

MARLDON PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes from the Parish Council meeting held on 10th February 2026 at 7.00pm

Present; Cllrs Bailey , Claridge , Clarke , Cooke , Cotton , Hore (Chair) ,

And Morris-Rabbitts District Cllr Penfold

Cllr Nicky Hopwood and County Cllr Simon Rake (arriver 7.10pm)

Clerk - Karen Gilbert, and 5 members of the Public

The Chairman announced the passing of Bob Thorp - who had served Marldon Parish Council for many years and a minutes silence was held in his memory

The Chairman also announced the resignation of John Sharland . At his request the following was read out

*I have enjoyed my time on the council and have always endeavoured to serve the parish to the best of my ability through both good times and bad. I am confident that Marldon now has an excellent Council with a positive and forward-looking attitude
Thank-you again for the experience of being a Parish Councillor and I wish Marldon Parish Council all the best for the future, I leave it in very good hands.*

The Chairman thanked John for all the hard work and time that he had given to the Council through some difficult times

26/02/01 Apologies for Absence - Cllrs Roddy and Caddell

26/02/02 Declarations of Interest Cllr Clarke - as Trustee TRAYE

26/02/03 Dispensation request - None

26/02/04 - Approval of Minutes

The minutes of the Full Council meeting held on 13th January 2026 were **APPROVED** by all and signed by the Chairman as a true record

STANDING ORDERS WERE SUSPENDED

26/02/05 - Public participation

A member of the Public asked the Council whether it could ask that the cardboard and general rubbish in front of the shops is cleared or kept to a minimum

The Chairman agreed to look into the matter

26/02/06 Councillor reports

County Cllr Rake

Cllr Rake commented on the budget setting process both at South Hams and Devon County . He also encouraged Parishioners to respond to the Library consultation

District Cllr Penfold - REPORT CIRCULATED / NOTED - Full report available from Clerk
Cllr Penfold addressed the Council to advise on her perceived District / Parish / Officer protocol . She queried the progress on the MUGA funded by the 106 monies The Clerk advised that the 106 Officer and also Rob Sekula had given the go ahead and agreed to the use of the contingency money .

STANDING ORDERS WERE RE-INSTATED

26/02/07 - Planning

<u>0074/26/CLP</u>	8 Moorview Marldon TQ3 1PL	Certificate of lawfulness for proposed siting of shepherd's hut in rear garden for ancillary use NOTED
<u>3309/25/HHO</u>	19 Bampton Close Marldon TQ3 1NB	Householder application for new dormers, modifications to existing roof & alterations to 2x windows SUPPORT
<u>0052/26/HHO</u>	1 Butterlake Marldon TQ3 1SN	Householder application for new rear and side extension along with external alterations SUPPORT

26/02/08 - Garden of Rest To receive a general update

The Clerk confirmed that the first plot had been secured and that a further enquiry had been received this week

26/02/09 - Admin

a) To note the process to fill the vacant seat (Period for election ends 4/2/26)

The Clerk explained that she had displayed on the Noticeboards and also Website , the notice regarding the right to an election to fill the Vacant seat

South Hams had confirmed that no request had been received . The Council was now able to co-opt and it was hoped that after suitable advertising , any applicant filling the criteria would be considered at the meeting on 10th March 2026

b) To confirm the date for the Annual Parish Meeting - 22nd April 2026

It was confirmed that the Annual Parish meeting would be held on 22nd April 2026 - and that the Main Hall had been booked . Cllr Bailey kindly agreed to assist with refreshments which would be offered after the meeting

ACTION ; CLERK/CHAIR TO DRAW UP LIST OF GROUPS ETC TO INVITE

c) To report on the SHDC presentation regarding Local Government reorganisation

The Clerk presented a brief report on this online meeting which she and the Chairman had attended . She had asked why no-one from SHDC had seen fit to advise the relevant Parishes about Plymouth and Exeter joint response which proposed that 22 Parishes from Teignbridge/ South Hams should join Torbay - despite becoming aware in mid November - to which SHDC responded that it had been busy with its own submission

d) To decide on publicity for all Parishioners to encourage response to the Public consultation LGR especially the need to respond to Plymouth/Exeter proposal to place MARLDON in TORBAY unitary authority

