Meriden Parish Council

The Pavilion
Meriden Sports Park
10 Main Road
Meriden
CV7 7SP

Minutes of the ordinary Parish Council Meeting held at 7.30pm on Monday 19 January 2026 at The Pavilion, Meriden Sports Park.

Present: Cllr Whitehead (Chair), Cllr Eggar, Cllr Murphy, Cllr Marshall, Cllr Eburne-Brereton and Cllr Ritchie
Apologies: Cllr Plant, SMBC Ward Cllr Delaney and SMBC Ward Cllr Burrow
Public Attendees: 9 members of the public present, 1 member of the public joined remotely

Min No.	Item	Action
168/2526 168/2526.1	**Apologies and Acceptance of Apologies** Apologies were received by Cllr Plant, SMBC Ward Cllr Burrow and SMBC Ward Cllr Delaney. **All in favour to accept apologies from Cllr Plant**	
169/2526 169/2526.1 169/2526.2	**Declarations of Personal and Prejudicial Interest** Cllr Murphy declared an interest in the Leys Lane allotments. Cllr Eggar declared an interest in Meriden Sports Park.	
170/2526 170/2526.1 170/2526.2 170/2526.3 170/2526.4	**Public Participation** It was confirmed DTG Group would remove the Tree of Thought on The Green in the next few days. Despite a request for information of the driver of the vehicle that was driving on The Green, no information had been received. The road surface condition on Main Road was raised. The Clerk advised SMBC had confirmed the road would be resurfaced from the Bull's Head to the village roundabout, but a date was not available for these works. Two members of the public raised queries regarding the consultation from Marrons and requested responses to the questions they had raised. The Clerk would contact Marrons.	Clerk to action
171/2526 171/2526.1	**Minutes of the Ordinary Parish Council Meeting held on 15 December 2025** The minutes of the ordinary meeting held on 15 December 2025 were agreed as a true and accurate record and signed by Cllr Whitehead. **Proposed: Cllr Whitehead, Seconded: Cllr Eggar**	
172/2526 172/2526.1 172/2526.2 172/2526.3 172/2526.4	**Correspondence and Communication** Blocked drain on Birmingham Road in Millisons Wood - a highway drainage team had investigated the manhole and pipework. A blockage was found in the pipework and cleared. A blockage with one of the pipes further along the Birmingham Road could not be cleared and a CCTV team had been arranged to investigate the blockage. Parking on Leys Lane – vehicles were parking by a pedestrian access. SMBC confirmed a 'h-bar' would be line marked on the carriageway across the pedestrian access point to discourage drivers parking inappropriately in this area and blocking the access. An allotment holder had relinquished an allotment plot; three plots were vacant. Land off Fillongley Road - Marrons extended the online consultation to 9 January 2026.	

