

MARLDON PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes from the Parish Council meeting held on 14th July 2026 at 7.00pm
In the Church House Inn - separate function room
Present; Cllrs , Caddell , Clarke , Cooke , Cotton , Hellier , Hore (Chair) and Roddy
District Cllr Penfold & County Councillor Rake (both left 7.15pm)
Clerk - Karen Gilbert, and 9 members of the Public

The Chairman welcomed those present . He briefly expressed , on behalf of the Council , feelings of shock and horror at the murder of Ann Widdecombe - adding that he hoped the perpetrator/s would soon be brought to justice

26/07/01 Apologies for Absence - Cllr Bailey - approved

26/07/02 Declarations of Interest

Cllr Clarke - as Trustee TRAYE Cllr Hore - personal in planning 1617/26/HHC

26/07/03 Dispensation request - None

26/07/04 - Approval of Minutes

The minutes of the Full Council meeting held on 9th June 2026 were **APPROVED** by all and signed by the Chairman as a true record

STANDING ORDERS WERE SUSPENDED

26/07/05 - Public participation -

A Parishioner had attended requesting permission to replace an old bench in Jubilee Meadow with a new Bench in memory of Marldon Cricket Club's highest wicket taker and valuable volunteer at the Apple Pie Fayre. - See 26/07/14b

26/07/06 Councillor reports

County Cllr Rake

Cllr Rake advised the meeting that there was a likelihood that Marldon may be placed into Torbay under the LGR proposal suggested jointly by Plymouth and Exeter . A decision was due to be published on 16th July 2026

District Cllr Penfold - REPORT CIRCULATED / NOTED - Full copy available from clerk

Ann Widdecombe RIP

I can personally attest that Ann was generous with her time, respectful, and supportive of all people, regardless of personal politics or differing opinions. We have lost a valuable local champion who loved our area.

Enforcement Cases

I meet regularly with the Enforcement Team and each time go through all open enforcement cases in our area. I am scheduled to meet again with Enforcement in two months' time. I am confident that everything residents and MPC have raised with me are being processed. If you have new concerns, please do let me know. The officers rely on local information to help inform them. Sometimes it takes a while for a conclusion due to the coordination between DCC and SHDC and making sure all procedures are followed.

SW Water and Compton

I understand that our MP Caroline Voaden has sent residents an update on sewage spills from Castle Storm Overflow and that Southwest Water is to start a 6-month refurbishment July 20, finishing Jan 2027.

Refurbishment includes sewer lining; with storage tank need assessed later. I know that along with others she is continuing to pressurise SWW into rectifying the situation.

MUGA

What is there to say except....A "**HUGE**" well done!

Dartmouth Lower Ferry to introduce new ticketing system

Dartmouth Lower Ferry is introducing a new ticketing system designed to improve the customer experience and provide a more secure, efficient, and user-friendly service.

CLLRS RAKE AND PENFOLD LEFT THE MEETING

STANDING ORDERS WERE RE-INSTATED

26/07/07 Village car park

The Clerk advised that the National Trust was still in the process of preparing the lease document for review by the Parish Council and its Solicitor . Initial enquiries and searches had made by the Solicitor in preparation of receipt of the draft lease

26/07/08 - Planning

<u>1617/26/HHO</u>	12 Belfield Avenue Marldon TQ3 1NU	Front and rear dormers SUPPORT
<u>1725/26/LBC</u>	1 Compton House Compton Marldon TQ3 1TA	Replacement of an existing single-glazed timber sliding sash window with a new timber sliding sash window incorporating 12mm slim-profile double-glazed units. NO OBJECTION
<u>1762/26/VAR</u>	56 Marldon Cross Hill Marldon TQ3 1PD	Variation of condition 2 (approved plans) of planning consent 2409/25/HHO NO OBJECTION

26/07/09 - Admin

a) To note publicity of co-option for vacant seats (2) - Co-option taking place 09/26

The Clerk explained that the co-option had been deferred until 09/26 to allow for maximum publicity over the summer holiday season . She also advised that notices had been posted on all noticeboards / website and Face book . Details / forms available from the Clerk

b) To call for applications to the PC Small grants fund - closing date 30th September 2026

The Clerk advised that the sum of £3000 had been budgeted (additional amount for TRAYE) and that applications would shortly be requested - deadline 30/9/26 - with allocation agreed in October and payments made in November . Forms available from the Clerk

c) To note payment of PC Insurance - 3 year deal inc Car Park/contract dispute cover

The premium had been paid mid meeting after email consultation , the Annual premium being £1637.13 and a 3 year contract agreed

d) To agree to enter into contract for Mobile phone for emergency contact with Council

A Parish Council phone and minimum contract had been taken up - to be retained in the village for emergency use - the number to be placed on boards at the Muga and playground

e) To note the adopted scheme of Delegation effective during Summer recess **NOTED**

The Clerk also explained reason for the meeting being held in the Function Room of the Church House - namely that agendas are posted with 7 days notice and that the Clerk

had only found out on Facebook after the Agendas had been published , that the Cleaning of the slippery floor in the Hall had taken place .

