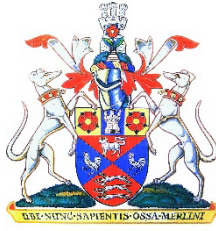


Marlborough Town Council



Full Town Council

Minutes of a meeting of Marlborough Town Council held Monday, 7th September 2026 in the Court Room, Marlborough Town Hall at 7pm

PRESENT

Councillor Mark Luson
Councillor Emily Trow
Councillor Nicholas Fogg
Councillor Mark Cooper
Councillor Kym-Marie Cleasby
Councillor James Sheppard
Councillor Kelvyn Shantry
Councillor Susannah O'Brien
Councillor Caroline Sadler
Councillor Caroline Wrench
Councillor Kim Wakeham
Clare Williams
Sue Fry

Town Mayor
Deputy Town Mayor

Deputy Town Clerk
Office Manager

ALSO

PRESENT

Councillor Jane Davies
Neil Goodwin
Two members of the public

Wiltshire Councillor – Marlborough West
Marlborough.News

MOMENT OF QUIET REFLECTION

The Mayor invited everyone present to join him for a moment of quiet reflection.

PUBLIC QUESTION TIME

John Spicer thanked the council for arranging the installation of the speed monitoring equipment on Hyde Lane so quickly. He enquired as to how the data/results would be used.

Cllr Jane Davies understood that 20mph signs had been erected but acknowledged that the repainting of the yellow lines and maybe some newly painted roundels on the road surface would be beneficial and would reinforce the new limit. **Cllr Davies** encouraged the Town Council (via **Cllr Sheppard**) to raise this issue with LHFIG.

Mr Spicer acknowledged that the signs were in place but that some were obscured by overgrown vegetation.

Cllr Cleasby suggested that the Town Council write to the Post Office requesting that their drivers take more care when driving in Hyde Lane and also that the contact is made with Marlborough College to ask that they cut back some of the hedge line obscuring the 20mph signage, that we believe they are responsible for.

It was noted that a location has been identified on Hyde Lane for the Town Council's SID and a request has been sent to Wiltshire Council to approve this location, however we are still awaiting a response.

Members will await the outcome of this evening's actions, the possible placement of the SID and the results of the traffic survey in Hyde Lane to inform next steps.

ACTION: – that the Town Clerk contacts the Post Office and Marlborough College as suggested.

Mr Spicer left the meeting

CRIME AND DISORDER

No officer was available to attend, but two written reports had been provided and were tabled for Councillors. Councillors were given some time to read through both reports. Comments included:

- It was quite alarming to read that Samurai swords had been among some of the weapons seized
- Noted that the fight continues against retail theft/shoplifting
- Members were hopeful that there would be an officer present at the next meeting
- Members were reminded that Wiltshire Police have a regular presence at Area Board meetings, with the next one taking place on 6th October 2026

QUESTIONS TO AND FROM WILTSHIRE COUNCILLORS

There were no questions.

175/26

APOLOGIES

Apologies for absence were received from **Councillors Hall, Farrell, Beaumont and Awbery.**

176/26

DECLARATIONS

There were no declarations of interest.

177/26

INTERVIEWS FOR COUNCILLOR CO-OPTION

The Mayor welcomed **Mr Richard Pitts** who had submitted an application for co-option as a Marlborough Town Councillor for west ward.

A written statement submitted by Mr Pitts had been circulated with the agenda.

Mr Pitts was invited to give a short presentation on why he had applied to become a town councillor.

Mr Pitts answered a number of scripted questions and then withdrew from the room to allow for discussion.

Having listened to the presentation and considered the answers to the questions put to him; members discussed the candidate and his suitability for the role of town councillor.

UNANIMOUSLY RESOLVED: that Mr Richard Pitts is duly elected as a Marlborough Town Councillor for West Ward.

Mr Pitts was welcomed back into the room.

The Mayor and Councillors congratulated Richard on his election to office, and he remained for the duration of the meeting.

178/26

MAYOR'S ANNOUNCEMENTS

The Mayor made the following announcements:

- The Mayor had sent a message to Marlborough Massachusetts congratulating them on their 250th Anniversary, to which a thank you reply has been received.
- The Mayor had recently attended a civic event at Stonehenge and took part in a procession.
- It was noted with regret that, the Freedom Parade planned for 3rd September was postponed again due to the marching band being unable to attend. Cllrs Fogg and Cleasby however attended a dinner hosted by 4MI Battalion that evening to celebrate the 25th anniversary of 4MI and 15th anniversary of the freedom of Marlborough.
- The Mayor noted that plans are ongoing for a specific Area Board meeting to focus on community safety and other related topics in Marlborough (to include current issues at Lower Prospect).
- Councillors were reminded that there is a People's Emergency Briefing, on the climate and nature crisis, taking place at St Peter's Church at 6.45pm on Tuesday 8th September. This will include a film screening followed by some discussion.
- Marlborough Litfest is taking place on 24-27th September, and Councillors were encouraged to attend this excellent event.
- The Mop Fairs take place in October, with the first one on 10th October 2026.

179/26

MINUTES

Councillor Cleasby asked that it be noted that she had given her apologies for the meeting held on 22nd June 2026 but that this was not recorded in the minutes.

RESOLVED: with one abstention and one amendment, that the minutes of the meeting held on 22nd June 2026 be confirmed as a true record and signed by the Town Mayor

180/26 ACTION LOG

Members noted the Action Log.

181/26 CHRISTMAS LIGHTS

Members noted the background to, and progress made with the infrastructure upgrade.

Discussion points included:

- Councillors were reminded that costs/budget implications are not being discussed this evening, only the design proposals for a new scheme.
- Whether traders should have been approached to contribute financially to funding the lighting scheme, as happens in most other towns.
- That the Youth Council had been involved in the design process, having created their own mood-board etc. and were fully supportive of the warm white design being proposed.

RESOLVED: to agree the design proposal for a new Christmas lighting scheme to replace the existing (as detailed in Appendix 2) for Christmas 2026 and beyond.

182/26 LAND REGISTRY SIGNATORIES

RESOLVED: to authorise the Mayor, Deputy Mayor and/or Chair of Finance & Policy Committee as signatories for title registration with Land Registry for Rabley Wood View (Play Area and Hawthorn Meadow).

183/26 OUTSIDE BODIES

Members were invited to provide verbal updates on their representational roles to outside bodies.

- **Cllr Fogg** stated that it was an honour to attend the 4MI Battalion Dinner along with **Cllr Cleasby** and passed on a copy of the evening's itinerary for Town Council archives.
- **Cllr Shantry** reported that he had attended Eel Fest on 29th August, which was organised by Action for the River Kennet. Despite the rain, a great day was had by all 70+ people who attended.

184/26 COMMITTEE MINUTES

In accordance with para. 3.1 of the Scheme of Delegation, Members noted the approved minutes of the following Committees – **Planning** 18th May, 8th June, 13th July, 3rd August; **Amenities and Open Spaces Committee** 16th March; **Finance and Policy Committee** 13th April and **Town and Culture Committee** 31st March and 16th June 2026.

185/26

COMMON SEAL

It was proposed by **Councillor Fogg**, seconded by **Councillor Cooper** and
RESOLVED: that the Common Seal of Marlborough Town Council be affixed to all documents necessary to give effect to the decisions of the meeting

The meeting closed at 7.53pm

Signed: Date:

Town Mayor

DRAFT