Signed: Cllr Whitehead
Dated: 16/02/2026

172/2526.5	An overflowing dog waste bin in Meriden Gate (Wyatt Way access) was reported. The Clerk informed SMBC and advised the resident how to report overflowing dog bins as the Parish Council had ceased emptying the bin in this location.	
173/2526 173/2526.1	**Ward Councillor Reports** Cllr Burrow issued a report confirming he met with a Solihull highways officer on Eaves Green Lane and Walsh Lane in late 2025. It was hoped the route of the Coventry Way could be used as a mechanism to find a way of traffic calming on the lanes. The Highway officer did not see a conflict between walkers and cars but agreed to communicate with the Coventry Way association as the walking route from the south section of Eaves Green Lane was planning to move to existing footpaths across the fields. The section of the road beyond the junction with Walsh Lane has walker warning signs in situ. Further walker warning signage was not supported by SMBC. National policy results in the lanes being unable to have a speed limit below 40mph.	
174/2526 174/2526.1 174/2526.2 174/2526.3	**Meriden Parish Council Chair Report** The Chair attended a recent meeting with the Meriden Sports and Recreation Trust (MS&RT); the business plan needs to be signed off by MS&RT. Cllr Whitehead will be attending a training course in February 2026. A request was made for Councillors to attend training to keep their knowledge up-to-date. Cllr Whitehead will attend a quarterly highways meeting with SMBC on 30 January 2026.	Cllrs to action
175/2526 175/2526.1	**Meriden Parish Council Councillor Reports** Cllr Murphy had been advised that the duck pond on Main Road was untidy. Cllr Eburne-Brereton reported the area smells due to rotting leaves. It was highlighted that theses matters could be reported directly to SMBC using the 'Report-it' function.	
176/2526 176/2526.1	**Transport, Environment and Climate Change Committee (TEC):** The next Transport, Environment and Climate Change committee meeting was scheduled for Thursday 5 February 2026, 7.30pm, in the Sports Pavilion.	
177/2526 177/2526.1	**Neighbourhood Development Plan Review (NDP):** The date of the next committee meeting to be determined by Cllr Plant.	Cllr Plant to action
178/2526 178/2526.1	**Planning Applications** PL/2025/01976/MINFHO | Merville, Leys Lane, Meriden | Ground floor rear extension | No longer on SMBC's planning portal	No action as removed from SMBC planning portal
179/2526 179/2526.1	**Planning Advice** Quotations had been received from Town Planners to assist in writing a formal response to a future planning consultation to build approximately 210 dwellings on Land South of Fillongley Road as follows: Quotation A - £840 plus VAT (for anticipated 6 hours work) Quotation B - £584.00 plus VAT per day (anticipated 2-3 days work) It was resolved to accept the quotation for £840 plus VAT (anticipated 6 hours work). **Proposed Cllr Whitehead; Seconded Cllr Eggar**	Clerk to action
180/2526 180/2526.1	**Parish Assembly** The Parish Assembly was scheduled for Tuesday 14 April 2026, 7pm. Clerk to contact	

	Meriden village hall for availability. Cllrs to consider what information to present.	MPC to action
181/2526 181/2526.1 181/2526.2	**Meriden Sports and Recreation Trust Funding Agreement (MS&RT)** Cllr Whitehead had created a document for Cllrs to update for a funding agreement with MS&RT for maintenance of the sports grounds and Pavilion. The Clerk had distributed a copy of a previous funding agreement for assistance. It was resolved that written notice would be given to Meriden Sports Park Company to officially confirm the Parish Council would manage its own Premises (Sports Park, Pavilion etc) with effect from 1 April 2026. The Parish Council expressed its gratitude to the Directors of Meriden Sports Park Company for their work in managing the premises for approximately fourteen years. **All in favour**	Cllrs to action Clerk to action
182/2526 182/2526.1	**Leys Lane Allotments** The Parish Council received a quotation of £500.00 (no VAT) for removing a shed and discarded items at the allotment site; the quotation included a skip and labour costs. Following a discussion of using volunteers, it was resolved to accept the quotation. **Proposed: Cllr Ritchie, Seconded: Cllr Whitehead**	Clerk to action
183/2526 183/2526.1	**IT Support Package** It was resolved to continue with the laptop support package, with MPC selecting the reduced fee essentials package from Edge IT at a fee of £300.00 plus VAT per annum. **Proposed: Cllr Eburne-Brereton, Seconded: Cllr Murphy**	Clerk to action
184/2526 184/2526.1	**Budget Consultation** The Parish Council received a summary of the budget consultation responses. Responses demonstrated that maintenance of The Green was important to residents. The Council expressed its gratitude to Cllr Plant for creating the survey.	
185/2526 185/2526.1 185/2526.2	**2026-2027 Precept** Following a review of the 2026-2027 proposed budget, the Parish Council resolved to set the precept at £80,439.37. This represents an increase of 15% for a band D dwelling, or an increase of £8.27 per year for a band D dwelling. A precept rise was agreed as the medium term forecast predicted a deficit each year and the Parish Council wanted to protect existing services. Additional funds would likely be required to engage planning consultants for advice with large developments. **Proposed: Cllr Whitehead, Seconded: Cllr Eggar**	Clerk to advise SMBC
186/2526 186/2526.1	**2026-2027 Budget** The Parish Council received and approved the 2026-2027 budget for Meriden Parish Council; Clerk to place the budget on the website. **Proposed: Cllr Whitehead, Seconded: Cllr Eggar**	Clerk to action
187/2526 187/2526.1	**Quarter Three Financial Report** The Parish Council received the quarter 3 finance report on income and expenditure for Meriden Parish Council; Clerk to place the Q3 report on the website. **All in favour**	Clerk to action