The Council felt it was imperative that a meeting be called to advise the Parishioners of Marldon that they should respond the Exeter/Plymouth proposal

ACTION : CLERK / CHAIR TO ARRANGE A TIME /DATE / PUBLICITY

26/02/10 -Village projects

a) Update on the MUGA

The Chairman advised that the Muga had been progressing well despite the inclement weather . Cllr Penfold commented that she had today asked for an inspection to be made to ensure the further works would produce satisfactory outcome . She also mentioned that she was displeased that the contingency attaching to our grant had been confirmed without her knowledge . The Clerk advised that the 106 Officer had confirmed the use of the contingency in writing and that the remedial measures had been approved by Rob Sekula . The Clerk suggested that maybe the issue should be addressed with South Hams in the first instance
However Cllr Penfold insisted that the an independent assessor be approached
Cllr Bailey proposed that any further debate be carried on in a Part 2 - **AGREED BY ALL**

b) Use of ex-BT Box - progress to date

Cllr Caddell had applied to Cllr Penfold under the South Hams sustainable communities locality fund for £250.00 towards to cost of renovation

The Clerk had approached a local handyman who had supplied a quote .

It was **RESOLVED** that this quote be accepted

ACTION ; CLERK TO ACCEPT QUOTE

26/02/11 - Clerk's report

The Clerk advised that the dead elm in the Playpark had been removed

The TRAYE minutes from the January 2026 meeting had been forwarded by Ed Vidler - the Council noted that Cllr Penfold was now a Trustee

26/02/12 - Finance

a) Cheques for payment -

APPROVED - ALL IN AGREEMENT

Karen Gilbert	1426	96.84	7.57	104.41	Expenses 01/26 + stationery
Derek Hore	1427	196.30		196.30	MEG volunteers thank you
Source4business	1428	51.78		51.78	6 months Jubilee water
Source4business	1429	216.21		216.21	Allotment water
Karen Gilbert	1431	19.99		19.99	LAND REGISTRY. Reimburse
Karen Gilbert	1430	17.91	3.58	21.49	Reimburse amazon box of paper
Simon Birbeck	1432	3815.00		3815.00	Grass cutting - 25/26

b) To agree to the opening of a new bank account with Unity - **APPROVED**

c) To consider and agree the Asset register. **WORK IN PROGRESS**

d) to appoint an internal auditor for 2025/26 audit

It was **AGREED** to ask Carol Retallick to carry out the Internal Audit for 25/26

e) To note MPC re-registered as Employer with HMRC

PAYROLL FROM 4/26 AT 13.50 PER MONTH - AGREED

26/02/13 - Councillor reports

a) **MEG. - Robin Cox**

Firstly, a big thank-you from all MEG members to Cllr Hore and the Parish Council for organising the annual get-together at the Smokey last month. It was very well attended and once again showed all our Volunteers that their work around our Parish is appreciated. Sadly the persistent wet weather has made working on footpaths and surrounding areas virtually impossible, but we have managed to spend a couple of somewhat damp Wednesday mornings tidying up the brambles and bushes around the Village Hall and Love Lane area. Drier weather will be made very welcome by us all.

A very grateful ex-resident called Jon Waring has been in touch and asked me to organise a special MEG meal at the Smokey pub for all current active members to show his appreciation of all that our Volunteers do for the Parish.. This to include the full menu and

liquid refreshments. At present I am looking at a Wednesday lunchtime during the early part of April. His generosity is acknowledged and appreciated by us all.

b) Compton report - Following the recent heavy rainfall Compton has once again suffered from the now normal flooding of the only road through the Village, but this last time it has has not only been surface water but also raw sewage, toilet paper and sanitary towels that have been jetting out of manhole covers and washing down into the leat. This is made even more disgusting by the continual flow of vehicles spraying this mixture everywhere. MP Caroline Voaden has been informed, with graphic photographs, as have both our County and District Councillors. Thanks to both Caroline and Sam for trying to get South West Water to take some sort of action, last year they promised to have road tankers on site to reduce the sewage flow through the main pipe at peak times, needless to say this has not happened. Had they built the proposed overflow storage tank in 2025 this would most likely not be happening now. Our MP will be meeting South West Water managers at the Compton treatment works on Friday 6th so I may be able to provide an update after this has taken place.

c) Police - Police Advocate online meeting, Friday 23rd January 2026 - I attended this online meeting and report the following:

No recorded crime of specific note to the MPC in Marldon and Compton during December. December reported crime for the South Hams down 8% overall
Spike in thefts from doorsteps over December, reminder to all residents to elect secure delivery locations if possible.

