

Marton Parish Council Annual General Meeting

Chair: Cllr Faye Chambers

Minutes Taken by Sarah Robson - Parish Clerk

Draft Minutes of Marton Parish Council, Annual General Meeting (AGM) held on Tuesday 9th May, 7:30pm
Meeting Commenced at 19.43 and concluded at 20:00.

1. ATTENDANCE

Cllr David Fry, Cllr Rob Lummis, Cllr Mike Taylor, Cllr Faye Chambers, Cllr Sarah Heath, Clerk Sarah Robson

2. APOLOGIES

None.

3. ELECTION OF CHAIR & VICE CHAIR

3.1 Election of Chair of Marton Parish Council

Cllr David Fry nominated Cllr Faye Chambers as Chair.
Cllr Rob Lummis seconded the nomination.
Cllr Faye Chambers signed the "Acceptance of Office" form.
Cllr Faye Chambers resumed as Chair of the meeting.

3.2 Election of Vice Chair of Marton Parish Council

Cllr David Fry nominated Cllr Rob Lummis as Vice Chair.
Cllr Faye Chambers seconded the nomination.
Cllr Rob Lummis accepted the position of Vice Chair, Marton Parish Council.

4. REPORTS FROM BOROUGH & COUNTY COUNCILLORS

None received

5. CONSTITUTION DOCUMENTS

All councillors completed, signed and returned the following documents to the Clerk:

- Declaration of Acceptance of Office.
- Register of Members' disclosable pecuniary interests.

All councillors to have read, reviewed and accept the following documents:

- Marton Parish Council Constitution
- Standing Orders
- Financial Regulations
- Equality & Diversity Policy
- Safeguarding Policy

6. CHAIR'S REPORT

MPC organisation

- Cllr Mark Hardy chose not to stand for re-election in 2023 and was thanked for his valuable contributions. All other councillors – Faye Chambers, David Fry, Rob Lummis and Mike Taylor - were re-elected and were also happy to welcome new councillor Sarah Heath to the role.
- All are to be thanked for their continued dedication in volunteering as councillors.
- Cllrs would like to thank Sarah Robson for continuing as the Clerk and Responsible Finance Officer throughout the 2022-23 financial year.

Village improvements / maintenance

- A village questionnaire was compiled and distributed in early 2023, the results of which will inform parish council priorities and decisions going forward. Thanks to everyone who responded.
- A grant to replace five streetlamps with energy efficient lamps was successfully secured from Warwickshire County Councils Greenshoots fund. These are now in place on the main road.

- Plans to build a storage area as an extension of the museum, to also house the council's emergency response equipment and provide additional pavilion storage, are well underway and building in expected to start in early summer 2023.
- Village biodiversity improvement has continued, most notably with a further 200 native species saplings and hedgerow plants (donated by the Woodland Trust) being planted in March. Thanks to a donation of wildflower seed from Railway Paths, the verges around the demolished bridge have also been sown by volunteers. All volunteer efforts are greatly appreciated.
- Community Speedwatch continues, co-ordinator Adam Hewitt and all the volunteers are to be thanked.
- The Covid-19 Community Network of volunteers, including parish council members, continues to offer support. Cllr Lummis is to be thanked for his regular email communication with residents.
- Monthly defibrillator checks continue to be completed by the clerk and logged on The Circuit (online database). A free public CPR and defibrillator training event using BHF online training was held in February.
- The annual independent playground inspection was successfully conducted and the report received.

Crime reports

- The police continue to have access to the pavilion on the playing fields as a drop-in Police Hub.
- It has been a low crime year, with very few crime reports.
- Neighbourhood Watch co-ordinator Miranda Aston is to be thanked for her continuing volunteering work.

Grants/Donations/Finances

- Secured funding of £2,605 for energy efficient streetlight replacements from Warwickshire County Council.
- Successfully bid for around 200 free saplings and hedgerow plants from the Woodland Trust.
- A bench donated in memory of Tim Foden has been installed by the MPFA.
- The council voted to increase the precept to cover increasing electricity and service costs, but were able to limit the increase to just 1% to reduce impact on residents in 2023/2024.

7. ACCOUNTS 2020/2021

Councillors were presented with a financial overview from 2022/2023 by the Parish Clerk/RFO.

8. COMMITTEES & WORKING PARTIES

It was unanimously agreed the following councillors will continue to represent village committees:

Marton Village Hall – Cllr Rob Lummis
 Marton Museum of Country Bygones – Cllr David Fry
 Marton Playing Field Association – Cllr David Fry
 Marton Practical Ecology Group – Cllr Faye Chambers