26/07/10 -Village projects - MUGA UPDATE

The Chairman was delighted to confirm that the Muga was now ready for use - with an informal opening ceremony taking place on 18th July ay 10.00am

This has taken an enormous effort to bring this to fruition and it is strongly hoped that users will treat the facility with respect and abide by the Rules

To agree to sign conditional letter with clause agreed by 106 officer and if applicable , to agree to apply for 106 funding - AGREED - and the process explained

To consider , amend if required / agree Rules for users of Muga - AGREED unaltered

The Clerk asked that

Cllr Cotton to do weekly checks - **AGREED**

Consideration be given to the closing of the Court in inclement weather / ice / snow

It was **AGREED** that no minimum age limit be imposed at this stage **MONITOR**

26/07/11 - Clerk's report

As previously mentioned , an official notification regarding the LGR decision should be forthcoming this week

a) To discuss the suggestion from Totnes Town Council to create a hub (if applicable) - A brief discussion took place and it was **AGREED** that even it Marldon had remained in the South Devon option , the Councillors felt that it was well placed in preparation -with the scant details to hand

26/07/12 - Finance

a) Cheques for payment -

APPROVED - ALL IN AGREEMENT

It was **AGREED** that Cllr Hore could sign his own cheque

14/7/26	KAREN GILBERT	63.00		63.00	EXPENSES
14/7/26	KAREN GILBERT - REIMBURSE	45.50		45.50	STAMPS X 50
14/7/26	DEREK HORE - REIMBURSE	22.12	4.42	26.54	1ST AID KIT - MEG
14/7/26	KAREN GILBERT - REIMBURSE	33.60	6.72	40.32	AMAZON - STATIONERY
14/7/26	DEREK HORE - REIMBURSE	32.08		32.08	PHONE + 3 MONTHS
14/7/26	RHINOPLAY (SW) LTD	28507.00	5701.40	34208.40	(106 FUNDED)- MUGA BUILD
14/7/26	RHINOPLAY (SW) LTD	6989.00	1397.80	8386.80	ADJUSTMENTS (4000 = 106)
14/7/26	KAREN GILBERT	216.53		216.53	GOR HOURS FOR JUNE
14/7/26	DEREK HORE - REIMBURSE	91.62		91.62	GOR WEBSITE UPDATE
14/7/26	HMRC	268.27		268.27	EMPLOYERS NI - JULY
14/8/26	HMRC	268.27		268.27	EMPLOYERS NI - AUGUST

26/07/13 - Councillor reports

a) MEG REPORT – June 2026

Despite the alternating wet and dry weather MEG Volunteers have carried on regardless! FP 18 was given a good cut and FP 19 was also strimmed along the newly routed path up to the top of the hill. **More** tidying was carried out along FP 13 and around the Five-Lanes area, especially close to the Policeman's bench.

The Memorial Garden was tidied up and a couple of Volunteers have come forward to keep that area tidy every few weeks so a big thank-you to them.

Tor Field and FP 3 and FP 4 were strimmed back along with Slip Hill. The surrounding area of the MUGA was strimmed to allow the Lengthsman to do a closer cut with his ride-on mower. Finally, the underpass was given a good tidy, one of our cooler jobs. Litter picking takes place every Wednesday morning with two pickers usually collecting at least **FOUR** binbags full.

b) Compton - Once again there is nothing to report from Compton, all is quiet!

However, there is concern about the increase in large lorries using the road through the Village and Residents have asked if the weight restriction signs could be removed and replaced with width restriction ones. This has previously been discussed.

