

MINUTES OF THE PARISH COUNCIL MEETING
Held on Wednesday, 11 February 2026 at 19:30
The Elmdon Lounge, Parish Hall, Elmdon Road, Marston Green

Present:

Cllr Mike Kay (Chairman)
Cllr Claire Kelly
Cllr Clive Hill
Cllr Dave Fenlon
Cllr Leigh Trevis
Cllr Mark Noblet

Also present: Wendy Kent, Deputy Clerk and two members of the public

C26 -019. Chairman's welcome

The Chairman welcomed those present.

The Public

The Chairman adjourned the meeting for the public question time to enable residents to discuss any issues and identify matters of concern relating to the agenda, this does not form part of the formal meeting.

C26 -020. Apologies

Apologies had been received and accepted from Cllr Carole Pearce, Cllr Philip Clover and Cllr Paul Powell.

C26 -021. Declarations of Interest and Dispensations

None declared.

C26 -022. Minutes of the Parish Council meeting 14 January 2026

The Chairman asked those members present at the 14 January 2026 Parish Council meeting if they had read the minutes and if they could confirm these as a true and accurate record.

Resolved: that the minutes were a true and accurate record.

C26 -023. Actions updates

None.

C26 -024. Recreation Committee

- a) The minutes of the meeting held on 21 January 2026 were noted.
- b) The budget/expenditure report was noted.
- c) Members considered quotations for signage at the Amenity Land, and the quote from Fast Signs for £507.88 was approved.

Resolved: that the quote from Fast Signs, for signage at the Amenity Land, at a cost of £507.88, was approved.

C26 -025. Finance & General Purpose Committee

- a) The minutes of the meeting held on 26 January 2026 were noted.
- b) The budget/expenditure report was noted.
- c) Members considered and approved the quote of £890 from SW Fencing to install fencing at the

Amenity Land allotments.

Resolved: that the quote of £890 from SW Fencing to install fencing at the Amenity Land allotments was approved.

d) The Quarterly Budget Report was approved.

Resolved: that the Quarterly Budget Report was approved.

e) Members considered and approved the renewal of insurance with Zurich at a cost of £3,878.80.

Resolved: that the renewal of insurance with Zurich at a cost of £3,878.80 was approved.

f) Save for the removal of “£120,000” in Clause 4.2, Members approved the amended Investment Policy.

Resolved: that save for the removal of “£120,000” in Clause 4.2, the amended Investment Policy was approved.

g) Members considered and approved the quotes of £299 per year plus VAT to add website accessibility checking and £50 per year plus VAT to add the form building module.

Resolved: that the quotes of £299 per year plus VAT to add website accessibility checking and £50 per year plus VAT to add the form building module were approved.

h) Save for the amending the review date from 14 May 2025 to 11 February 2026 under “Preparation of this accessibility statement”, the Website Accessibility Statement was approved.

Resolved: that save for amending the review date from 14 May 2025 to 11 February 2026 under “Preparation of this accessibility statement”, the Website Accessibility Statement was approved.

i) Members considered and approved the renewal of the iHasco online staff training subscription for a period of two years at a cost of £646 including a 5% discount.

Resolved: that the renewal of the iHasco online staff training subscription at a cost of £646 and the option to renew for two years with a 5% discount was approved.

j) Members considered and approved the following quotes (all plus VAT):

- £1,200 to plaster skim the lounge
- £194 to undertake the 3-hour emergency lighting test at the Pavilion
- £965 to remove the radiators and pipework in the bar/lounge

Resolved: that the quotes (all plus VAT) of £1,200 to plaster skim the lounge, £194 to undertake the 3-hour emergency lighting test at the Pavilion and £965 to remove the radiators and pipework in the bar/lounge were approved.

C26 -026. Planning Committee

a) The minutes of the meeting held on 27 January 2026 were noted.

b) The budget/expenditure report was noted.

c) Cllr Dave Fenlon highlighted that Hamar Way Estate had been omitted from the Permanent Traffic Regulation Order – Notice of Implementation The Metropolitan Borough of Solihull (Various Roads, Solihull) (Total Prohibition of Pavement, Footway and Verge Parking and Total Prohibition of Waiting) Order 2025 (Part 1 Implementation) and SMBC be contacted to request that a corrected TRO be issued including the Hamar Way Estate.

C26 -027. Events Working Group

The notes of the Events Working Group held on Tuesday, 27 January 2026 were noted and, in the absence of Cllr Paul Powell, Cllr Claire Kelly gave an overview.

