



*'Your very Local Council'*

**Locum Clerk to the Council/RFO: Shaun Jones**

**Chairman: Cllr Mrs. Sharon Lloyd**

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Minutes of the Full Council Meeting held at 6:30 pm on **Wednesday 3<sup>rd</sup> September 2025** in Piercy Hall, Marchwiel.

Present: Cllrs Davies (CD), (Vice-Chair); Francis (CF); Grives (KG); Lydford (KL); Marriott (PM) & Rathbone (MR).

In attendance: Shaun Jones (SJ), Locum Clerk/Responsible Financial Officer, one Member of the Public and PCSO Lisa-Marie Davies (to present her crime report)

Ahead of the main business, the Vice-Chair and Locum Clerk welcomed the invited prize winners and a short report on this year's **Summer Gardening Competition 2025** was given followed by winners & runners up (three categories, Best Kept Garden, Best Low Maintenance Garden & Best Hanging Basket) being invited to come forward and receive their award.

55.25/26 **COUNCILLOR VACANCY TO BE FILLED BY CO-OPTION** – Sontley Ward has one vacant seat. SJ advised that one person has expressed interest but has yet to receive a completed application. A second vacancy has been declared for Deiniol Ward and if an election is not called for, this will result in 2 seats to be filled by co-option. SJ asked members to encourage any resident of Marchwiel to consider joining this Community Council. **No one was co-opted.**

56.25/26 **TO RECEIVE APOLOGIES AND REASONS FOR ABSENCE** – Cllr Sharon Lloyd (Prior Engagement), Cllr Nigel Lloyd (Prior Engagement) & Cllr. William Price (Prior Engagement).

57.25/26 **DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST** – None given.

58.25/26 **PUBLIC SPEAKING/QUESTIONS AT COUNCIL MEETINGS** – The member of public present wished to draw attention to the Nature Reserve which has been allowed to become overgrown over the summer. Perhaps consider a council sub-committee or working party to focus on this community asset and tap into many funding options for improving bio-diversity. Contacts with Groundworks, Wrexham Council and One Voice Wales have been established and there should be more to report in the coming months. **Members were grateful for raising this matter.**

59.25/26 **MINUTES** – To approve for accuracy and sign the minutes of the **Full Council** meeting held on Wednesday 2nd July 2025. **Members agreed.**

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Signed:..... Date:.....

60.25/26

## WREXHAM COUNTY BOROUGH COUNCILLOR'S REPORT – WCBC Cllr.

John Pritchard reported that :-

- The perimeter fence along Station Road by the football ground is to be replaced by WCBC Streetscene in the coming weeks.
- Liaison with the newly formed community group “Marchwiell Railway Walk Group” and initial approaches to the land owner – Hafren Dyfrdwy have resulted in a requested written business plan to be drawn up. Our MP has also offered help to the group and progress will be reported back.
- Both JP and SJ have been alerted to a potential issue where scrap cars have been stored on green open space. It is understood this is a planning enforcement issue and the team at WCBC have been made aware of the concern.
- JP also offered to speak with the two WCBC officers over the second phase of tree planting in November and guidance over the Nature Reserve's ongoing management.
- **Crime Report** – PCSO Lisa-Marie Davies joined the meeting to present the latest monthly crime report for Marchwiell and take away any specific concerns that members may have. JP delayed his exit to hear the report presented. 2 instances of Anti-Social Behaviour in Sotley & Eyton. Also been made aware of traffic speeding issues, on the A525 through Marchwiell where the speed limit has recently been moved from 20mph to 30mph. This is being monitored. Mention of the Community Speed Watch schemes and if there is concern a group of volunteers could be trained to record vehicles doing excess speed and they get a warning letter via Go-Safe administration. There is a group established in Cross Lanes. Inconsiderate parking and excessive speed near to the School was an issue raised too.

