

MEETINGS OF NORTH MARSTON PARISH COUNCIL MEETING

FULL PARISH COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES – WEDNESDAY 10TH FEBRUARY 2026

Attendance:

Name	Position	Present	Absent	Tally
Iain Mordue	Chairman	✓		
D Hogbin-Mills	Councillor		✓	
B Newman	Councillor	✓		
S Hill	Councillor	✓		
A Boyt	Vice Chairman	✓		
K Du-Plessis	Councillor	✓		
M Tanner	Councillor	✓		
Chloe Collins	Clerk/RFO	✓		N/A
Phil Gomm	Unitary Councillor	✓		N/A
Members of the Public		5		

Papers circulated in advance of the meeting:

- February 2026 Agenda
- January Draft Minutes
- February 2026 Meeting Report Bundle

Meeting started: 20:00

Meeting finished: 22:23

Meeting references:

001/26 Present and Apologies

Apologies for absence were received from Cllr D Hogbin-Mills.

RESOLVED: That the apology be accepted in accordance with Section 85(1) of the Local Government Act 1972.

002/26 Members' Interests

No disclosable pecuniary interests or other interests were declared.

003/26 Dispensations for Disclosable Pecuniary Interests

No requests for dispensations had been received.

004/26 Open Forum for Parishioners

4.1 Public Participation

The meeting was adjourned for public participation.

- A question was raised regarding whether speeding through the village remains a concern. Cllr Gomm has requested MVAS reports. It was noted that reports had historically been produced; however, due to other commitments the data has not recently been collated. It is intended that the data will now

be obtained and provided to Cllr Gomm. It was noted that the older MVAS unit does not record date and time.

- The boundary ditch obstruction was raised. It was explained that maintenance responsibility rests with the neighbouring landowner and that there is a formal process to address this.
- Concern was raised regarding the removal of a tree near an area of road subsidence. Cllr Phil Gomm agreed to inspect the tree and provide further details. **Action:** Clerk to locate and report to the Buckinghamshire Council Tree Officer as appropriate.

4.2 100 Club Draw – February 2026

97 – Laura Hawkins

13 – Peter Morton

2 – Lee Langston

The formal meeting was reconvened.

005/26 Buckinghamshire Council Update

Cllr Phil Gomm provided an update including:

- Land ownership matters relating to Highways would be raised through Planning where appropriate.
- An increase in fly tipping incidents has been noted.
- Volunteers are being sought to assist with speeding initiatives.
- Fire Station consultation – confirmation awaited as to completion.
- Rosefield Energy Farm – further updates will be provided as available.
- National housing targets (circa 950,000 homes in the north) and the call for sites process were noted. Land submissions will be reviewed by Buckinghamshire Councillors and relevant parish councils notified.
- Potholes – apology noted for the current condition of roads; pressure continues to be applied for repairs.
- Road subsidence remains a priority although earlier works could not be undertaken at the required time.
- Carters Lane will be closed for approximately 5–6 weeks to enable the water company to undertake remedial valve works.
- A blocked drain reported by Cllr Mordue has been investigated; works need to be referred back to the contractor.

006/26 Minutes

RESOLVED: That the minutes of the Parish Council meeting held on 13th January 2026 be approved as a true and accurate record and signed by the Chair.

007/26 Planning

7.1 Applications considered under delegated authority were noted.

7.2 The following applications were considered:

- **PL/25/6664/HB – 3 High Street, North Marston**
Resolved: No comment.

- **Rosefield Solar Farm Project (Development Consent Order)**
Resolved: To reiterate the Parish Council's previous objections.
- **PL/25/6113/FA – 11 Dudley Close, North Marston**
Resolved: No objection in principle; however, concern noted that the proposed balcony appears to encroach towards the boundary.

008/26 Finance

The schedule of payments and receipts was considered.

RESOLVED: That the payments schedule be approved in accordance with the Financial Regulations and that payments authorised under delegated authority be noted.

009/26 Compliance with Assertion 10 – Cllr Tanner

It was noted that the Council's registered domain has now been secured and the invoice basis agreed. Cllr Tanner will now attach the relevant requirements.

Action: Clerk and Cllr Tanner to arrange a Zoom meeting to finalise compliance.

010/26 Property and Community Facilities

1. Village Hall

(i) Floor polishing – No update.

Action: Clerk to chase contractor.

(ii) Replacement of key safe with smart version – Cllr Mordue progressing.

(iii) Review of Village Hall fees – Proposed 5% uplift from April 2026.

- Hourly rates to be retained for regular hirers.
- Block booking arrangements to remain.
- Proposal to introduce split daytime/evening party rates (10am–5pm and 5pm–12am).

Action: Clerk to draft revised fee schedule for approval.

