Hospital has announced that community beds are closing. Stratton may be at risk too.

CAP meeting was held recently and the focus was on Water. Next one scheduled for 8th December – agenda to be decided.

Hopeful that Public Inquiry Office in Launceston will be reopened in April 2026.

Speed camera / reader to be delivered to Marhamchurch.

- c) Playpark.

Gate along back fence was open –tried to close it as best as possible, but padlock on gate has been locked closed. It could do with some planks of wood being drilled into to permanently secure it closed.

Signed: _____Chairman. /2025

Football metal frame to hold the net has snapped / broken. It has been removed to avoid it injuring someone, but is safely hidden in case its repairable.

Query raised about necessity of Tree Inspection at Playpark.

d) The Clerk.

Changing to .gov.uk domain and emails. Transfer to gov.uk specific email is required for clerk, not all Cllrs. If Cllrs want to move to gov.uk emails it would cost approx. £260+VAT per annum. Parish online offer 1 email free. Suggestion that Clerk contacts Clerk at Week St Mary as they have recently gone through the process.

Resignation of Kerstie Hunter – notice of vacancy has been posted in Notice Board and online. Huge thank you was expressed to Kerstie for her time on the Parish Council.

The Hele Valley Trail.

25/208

(i) Parnalls Solicitors Documents

- Letter of Engagement
- New Client Contact Form
- Terms of Business
- To approve to pay invoices from Parnalls: Search Fees: £755.76 & Professional Charges: £288.24

To accept abovenamed documents, and approve Clerk sign on behalf of the PC. And to approve payment of invoices. Proposed: Cllr O’Sullivan. Seconded Cllr Biddick-Bray. Unanimous.

(ii) Crowdfunder

Funds received from Crowdfunder to date: £25,110.40. Fees deducted £685.59 (inc £114.41 VAT)
Clerk to send out Thank you update.

(iii) Valuation Report September 2025.

Received and noted.

(iv) To appoint a Councillor to take responsibility for management of the site.

Cllr Edwards suggested to defer this until November when we review Portfolio Holders and are closer to finalising sale of land.

(v) AOB

Clerk to email Cllrs to flag any issues that may need to be addressed regarding the HVT. So far, Clerk noted the following:

Joint Access clarification

Maintenance of fences (where?)

Map to be updated

Written confirmation from Grills re twice yearly grass cuts and for what period of time?

Contact from Public Works Loan Board – do MPC wish the application to remain open? If so, rough timeline required to submit documents. If the approval to borrow from SoS is no longer required, the application will be closed.

Signed: _____ Chairman. /2025

Councillors agreed that it would not be necessary to pursue this route now. Clerk to respond.

Marhamchurch Speed Cameras / Signs

25/209

Highways plan to deliver this soon. It was agreed to deliver to Marhamchurch at either Cllr Perry or Cllr Burnett.

Remembrance Sunday 9th November 2025

25/210

To order wreath and decide who will lay wreath o/b of MPC

Cllr Biddick-Bray will make contact with Val to order wreath. Cllr Burnett to lay wreath on behalf of Parish Council.

Rights of way Improvement Plan – Local Member and Town and Parish Council Engagement.

25/211

Opportunity for grant funding. Cllr O’Sullivan to explore options and engage with RoW Improvement Team. Proposed Cllr Burnett. Seconded Cllr Edwards. 3 in favour. 1 abstained.

April – June 2025 Quarterly Finance Check.

25/212

Noted by Cllrs.

NALC: Local Government Services Pay Agreement 2025/26.

25/213

NALC/SLCC National Salary Award pay scale has been issued and backdated to April 2025 as per guidance. A copy of the agreement has been circulated to all Cllrs for their information.

Finance & Legislation.

25/214

- a) Approval of payments of **£5,560.99** as per schedule and transfer of **£13,028.02** to Hele Valley Trail Acct and consider payment of urgent accounts presented by the date of the meeting.
- b) To note Income & Bank Balances as per the schedule.
- c) To note Bank reconciliations.

Parish Matters – Agree action and authorise associated expenditure.

25/215

Issue raised by resident at Cricket Park re weed / moss on pavement. Clerk advised she had logged issue with Cornwall Council and will await feedback. Discussion around possibility of being included in LMP / or not taking it on due to Health & Safety issues. Agreed to wait for feedback from Cornwall Council and go from there.

Urgent Matters raised with the Chairman since the Agenda was published.

25/216

None.

Date of next meeting and note items from Councillors for the Agenda.

25/217

Next meeting: 21 October 2025.

Grants | Precept Plans

Signed: _____ Chairman. /2025

Meeting closed at: 8:27pm

PUBLIC BODIES (ADMISSION TO MEETINGS) Act 1960 S1(2) & S1(6)

During the meeting it may arise that publicity would be prejudicial to the public interest by reason of the confidential or special nature of the business to be transacted and the press and public will be instructed to withdraw.

When this arises, the Chair will recommend to consider passing the following resolution: "to resolve that in view of the confidential or special nature of the business to be discussed, the public are excluded and instructed to withdraw."

Signed: _____ Chairman. /2025