



Minutes of a Meeting of the Parish Council held on the 23th of March 2026 at 7pm at Blandford Hall, Martin

	<u>In Attendance</u>	<u>Apologies</u>	<u>Absent</u>
Councillor S. Greenwood	√		
VACANT			
Councillor J. Richards	√		
Councillor B. Batten	√		
Councillor E. Horley	√		
Councillor T. Horrell	√		
Councillor A. Groom	√		

Also, IN ATTENDANCE: Melissa Hildreth – Clerk

26-038 - Apologies for Absence- To receive and record. **None**

26-039 -Declaration of Acceptance - MPC welcomes Alistair Groom to the Council. He is to sign his Declaration of Acceptance of Office form and is to turn in his Register of Interests form. **Declaration of Acceptance of Office signed and Register of Interest form completed. Clerk to send to NFDC.**

26-040- Councillors' Declarations of Interest - Members are invited to declare disclosable pecuniary interests and other interests in items on the agenda as required by the Code of Conduct for Members and by the Localism Act 2011. **None declared.**

26-041- Appointment of a new Vice Chairman – Council to decide on a new Vice-Chairman. **Will wait until the ACM on 11 May to elect a new vice-chairman.**

26-042- Open Public Forum- The public is invited to speak on matters relevant to the meeting. **No members of the public.**

26-043- Minutes of Previous Meeting- To resolve that the minutes of the meeting of the Council held on the 23rd of February 2026, having been circulated to members, be signed as a correct record. **Minutes of the 12th of January, 2026 meeting signed by the Chairman as a correct record with the addition in 26-032- for the entire note to read 'The grant money has been received and Cllr Richards will go forward with the project. Generator will be property of MPC, not the Hart.**

26-044- Matters Arising- All items have been actioned or will be reported on later in the meeting with the exception of the following from 23 FEB 26: **26-012-Hedging 501 Footpath-HCC reported the hedging did not require cutting back. 26-027- Notice Board** – Clerk called company to order the notice board sign as well as the pedestrian sign. Awaiting company to deliver the signs.

26-045- Rec ground- To discuss and decide on the playground bark for this year. **The Council resolves to have a quote for coconut matting before buying bark again for this year. Clerk to action.**

26-046- Report District Cllr Richards- To hear a District Council report. –**1. Cllr Richards reports that we will hear this week about the local government reorganisation. 2.The Local Plan consultation for NFDC has finished and a draft plan is now to be written. This draft plan should be written in time for another consultation for August. The areas in the consultation that were being considered for housing will have a final decision in May.**

26-047- Councillor Vacancy – To discuss the open position on the Council. **Cllr Horley to ask a certain person in the village if they are interested in being a Councillor.**

26-048-Talk White Trust -To discuss the recommendation of another community member to Talk White Trust-**Cllr Horrell to be the new MPC representative for Talk White Trust.**

26-049-Financial Matters-

26-049.1- To receive Clerk's General Report. *Balance in the account as of 23/3 - £12729.23*

26-049.2- To agree to pay the following invoices: *RESOLVED – to accept all payments*
Blandford Hall Council Meeting-March - £24.00,
6 months funding for Lebara, MS365 and WHUK to Equals card- £117
Clerk-Card-£2.00

26-049.3- To ratify the following payments from the bank account: *RESOLVED-to ratify payments*
Bank Service Charge- £4.25

26-049.4- Paid from Equals card- Council to ratify payments: *RESOLVED-to ratify payments*
MS365-Feb - £9.72 Lebara- March - £5.00

26-050- Planning – To discuss and decide recommendations for the following applications:

26/10169

Full Planning Permission

ORCHARD HOUSE, SILLENS LANE, MARTIN SP6 3LB

Proposed stable for private use within curtilage of dwelling - Council recommends PAR 1 approval.

The proposed building will not imping on the look and feel of the community.

26-051-Internal Auditor- To discuss and decide internal auditor for this year – ***Council agrees to hire Elenore Greene from Do the Number again this year for the internal audit.***

26-052- Asset List – To review the asset list and agree that it is correct-***Council recommends a few changes and then Resolves to accept.***

26-053-Financial Year 25-26 – To decide to apply as exempt from external audit for 25-26. ***Council agrees to apply as exempt from external audit due to being under £25,000 for income or expenses.***

26-054-Lengthsman Contract-To discuss and agree to Lengthsman- ***Resolved to agree to the new two year contact. Clerk to action.***

26-055- Minor Matters and Items for the Next Agenda -Councillors to report minor matters and items for future agendas.

- ***Add Affordable Housing to next agenda.***
- ***Recent Planning application to be added to and extraordinary meeting after Assembly on 20 April.***

Date of Next Meeting is 11 May 2026

Melissa Hildreth Clerk - Martin Parish Council