

08/26-27

MUCH MARCLE PARISH COUNCIL MEETING

Minutes of the Parish Council Extra Meeting held on,

Tuesday 26th May 2026

7.30pm in Much Marcle Memorial Hall

Present: Cllrs Barber-Starkey (in the Chair); J Baldwin; F Powell; S Cotton

In attendance: Rachel Freestone – Parish Clerk

Public: 1

1. To receive and accept apologies for absence.

Apologies had been received and accepted from Cllrs Alison Hope and David Griffiths. Ward Member Barry Durkin had also sent his apologies.

2. To receive any declarations of interest or written applications for dispensation from Councillors on agenda items.

There was none.

3. Open Session:

- a. To receive the Ward Councillors report: In his absence there was none.
- b. To receive representations from the Public: A member of the public updated members on developments at the Rushall Club. The Rushall Trust has received a Council Tax invoice of £5000 for the Club and the attached vacant property/residence which is in poor repair. They have only £941 in the Trust account. Ward Member Durkin had recommended they apply for the Hardship Fund and they have done so. The Trust have now received a court summons to pay the £5000 and £85 court fees scheduled for the beginning of June. *A member asked if the beneficiaries would be liable?* The known beneficiary has recently passed away, there may be beneficiaries under the estate however this is unknown currently. The MofP clarified that they can't access the Club funds only the Trust. He has concerns that getting too involved as his address being used for communication. A member advised that he contact the executors and change the contact address to the Club itself. No one interested in helping legally as is a mess. *A member asked if the club is viable as a business?* Skittles is very popular and they open up twice a month as a pub but there are no new members. Will wait to see the result of the Hardship Fund application. He was thanked for taking the time to update members.

4. Finance:

- a. Members considered HALC Internal Audit Report for 2025-26 and noted the incorrect date on the Notice for Public Rights in 2024/25. **It was RESOLVED:** to accept the results of the 2025/26 internal audit and approve the findings.
- b. Members considered the Annual Governance Statement. **It was RESOLVED:** to approve the Annual Governance Statement for 2025/26.
- c. Members considered the Annual Return Accounting Statements, noting that the Asset value for 24/25 has been restated to include a value for the Bartons Field. **It was RESOLVED:** to approve the Annual Return Statements for 2025/26.
- d. Members considered the eligibility for the External Audit Exemption. **It was RESOLVED:** to confirm eligibility, the chair duly signed the certificate.
- e. Members considered the end of year Explanation of Variances report. **It was RESOLVED:** to approve the Explanation of Variances report.

5. Planning:

- a. Comment on the Planning Application for Determination by Herefordshire Council:
 - i. Planning Consultation – 260743 The Old Post Office, Much Marcle. Addition to application considered at last meeting - Change the use of former retail floor space to form a single dwelling by amalgamation with existing residential accommodation along with alterations to the building. **It was RESOLVED:** no changes to the appearance of the building therefore SUPPORT the addition.

09/26-27

6. Next meeting: Members NOTED the date of the next meeting as the 15th July in the Rushall Club, Rushall.

Signed.....*M Barber-Starkey*..... Date.....15.07.2026.....

Chair

The meeting closed at 19.55