2. Shop Storage Area

(i) Wi-Fi – Progress update noted.

3. Play Area

The area remains very muddy and waterlogged. Rubber matting requires replacement/repair.

4. Village Pond and Parsnip Pond

Water levels are high. Bullrushes require removal. Consider organising a community tidy-up in the spring.

011/26 Environment and Highways

11.1 Highways

- Further report of blocked drain to be submitted by the Clerk.
- MVAS battery requires replacement.
- Date set for 21st February to collate MVAS data.
- Ongoing monitoring of parking, street lighting and bus shelters.

012/26 Projects

1. Village Hall replacement windows and SR window repair – No further update.
2. Replacement of posts around upper and lower greens – Ongoing.
3. New streetlight opposite Sports Field entrance – Ordered; expected next month.

4. Encouraging Wildlife / Aylesbury Vale Wild Project – Ongoing.

Blades to be asked to quote for works at Gibbons.

Archie to provide quotes for three separate areas. Works to be completed March–April with seeding undertaken immediately following works.

013/26 Sports Field

Decking to be removed and replaced with stone.

Second gate installation near Forest School noted.

014/26 Action Log

The action log was received and updates noted.

015/26 Correspondence

Correspondence received by the Clerk was noted.

016/26 Confidential Items – Exclusion of Press and Public

RESOLVED: That in accordance with the Council’s Standing Orders, the press and public be excluded due to the confidential nature of the following business.

017/26 Land to the North of Quainton Road

An update was received regarding ongoing legal proceedings, including costs and boundary matters.

Actions agreed:

- Contact HM Land Registry.
- Research potential recovery of costs.
- Issue correspondence to HM Land Registry.
- Clarify whether any claim has been undertaken against HM Land Registry.

018/26 Date of Next Meeting

The next meeting of the Parish Council will be held on Tuesday, 10th March 2026 at 8.00pm in the Village Hall.

Planning Report	
Agenda Item	7
7.1	To note the list of planning Applications considered for comment since the last meeting
7.2	To consider and comment on planning applications within the North Marston parish on the Buckinghamshire Council planning portal. Any applications received by the Clerk after publishing the agenda will be tabled at the meeting.

Application by Rosefield Energyfarm Limited for an Order Granting Development Consent for the Rosefield Solar Farm Project

Consultation on PL/25/6664/HB - 3 High Street North Marston Buckinghamshire MK18 3PD

Consultation on PL/25/6663/FA - 3 High Street North Marston Buckinghamshire MK18 3PD

Consultation on PL/25/6113/FA - 11 Dudley Close North Marston Buckinghamshire MK18 3RA

Items for Payment in accordance with the Financial Regulations							
Reference	Payee	Description	Net	VAT	Total	Code/Budget	Link to Invoices /Notes
	Staff Salaries **	Staff Salaries	£ 630.63		£ 630.63		
	HMRC **	Tax and NI	£ 208.79		£ 208.79		
	Tesco mobile	Parish phone contract	£ 8.57	£ -	£ 8.57	155	
	ALR Training Medical Service		£ 420.00	£ -	£ 420.00		
	Buckinghamshire	Dog Waste Collection	£ 738.00	£ 147.60	£ 885.60	128	
Village Hall			Totals	£ 2,005.99	£ 147.60	£ 2,153.59	
	Kates Cleaning Service	Cleaning the Village Hall		£ -	£ 135.00	232	
	VALDA Energy	Electricity VH			£ 132.77	242	
	Transfer				£ 15.00		
	Deposit return	Mrs Brown			£ 50.00		
	Wave	Water Bill			£ 103.40		
					£ -		
Sportsfield			Totals	£ -	£ -	£ 436.17	
02.02.26	Marvellous Marigolds	Cleaning Sports Club Dec	£ 76.50	£ -	£ 76.50	334	
	881 Cheque prize				£ 10.00	318	
	Valda Energy	Electricity			£ 53.94		
	Wave	Water Bill			£ 28.58		
			Total	£ 76.50	£ -	£ 169.02	

**Payments to be made by 28th February 2026

Signed Chair / Vice-Chair:

*Salary information is summarised to remove public access to personal data and salary related payments are authorised in accordance with Financial Regulation 7.

Items for Payment in accordance with the Financial Regulations							
Reference	Payee	Description	Net	VAT	Total	Code/Budget	Link to Invoices /Notes
	Transfer	First Aid Contribution	15.00				

Parish Council	Totals	£	-	£	-	£	-
	Carrie	First Aid Contribution	15.00				

Village Hall	Totals	£	15.00	£	-	£	-
		£	30.00				
		£	60.00				
		£	15.00				
		£	30.00				
		£	30.00				
		£	45.00				
		£	15.00				
		£	30.00				

Sportsfield	Total	£	255.00	£	-	£	-
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Signed Chair / Vice-Chair:

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Village Hall Fees Review and Proposed Amendments

Report to Parish Council

1. Purpose of the Report

To review the existing Village Hall hire fees and to propose amendments to the charging structure to ensure transparency, consistency, and alignment with other village halls across Buckinghamshire.