61.25/26

**BURIAL GROUND** – The Locum Clerk to updated members on a recent notification to introduce charges for the weekly trade waste bin collection. The Church will cancel the trade waste contract from the beginning of October. Going forward MCC will arrange for up to two Green Waster Wheelie Bins and The Church will take up the offer of a free Black (maybe Blue!) Wheelie Bin for general non-recyclable waste to stand alongside the Green Waster bin(s). **It was agreed to purchase a robust bin store to keep up to three 240 litre wheelie bins neat. Up to £250.** Finally the last arrangement is putting out the bins on Station Road each week – Green & Black alternate. Our contractor and his right hand man have agreed to do this for MCC. SJ suggested members also to give thought to how to better administer the Burial Ground, using best practice. Possibly starting with a full survey of all graves (with a tick back to the registers to identify gaps in admin) and a check on how many spaces are available. KG tabled two documents, one her Mother drew up on the tombstone inscriptions in the Churchyard and the other a survey of our Burial Ground, dated 1997 with more recent updates by KG herself. **SJ agreed to do more research on the best approach with recommended tools.** A final matter concerns the boundary hedge maintenance at the Western boundary with Piercy Hall. This should have a significant height reduction as well as the cherry trees needing a crown lift. In addition the Northern boundary down to Station Avenue also needs a good haircut. Our current contractor has suggested he keeps his summer hours for January to March which comes to an additional outlay of £1,500.00. **Members approved.**

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Signed:..... Date:.....

62.25/26

## PLANNING APPLICATIONS

– To consider the following applications;

1. Reference: P/2025/0546: **2 Scotts Close, Marchwiel**: Works to Trees Protected by Tree Preservation Order Wmbc 157. : To view online : [Click here.](#) – **Decision – No Observations or Comments to be submitted.**
2. Reference: P/2025/0517: **Sunnybank, Eyton**: Change of Use of Land to Rear of Property to Residential Curtilage and Single Storey Rear, Side and Front Extensions. : To view online : [Click here.](#) – **Decision – No Observations or Comments to be submitted.**
3. Reference: P/2025/0601: **7 Piercy Avenue, Marchwiel**: Single Storey Rear Extension. : To view online : [Click here.](#) – **Decision – No Observations or Comments to be submitted.**

63.25/26

## PLANNING DECISIONS

– To note the following Planning Decisions;

1. Reference: P/2024/0219 **Erddig Hall Erddig**: Listed Building Consent for Internal Alterations. : **Withdrawn** : To view online : [Click here.](#) – **Noted.**
2. Reference: P/2025/0099 **Marchwiel Hall, Marchwiel**: Change of Use of Certain Rooms within Marchwiel Hall and Grounds to be used for Public Functions (Weddings), Marquee Space and use of Summerhouse as Ancillary Bar. : **Withdrawn** : To view online : [Click here.](#) – **Noted.**
3. Reference: P/2025/0243 **6 The Ridgeway, Marchwiel**: Two Storey Side Extension And Single Storey Front Extension. : **Granted** : To view online : [Click here.](#) – **Noted.**
4. Reference: P/2025/0292 **Middle Sontley Farm, Middle Sontley**: Change of Use of Barn to Dog Daycare and Grooming Facility. : **Withdrawn** : To view online : [Click here.](#) – **Noted.**
5. Reference: P/2025/0405 **Grove Cottage, Wrexham Road, Marchwiel**: Variation of Condition 2 of Planning Permission P/2024/0054 to Amend Floor Plans. : **Granted** : To view online : [Click here.](#) – **Noted.**
6. Reference: P/2025/0489 **10 The Ridgeway, Marchwiel**: Two Storey Rear Extension. : **Granted** : To view online : [Click here.](#) – **Noted.**

64.25/26

## FINANCE MATTERS – To determine the following:-

- Members to note that Audit Wales are in receipt of Annual Reports covering 2022/23, 2023/24 & 2024/25 financial periods. Two basic and one full audit. – **Noted and an Official Notice will be published if Audit Wales don't sign these off by 30.9.2025.**
- Present Monthly Bank Reconciliation – July & August 2025 reports and sign off. – **Reviewed the Scribe summarised information page and signed off the two Bank Reconciliation reports..**

Signed:..... Date:.....