C26 -028. Local Nature Action Plan Working Group

The notes of the Local Nature Action Plan (LNAP) Working Group Meeting held on the 5 February 2026 were noted, and Cllr Claire Kelly gave an overview.

C26 -029. To resolve to approve the expenditure transactions

Members considered the payments detailed in the expenditure report.

Resolved: that save for the Knights expenditure of £3,256.60 which was currently being queried, the payments listed in the Finance Approval list were approved.

C26 -030. Traffic issues in Marston Green

Members discussed the email received from a resident regarding growing concerns and frustrations of local residents regarding traffic issues from the Clock/Garden of Memory to the Esso Fuel Station (Station Road) in Marston Green. It was agreed that a letter be drafted to Paul Tovey, Head of Highway Management Solihull MBC to ascertain if this section of Station Road could be considered for designation as a Red Route as this route forms part of the 17A bus service, or if stricter time-limited parking restrictions could be implemented – ideally operating 24 hours, or at the very least extending well into the evening.

Action: the Deputy Clerk was requested to draft a letter to Paul Tovey, Head of Highway Management Solihull MBC and circulate it to the Parish Council for consideration.

C26 -031. TOIL

The breakdown of Time Off In Lieu (TOIL) accumulated from 1 April 2025 to date, and the total cost to the Council of £1,685.84, was reviewed and approved. TOIL from this date to the end of the financial year should be carried over.

Resolved: that the total cost to the Council of £1,685.84 of TOIL currently accumulated should be paid to staff in their March pay. TOIL from this date to the end of the financial year to be carried over.

C26 -032. Gas & electric supply

Members were unable to consider the recommendation from The Green Energy Advice Bureau to fix the electric and gas supply to the Pavilion from 2027 to 2029 because this had not been received. It was agreed that this be considered at a future meeting of the Parish Council.

Action: that the recommendation from The Green Energy Advice Bureau to fix the electric and gas supply to the Pavillion from 2027 to 2029 be considered at a future meeting of the Parish Council.

C26 -033. WALC AGM

Members noted that the online 2026 AGM will take place on 24 November 2026 and it was resolved that Cllr Mike Kay will attend as the Parish Council's voting rep.

Resolved: that Cllr Mike Kay attend the online 2026 AGM taking place on 24 November 2026 as the Parish Council's voting rep.

C26 -034. English Devolution & Communities Bill

Members reviewed the WALC briefing and approved sending the letter to Saqib Bhatti MBE MP seeking his support to legislation to protect and strengthen community level governance and local accountability.

Resolved: that the letter to Saqib Bhatti MBE MP seeking his support to legislation to protect and strengthen community level of governance and local accountability was approved.

C26 -035. Solihull MBC Consultation on the New Local Plan

Members discussed the consultation and it was agreed that Cllr Mike Kay and Cllr Clive Hill would draft a response on behalf of the Parish Council which should be approved at the 11 March Parish Council meeting.

Resolved: that Cllr Mike Kay and Cllr Clive Hill draft a response on behalf of the Parish Council for approval at the 10 March 2026 Parish Council meeting.

Action: Cllr Mike Kay and Cllr Clive Hill to draft a response on behalf of the Parish Council.

C26 -036. Pavilion rewire

Members were advised that quotes were awaited with regards to the rewire of the Pavilion. It was agreed that this be considered at a future meeting of the Parish Council.

Action: that the quotes to rewire the Pavilion be considered at a future meeting of the Parish Council.

C26 -037. Artificial cricket pitch planning application costs

The quote from Urban Vision Enterprise to make the planning application to SMBC for the artificial cricket pitch was approved and a budget of £8,000.00 was allocated.

Resolved: that the quote from Urban Vision Enterprise to make the planning application to SMBC for the artificial cricket pitch was approved and a budget of £8,000.00 was allocated.

C26 -038. Woodchipper

Members discussed the purchase of a Bluebird 4" (10cm) woodchipper at a cost of £1,395.00 ex VAT which was approved.

Resolved: the purchase of a Bluebird 4" (10cm) woodchipper at a cost of £1,395.00 ex VAT was approved.

C26 -039. External Committee Reports

- a) **Parish Hall Trustees:** The Hall was reported to be performing well, with a very successful Curry Night recently taking place, and that going forward a Curry Night will be held once a month on a Friday.
- b) **Marston Green Village Charitable Trust:** No recent meetings; an update to be provided in March 2026.

C26 -040. Date and time of next meeting: 11 March 2026 at 19:30

Venue: The Elmdon Lounge, Marston Green Parish Hall, Elmdon Road, Marston Green

The meeting closed at 20:25