

MARHAMCHURCH PARISH COUNCIL ANNUAL PARISH MEETING

Tuesday 20 May 2025

The above meeting was held in Marhamchurch Methodist Sunday School at 7:30pm.

Councillors present: Chair Cllr Perry, Vice Chair Cllr Edwards, Cllr Biddick-Bray, Cllr Hunter, Cllr O’Sullivan.

Apologies – County Councillor Nicky Chopak, Rob Corney – Bell Ringers, PCSO Baxter & PCSO Morgan.

Also in attendance: The Clerk, Mrs Hawkins.

6 members of the public were present.

Cllr Perry opened the meeting and welcomed everyone.

Minutes

Copies of the minutes held on Tuesday 21st May 2024 were noted. It was resolved to approve the minutes. Proposed Cllr Hunter. Seconded Cllr Biddick-Bray. Unanimous. The Chair, Cllr Perry, signed them as a correct record.

Guest Speakers

- **Police Community Support Officer** – sent his apologies, he had hoped to attend but due to work demands was not able to.
- **County Councillor – Nicky Chopak** – sent her apologies, she had been asked to attend another Annual Parish Meeting in Week St Mary, with many new Councillors.

Chairman’s Report

The last 12 months have been interesting, sometimes controversial, and challenging but we got there in the end.

Planning is always difficult, especially when it comes to small open spaces of land, which once built on, are lost forever.

The “Allotment” area is still an ongoing issue both controversial and challenging. We look forward to receiving confirmation from Cornwall Council when the boundary dispute has been resolved and begin discussions again about how the Parish Council wish to proceed.

The Playpark has been well maintained with new bark laid recently, annual safety checks conducted, and repairs to the fence completed. It is still a very popular place for both children and parents to go to.

The shed in the Revel Field was removed recently, as it had become too dangerous to use, thank you to all involved in this.

Last year Mrs Grills was awarded Citizen of The Year and we look forward to finding out the nominations for this year.

Signed _____ Chairman. Date: _____

We were very sad to receive Cllr Kerrs resignation in June last year. A great loss to the Council.

There has been a spell of anti-social behaviour over the last few months, which hopefully the Police have been able to deal with, the most upsetting was the burning of the Newly purchased Playpark Bench in October last year. We now have a new replacement bench, thanks largely to a £600 Community Chest Grant, along with a £105 donation from the offender. The Parish Council had to cover the remaining £300. Thanks to Joe Grigg for his help replacing the burnt-out section of fencing, free of charge.

We have also been donated some used benches from Rosie's Café, which are ready for painting so we look forward to getting them into place very soon.

New wheelie bins were distributed in September, along with food waste compost bins, which seems to be working well.

Revel Day was a great success with around £4,800 being raised for local charities.

Thanks were expressed to Cllr O'Sullivan and the Clerk, Elly for all their hard work so far with the Hele Valley Trail project.

Sadly, we lost more Councillors at the most recent election (May 25). Sue Proudfoot, Joe Grigg & Isobel Waterhouse. We thank them all for their service to the Council.

We also very sadly lost some very well known, and well-loved members of the village this last year. Thank you to them all for all they have done for the Village, they are all sadly missed.

Finally, a big thank you to all the Councillors for all their commitment, hard work, and dedication to the Village. We are very grateful to have a small, but strong team on the Parish Council. I look forward to working with you all over the coming months.

Questions from Marhamchurch Primary School Representatives.

None received.

Informal Questions and Answers.

Reports from many local groups will be displayed on the parish council website, circulated at the Coffee Morning in The Bray, and available via email should anyone like copies emailed to them. Please contact the Clerk for more information.

The meeting ended at 7:40pm and was followed by the Annual Parish Council Meeting.

Signed _____ Chairman. Date: _____