65.25/26

**LOCUM CLERK REPORT – INCLUDES CORRESPONDENCE –**

- An invitation from the Mayor Wrexham to her Autumn Charity Ball. Our Chair is attending so there is no need to take up this offer.
- An email from a member of the public referring to the lack of upkeep of the Welcome Garden. Members are happy to look into suggestions on how to arrange this better, going forward. **SJ will discuss with our Contractor to gain his thoughts.** The generous donation of gift vouchers to the value of £50 from Bellis Bros. might be put towards any new planting. Mention made of sedum, or white rock, or rockery plants.
- An email referencing a new TrawsCymru bus service – between Rhyl and Wrexham, starting at the beginning of September – **for information.** Members added that the current public transport for Marchwiel village has room for improvement.
- Jayne Rodgers of WCBC Climate Change and Carbon Reductions Manager emailed information on an event to take place tomorrow. “Low Carbon Communities networking and free lunch”. If interested SJ has the details.
- SJ attended the One Voice Wales Wrexham & Flintshire Area Committee meeting on 22<sup>nd</sup> July 2025 – Gwersyllt Community Resource Centre. The news of the recently appointed Biodiversity officer for North Wales was picked up & we should look to make contact.
- SJ covered off the actions taken to restore the damage in the Burial Ground when two trees were blown down in Storm Darragh back in December. We are close to having most of the jobs completed, the last one being a patch of tarmac repair on the path. We managed to contain cost with voluntary help of a number of Council Members which is very much appreciated. SJ did consider a claim on the insurance and discussed with members but not knowing the effect on renewal premiums we decided not to make a claim. Approx. amount paid out is £2,300.00.
- PM has re-visited a street light column on Deiniol Avenue which was getting entangled with an adjacent tree. He has met the property owner who will arrange a trim back. A reminder to call Paul Rogers for an update on the detailed report on the six condemned columns.
- Members that do not claim any allowance - £208 annually should sign a declaration – this applies to all our members. SJ supplied a form to complete.

66.25/26

**PLANS FOR CHRISTMAS 2025** – A discussion on whether MCC should hold a light switch on event at our Welcome Garden. This might incorporate inviting Ysgol Deiniol pupils to participate. A craft project where a child can design a bauble incorporating a Christmas wish and hang on the tree. Also don't forget to book Father Christmas if he is to attend the event. Suggestion of Saturday 6<sup>th</sup> December 2025. **Members agreed to discuss ideas further via WhatsApp chat.**

Signed:..... Date:.....

**PAYMENTS – The following payments were approved:-**

<b>Payment Number</b>	<b>Method of Payment</b>	<b>To</b>	<b>For</b>	<b>Net</b>	<b>VAT</b>	<b>Gross</b>
BACS	Faster Pymt	AVOW	Salaries Account	2170.25	0.00	2170.25
BACS	Faster Pymt	Scribe Accounts	Subscription - August 2025	29.00	5.80	34.80
BACS	Faster Pymt	Leon Hughes	Burial Ground Maintenance	750.00	0.00	750.00
	D/D	Unity Trust Bank	Monthly Service Fee - 7/25	6.00	0.00	6.00
Card	PPCC	Giffgaff	Mobile - SIM Only - 18mth	6.67	1.33	8.00
BACS	Faster Pymt	Rainbow Foundation	Room Hire - 7/25	10.00	0.00	10.00
	D/D	Ecotricity	July Unmetered Supply	81.94	4.10	86.04
	D/D	Salix	Half yearly loan repayment	986.68	0.00	986.68
BACS	Faster Pymt	Wrexham CBC	Play Area SLA - April - Sept '25	1104.00	220.80	1324.80
BACS	Faster Pymt	Bellis Bros.	Gift Vouchers - Gardening Comp	250.00	0.00	250.00
Card	PPCC	Dobbies Garden Centre	Gift Vouchers - Gardening Comp	50.00	0.00	50.00
Card	PPCC	Giffgaff	Mobile - SIM Only - 18mth	6.67	1.33	8.00
Card	PPCC	HP	June Printing	5.41	1.08	6.49
Card	PPCC	HP	July Printing	5.41	1.08	6.49
	D/D	Ecotricity	August Unmetered Supply	91.34	4.57	95.91
	D/D	Unity Trust Bank	Monthly Service Fee - 8/25	6.00	0.00	6.00
BACS	Faster Pymt	AVOW	Salaries Account	1880.45	0.00	1880.45
BACS	Faster Pymt	Scribe Accounts	Subscription - September 2025	29.00	5.80	34.80
BACS	Faster Pymt	Leon Hughes	Burial Ground Maintenance	700.00	0.00	700.00

**TO PRESENT ITEMS FOR INCLUSION ON A FUTURE MEETING AGENDA (FULL COUNCIL OR RESPECTIVE COMMITTEE) –**

- Outstanding from recent meetings: Village Signs & Burial Ground records to review.
- The WCBC Tree Planting programme – update.
- Playhouse graffiti – use nail varnish to repair.

*The meeting closed at 8:20pm.*

Signed:..... Date:.....