Extra three officers now in the South Hams team and a new PCSO due in March, plus Zoe Carter back on duty. Reminder to report any criminal offences to the Police, if they don't have the information, they can't act or form intelligence patterns, remind people that posting on social media isn't reporting to the Police. Reminder that any intelligence can be placed by any of us on the Community: Intel Portal: www.devon-cornwall.police.uk/pais
Date for next meeting: Tuesday 24th February 2026 at 1300 hrs.

d) TRAYE - Marldon Youth Club – Session 1 (23/01/26) - Attendance: 46 young people (45 from Marldon, 1 from a surrounding area) - Staffing: 4 youth workers, 1 volunteer, and 2 young volunteers. The session included a mental health and healthy eating workshop, alongside a mini pool tournament, air hockey, and table tennis. We also had a thoughtful group discussion about how to incorporate the Five Steps to Wellbeing into everyday life. It was a really positive evening and very well received by the young people.

Next Marldon Youth Club – Session 2 (13/02/26). - At our next session, we will be focusing on why it is important for rural young people to have places to go and things to do. We are hoping to capture young people's voices, potentially through some short film work, exploring why rural youth work matters. This work will be shared at our upcoming Youth Work Conference on 13/04/26 at Stover Country Park. Invitations will be sent out shortly, and we would be delighted if you are able to attend.

February Half-Term Activities

16/02/26 – Filmmaking Workshop, Totnes (open to young people from Marldon and all nine TRAYE areas)

17/02/26 – Shallowford Farm Trip, Widecombe (open to young people from Marldon and all TRAYE areas)

19/02/26 – Darkroom Photography Workshop (open to young people from Marlton and all TRAYE areas)

Cllr Bailey thanked TRAYE for the invite to the January 2026 Trustees meeting and commented that it was informative and interesting. The SGM was to take place on 13th June 2026 from 11am - 3pm at Staverton

e) Defibs/ bleed kits - Cllr Roddy

I completed inspections of the defibs, and the blood pack cases at Ye Old Smokey, Cut of Class and Compton on Sunday 1st February 2026. I am pleased to report that all the equipment was in order, and I have updated the online monitoring site accordingly.

f - VAS signs. Cllr Cooke presented the latest readings which highlighted that the majority of the vehicles were travelling at suitable speed

26/02/14- Open Spaces -

The Clerk advised that the allotments were once again full following the allocation of plot 7

26/02/15 Playground and Fitness equipment Cllr Cotton gave a brief report stating that the the park remained very well used. It was hoped that the the points raised in the SHDC monthly report might be addressed by Rhino play in due course.

26/02/16 HIGHWAYS - The Chairman read out a copy letter received from a Parishioner in the Churscombe area - the original having gone to DCC Highways. After discussion it was suggested that Lisa be contacted to re paint the white H marker

ACTION ; CLERK TO CONTACT LISA AT HIGHWAYS

The new arrangements for the P3 scheme were briefly discussed - it was considered that the process was overly onerous for the financial benefit

ACTION ; CLLR RAKE TO SEEK MORE DETAIL

26/02/17- DATE OF NEXT MEETING. 10th MARCH 2026 at 7pm

26/02/18 - It was **RESOLVED** that the press and Public be excluded from the Meeting to allow discussion of Contractual matters

There being no further business , part 1 of the Meeting was CLOSED. at. 8.50pm

Part two

The Chairman detailed to progress to date

Cllr Penfold again expressed her concerns that she had not been included in the process

The Parish Council did not wish to stop the process in view of a few fine days ahead

NO DECISIONS WERE MADE

Part two of the meeting was **CLOSED** at 9.40pm