2. Background

The current Village Hall fee schedule came into effect on 1 April 2025. Fees are primarily charged on an hourly basis, with informal flexibility often applied for set-up and clean-up time. While this approach has supported community use, it has led to inconsistencies in application and does not always reflect actual occupancy of the hall.

3. Summary of Current Fees (Effective from 1 April 2025)

- Local voluntary groups / charitable fundraising:
Village Hall £12/hr | Schorne Room £6/hr | Both £15/hr (No deposit)
- Fee-paying groups (e.g. Pilates, dance):
Village Hall £14/hr | Schorne Room £7/hr | Both £17.50/hr (No deposit)
- Daytime private social events:
Village Hall £16/hr | Schorne Room £8/hr | Both £20/hr (£50 deposit)
- Evening private social events:
Village Hall £22/hr | Schorne Room £10/hr | Both £30/hr (£50 deposit)
- Wedding receptions:
Village Hall & Schorne Room £300 (plus £100 deposit)
- Commercial hire:
Village Hall £200/day | Schorne Room £75/day | Both £250/day (£100 deposit)
- Polling station use:
Village Hall £300/day | Schorne Room £150/day | Both £400/day

4. Issues Identified During Review

- Free set-up and clean-up time is not clearly defined and is applied inconsistently.
- Hourly-only pricing is not always suitable for longer daytime events such as parties, wakes, and christenings.
- Comparable village halls in Buckinghamshire generally charge for full occupancy time.
- Administrative burden on the Clerk in managing informal booking arrangements.

5. Proposed Changes

The following changes are proposed to address the issues identified:

- Removal of free set-up and clean-up time. All hire periods would be charged for the full duration of occupancy.
- Introduction of half-day booking options (up to 4 consecutive hours) alongside existing hourly rates.

6. Proposed Half-Day Hire Fees

- Local voluntary groups / charitable fundraising:
Village Hall £45 | Schorne Room £22 | Both £55
- Fee-paying groups (e.g. Pilates, dance):
Village Hall £55 | Schorne Room £28 | Both £65
- Daytime private social events:
Village Hall £60 | Schorne Room £30 | Both £75
- Evening private social events:
Village Hall £80 | Schorne Room £40 | Both £105

7. Benefits of the Proposed Changes

- Clear and transparent charging structure for all hirers.
- Fair recovery of running and maintenance costs.
- Alignment with other Buckinghamshire village halls.
- Reduced administrative complexity and fewer booking disputes.
- Improved flexibility and value for hirers booking longer sessions.

8. Recommendation

That the Parish Council approves the proposed amendments to the Village Hall fee structure, including the removal of free set-up and clean-up time and the introduction of half-day hire options, and authorises the Clerk to update the published fees and booking terms accordingly, with implementation from an agreed date.

Action Report	
Agenda Item	

1. Broken bench immediately in front of the hall – shall I contact Roy Randles to undertake the repair?

2. Weir drain, High Street/junction with Church Street. Blocked by electricity board – do we have any update or further actions to take at this time?

Action Log

Ref	Meeting Date	Action	Responsible	Target Date	Current Status	Update / Notes
AL/01/26	13 Jan 2026	Develop ideas to further advertise the 100 Club and Village Hall, including consideration of a six-monthly village circular	Clerk / Council	ASAP	Open	
AL/02/26	13 Jan 2026	Submit further objection to planning application 25/01865/APP, referencing previous objections and Granborough Parish Council	Clerk	By planning consultation deadline	Completed	
AL/03/26	13 Jan 2026	Issue the 2026/27 precept request reflecting a 5% increase to Buckinghamshire Council	Clerk/RFO	January 2026	Completed	
AL/04/26	13 Jan 2026	Review Village Hall fees and present recommendations to Council	Clerk / Village Hall Committee	Next Council meeting	Open	
AL/05/26	13 Jan 2026	Promote Village Hall hire, including sound system availability, to encourage weekend party bookings	Village Hall Committee / Clerk	Ongoing	Open	
AL/06/26	13 Jan 2026	Finalise contractual arrangements with PATA as payroll provider	Clerk/RFO	As soon as practicable	Completed	
AL/07/26	13 Jan 2026	Progress CloudNext solution – request invoice and progress payment to support digital compliance	Clerk / Cllr Tanner	Before year-end	Open	
AL/08/26	13 Jan 2026	Arrange and promote accredited First Aid Training, including email to interested parties and promotion via Facebook and website	JB / Clerk	Prior to course date	Open	