Marston Sicca Parish Council
www.marstonsicca-pc.gov.uk
Email: clerk@marstonsicca-pc.gov.uk

Draft Minutes of Annual Meeting of the Parish (Parish Assembly) held at Long Marston Village Hall
2nd May 2025, 6pm

Members Present: Cllr. Ian Johnsey (Chair), Cllr. Bill Tempest, Cllr. Noel Davis, Cllr. Steve Barker, Cllr. Cliff Brown, Cllr. Colin Parrott
Clerk: Debbie Woodliffe
5 members of the public

1.Chairmans Welcome

2.Apologies
Apologies received from District Councillor Stuart Keighley

3. Chairmans Report
3.1 The Chair gave a verbal report on the Parish Council's year. Council members were thanks for the time they give freely to help the community.
3.2 Councillors and members of the public were reminded of various actions that have been concluded including works to Marston Meadow, the acquisition of Meon Vale assets and the financial support given to support specific events (including the second- year climate change Big Green Day).
3.3 The Chair confirmed the allotments opened by the Parish Council within Meon Vale are now fully occupied.

4. County Councillor and District Councillor Reports.
4.1 No County Councillor report received
4.2 District Councillor sent a report in advance of the meeting which was read.

5. Report from Working Groups or Committees
5.1 Following the acquisition of key community assets within Meon Vale, it was reconfirmed the AMC will continue to manage the assets. A member of the public thanked the parish council for their hard work over the past year.
5.2 ***Allotments***
The Chair of the allotment committee confirmed the site was fully occupied and will now concentrate on the community plot.
5.3 ***Long Marston Village Hall***
Members of the Long Marston Village Hall Committee confirmed the building is 102 years old and continues to serve the local community. It does require remedial work which has been identified and made known to the Parish Council. It was also confirmed the building is half owned by Long Marston WI.

The value of the hall has been evident in usage with income continuing to increase, with bingo, cinema nights and quiz nights being well supported. The Village Hall Committee (jointly with the local church help organise the annual fete along with the Masons Arms. Funds generated are shared between the hall and the church.
The costs to run the hall remain challenging, particularly when having to fund costly repairs; a new roof is required with estimated costs to be approx. £30k. A funding action plan is underway.

5.5 ***Shoe Box Appeal***

The successful and valued shoe box appear has now been going for 20+ years. Volunteers meet in the village hall to assemble an array of items for children's boxes including a toy. These are then transported overseas for underprivileged children. Last November 400 boxes were sent.

5.6 ***The Poppin Community Shop***

The shop has been in operation for approximately 24 years and relies on volunteers to run it. It has recently been refurbished and offers valuable services to residents along with the Post Office. It still struggles however, to find enough volunteers.

5.7 ***Speed watch***

The organiser of the speed watch programme confirmed there are 10 volunteers within the speed watch group and 6 sessions have been held to date. It was noted out of 1093 vehicles, 84 were moving in excess of 36mph. It was also noted that the police had been contacted regarding the siting of a speed van in the village which has already been actioned in Welford. In addition to the concerns over speeding, the problems relating to parked cars close to junctions was also identified with the suggestion that the placing of yellow lines in specific areas may be worth considering.

6. Grants Awarded

The Parish Council were pleased to advise, in addition to supporting events, and community assets, the following grants were awarded:
£1000 towards the Long Marston Village Fete
£5000 towards Long Marston village hall remedial work
£900 for new equipment in Meon Vale Pavilion

Points 7 & 8 were covered in above comments.

Debbie Woodliffe
Clerk/RFO

-