MINUTES OF THE PARISH COUNCIL MEETING
Held on Wednesday, 8 April 2026 at 19:30
The Elmdon Lounge, Parish Hall, Elmdon Road, Marston Green

Present:

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

Also present: Julie Brennan, Clerk and five members of the public

C26 -061. 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 -062. Apologies

Apologies had been received and accepted from Cllr Carole Pearce.

C26 -063. Declarations of Interest and Dispensations

None declared.

C26 -064. Minutes of the Parish Council meeting 11 March 2026

The Chairman asked those members present at the 11 March 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 -065. Actions updates

C26 – 045a **Letter to Paul Tovey of SMBC:** The Clerk was asked to forward the letter previously sent to Paul Tovey regarding traffic, safety and parking issues on Station Road to Dean Ward of SMBC as Paul Tovey has left the Council.

Action: Clerk to send letter to Dean Ward of SMBC.

C26 – 052 **Height Barrier at the Recreation Ground:** The Clerk advised that repair works to the height barrier are still outstanding.

C26 – 054 **Fencing at the Elmdon Lane Allotments:** Works to install the hit and miss fence at the Elmdon Lane allotments have been completed.

C26 – 055 **UPVC Front Door at the Pavilion:** Installation to take place after completion of the bar/lounge refurbishment.

C26 – 065 a **Lease of the bar/lounge:** Members approved the changes to the lease for the first floor bar/lounge with Marston Green Cricket Club.

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Resolved: That the Council will enter into the lease which will be signed by two Councillors and witnessed by the Clerk.

C26 -066. Recreation Committee

a) The minutes of the meeting held on 18 March 2026 were noted.

b) The budget/expenditure report was noted.

c) The proposal to install signage at the Millennium Wood prohibiting horse riding and the use of powered vehicles was discussed.

Resolved: Matter referred back to the Recreation Committee to draft wording for approval at a future Full Council meeting.

d) Members noted the delays in dealing with the new lease for the Amenity Land and the increase in fees charged by the Council's solicitor. The Chairman advised that he and the Clerk had reviewed the lease and raised some queries with the Airport directly.

Action: the Chairman and Clerk to liaise with the Airport to deal with any queries and agree a way forward.

e) Members discussed and approved the request from Birmingham Baseball to install a temporary youth baseball diamond on the 3Ms field.

Resolved: Approved subject to £435 fee and conditions:

- Liaison with groundsmen on location (must not affect cricket pitch).
- Ground sockets set 1 inch below surface with caps when not in use.
- No permanent ground alterations; installations must be removable.
- Council to be notified upon completion and risk assessment provided.

C26 -067. Finance & General Purpose Committee

a) The minutes of the meeting held on 22 March 2026 were noted.

b) The budget/expenditure report was noted.

c) Members considered the quotes to repair the wall at the Pleck and replace the post and rail fencing along the boundary with the horse field at the Recreation Ground.

Resolved: that the quote of £500 from Solihull Landscape Services to repair the wall at the Pleck was approved.

Resolved: that the quote of £6,250 from SW Fencing to replace the post and rail fencing at the Recreation Ground was approved along with a contingency of £250 to account for rising material costs, if needed.

d) Members considered the Financial Considerations Report and the recommendation to set a reserve of £70,000 for contingencies.

Resolved: that a reserve of £70,000 should be set and the monies placed on deposit in an appropriate interest-bearing account.

e) Members considered the recommendation to subscribe to the Complete IT support package from Edge IT Solutions noting that the current support package was due to be withdrawn. Clarification was requested regarding the scope of the Cyber Security Training.

Action: Clerk to confirm if the Cyber Security Training includes Councillors.

Resolved: that the Council will subscribe to Edge's Complete IT support Package at a cost of £720 plus VAT for both Council laptops.

C26 -068. Events Working Group

a) Cllr Paul Powell provided an update on plans for the 18 July 2026 Family Fun Day event:

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- Format largely unchanged from 2025.
- Two fairground rides to be booked this year rather than one.
- Three marshalls would be provided free of charge by Traffix:
- The Scouts to support with refreshments, marquee and stalls.

b) Members considered and approved the design of the event poster and the request to use the Council's Facebook page to publicise the event.

Resolved: that the event poster was approved and that social media posts similar to those used for the 2025 event should be made on the Council's Facebook page to publicise the event.

C26 -069. Planning Committee

a) The comments submitted under delegated authority were noted.

b) The budget/expenditure report was noted.

C26 -070. To resolve to approve the expenditure transactions and list of urgent payments made

Members considered the payments detailed in the expenditure report and list of urgent payments.

Resolved: All expenditure transactions and urgent payments approved.

C26 -071. Recreation Ground

Members reviewed the email from the Knights relating to the application to register the Council's ownership of the ditch at the Recreation Ground and agreed to continue with the application.

Resolved:

- Knights to respond to the Land Registry.
- that Knight's legal fee of £500 is approved.
- Further costs up to £2,000 authorised; beyond this requires Full Council approval.

C26 -072. WMPF Actuarial Valuation Results

The confirmation from WMPF that the employers' contribution rate had been reduced from 17.8% to 15.8% from 1 April 2026 was noted.

C26 -073. External Committee Reports

a) **Parish Hall Trustees:** Cllr Clive Hill confirmed that a successful AGM had taken place on 7 April 2026. Bookings and finances remain strong with many repeat bookings and one off events planned including such as the curry night continuing to be popular.

b) **Catherine de Barnes Motorway Service Station Liaison Group:** following a meeting on 20 March 2026, Cllr Mike Kay advised that works on Solihull Road had been approved and access slip road, sewage and water discharge matter have also been approved. The S73 request to change the original planning application to alter the height of the development has now been submitted. The start date is confirmed as Q2 2027 and end date Q2 2029 and Solihull Road will be closed for 8 months fromQ2 2027.

C26 -074. Date and time of next meeting:

13 May 2026

19:00 – Annual Parish Meeting

19:15 - Annual Parish Council meeting

19:30 – Parish Council meeting

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

The meeting closed at 20:20

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