Residents are aware of surface dressing work being carried out along with other roadworks due soon

c) Police advocate report 13th July 2026

This meeting was organised to address the issue of Live Facial Recognition utilisation by the Police which will be going live by Devon and Cornwall Police some time in August 2026. This will take the form of a parked van for example in a shopping area with officers located within the van or a fixed camera in the street. We were told signs will be in place alerting the public so that they can avoid walking past the camera and what they call the "zone of recognition" with the Officers present monitoring the system which will be seeking persons on what they call a "watchlist". Any persons recorded who are not on this list will have their images deleted within seconds. The deployment has to be authorised by a Superintendent and has to be "proportionate and intelligence led". Under 18s could be included on the watchlist for example in an area having problems with ASB. It will be focused in known crime hotspots. We were reminded that this technology is already used in places like airports and supermarkets. It was stressed that it is not mass surveillance of the public or continuous tracking of the public or a database of everyone attending an event or a recording of the public.

d) TRAYE

Friday 12th June - Attendance: 31. Staffing: 5 youth workers, 1 volunteer
Young people enjoyed outdoor games on the field, playing ball games, badminton and with bubbles and glider planes. Session focused on Diversity and the young people made their own slime for Arts and Crafts.

Friday 26th June - Attendance: 37. Staffing: 4 youth workers, 1 volunteer
Young people went to the nearby park and enjoyed playing on the equipment, playing football and using the exercise equipment.

No trips were run during this time but there are several trips coming up for the Summer holidays including Splashdown, River Dart and Adrenalin Quarry.

e) Defibs/ bleed kits - Cllr Roddy - I completed inspections of the defibs, and the blood pack cases at Ye Old Smokey, Cut of Class and Compton on Thursday 4th July 2026.

I am pleased to report that all the equipment was in order and all have updated the online monitoring site that all defibs are online and available. I did however note that the blood box at Compton needs two screws replacing to make it more secure, I will take the screws and equipment to do this when I carry out the August /September inspections.

f) - VAS signs. The MVAS has been operating well on Marldon Cross Hill with our 9th data download as shown below. We've recorded about 26,418 vehicles per month with a similar monthly speed average of 20.5 mph with only about 1.0% of vehicles travelling in excess of 30mph. Unfortunately, we DID have 8 incidents of vehicles travelling in excess of 45mph, with 4 of them in excess of 50mph (one was clocked at 75mph) and virtually all in the middle of the day and it's recommended that this be reported to Devon & Cornwall police. On Tuesday 07, the MVAS relocated to its alternate location on Vicarage Hill Road where data collection can commence.

As most are aware, there was a pet tragedy recently on Vicarage Hill. Sadly, DCH projects for traffic calming measures are based almost entirely upon statistical data and typically, this data is based upon incidents involving tragedies. Our hope is that the collected MVAS data might assist the parish in presenting reasonable justification for better traffic calming

G) Library Box - Cllr Caddell reported that the Library in the phone box was attracting far fewer unwanted items and that she continued to monitor on a regular basis

26/07/14- Open Spaces

a) To receive a report on the condition of the allotments and consider any actions required

It was **NOTED** that with the cost of unlimited water provided and admin (based on 8 hours per year) , the allotments were running at a £13 loss. It was **AGREED** that the rentals for 2027 be reviewed in September

b) To consider request for memorial bench in Jubilee Meadow following removal of old one

It was **RESOLVED** that the Parishioner be permitted to replace an existing bench with a memorial bench in a style approved by the Parish Council at his own expense

ACTION ; CLERK TO SEND PARISHIONER CONFIRMATION / DETAILS

c) To consider in principle the use by Cricket Club of unmanned mower

After suitable discussion , It was **RESOLVED** that the Clerk advise that the Parish Council did not approve this method of mowing in Jubilee Meadow

d) To consider reduction of laurels between Jubilee Meadow / car park and to agree to walk by tree survey

It was **RESOLVED** The a survey be commissioned at a cost of £200 . When received and recommendations noted , the Clerk would seek quotes for any tree work / laurel reduction

ACTION ; CLERK TO INSTRUCT RUPERT BAKER TO CARRY OUT SURVEY

26/07/15 Playground and Fitness equipment Cllr Cotton gave a brief report highlighting the various issues which would be addressed in due course The Chairman thanked Cllr Cotton for reinstating the information pole - taken down by SHDC inspector

26/07/16 HIGHWAYS -

a) To note SWW works in Compton scheduled for October 26 - NOTED

b) To note Caravan in Singmore Road and action to date - AS Singapore Road is a private Road , appropriate investigations are taking place

26/07/17- DATE OF NEXT MEETING. 8th September 2026 at 7pm in the Village Hall

26/07/18 - It was **RESOLVED** that the press and Public be excluded from the Meeting to allow discussion of sensitive matters .

26/07/17- DATE OF NEXT MEETING. 8th September 2026 at 7pm in the Village Hall

There being no further business , part 1 of the Meeting was CLOSED. at. 8.15pm

PART TWO

The pricing structure of the Garden of Rest - as currently advertised - was confirmed . It was **AGREED** that it could be made clearer

Part two of the meeting was CLOSED at 8.35 pm