188/2526
188/2526.1

Internal Audit
The Parish Council approved Mr. W. Robinson as the Internal Auditor for the 2025-2026 Meriden Parish Council accounts; Clerk to arrange a suitable appointment.

All in favour

Clerk to action

189/2526
189/2526.1

Monthly Finance Report
The bank reconciliation to 31 December 2025 was received and approved by Full Council.

All in favour

190/2526
190/2526.1

Finance
The following payments were presented:

Main Account	Net	VAT	Total	Payment Method
Hollywood Home Improvements – allotment works	£400.00	£0.00	£400.00	Bank transfer
Heart of England Social Club – Warm Hub meals *(paid outside of a meeting due to urgency)*	£180.00	£36.00	£216.00	Bank transfer
Parkway maintenance – December 2025 ground maintenance	£1,368.75	£273.75	£1,642.50	Bank transfer
Lloyds credit card January 2026 – Warm Hub supplies and monthly £3.00 fee	£ 77.78	£0.00	£ 77.78	Direct Debit
Cllr Whitehead Q3 Member's Allowance	£375.00	£0.00	£375.00	Bank transfer
Cllr Eggar Q3 Member's Allowance	£125.00	£0.00	£125.00	Bank transfer
Cllr Eburne-Brereton Q3 Member's Allowance	£125.00	£0.00	£125.00	Bank transfer
National Association of Local Councils	£35.00	£7.00	£42.00	Bank transfer

** Please note that additional payments may be authorised on the evening following councillors' decisions*

The following January 2026 payments were confidential to the Parish Council and not published in the agenda or minutes:

Clerk's January 2026 salary
Deputy Clerk's January 2026 salary
WMPF January 2026 pension contributions employer and employees
HMRC January 2026 payments

The following monthly payment is paid to Unity Trust Bank by direct debit:

Unity Trust Bank current account fee	£6.00

All the above payments were approved; Cllr Whitehead and Cllr Eggar would authorise the pending payments via online banking.

Proposed: Cllr Whitehead, Seconded: Cllr Eggar

191/2526 191/2526.1	**Clerk's Report** M.P. Saqib Bhatti would meet the Parish Council via Teams on Tuesday 27 January 2026 at 1pm to discuss the changes to national planning policy and the recent consultation for land south of Fillongley Road.	
191/2526.2	A Quarry Liaison meeting took place on Monday 19 January 2026, Cornets End Lane will be closed for resurfacing on Saturday 7 February and Sunday 8 February 2026.	
191/2526.3	With regards to the tender process for the Sports Park Maintenance, the Clerk met with three contractors in person. Further appointments have been arranged.	
191/2526.4	Insurance must be in place for 1 April 2026 for the Sports Park; the Clerk will obtain quotations.	
191/2526.5	SMBC has confirmed it will empty the six dog bins on the public highway that the Parish Council had previously emptied, and undertake maintenance on the village roundabout.	
191/2526.6	The Clerk would contact The Priory hospital to ascertain if they are still maintaining the flower planter on the Showell Lane roundabout.	Clerk to action
192/2526 192/2526.1	**Next Meeting** The next Full Council meeting was scheduled for Monday 16 February 2026 at 7:30pm in the Sports Pavilion.	

Meeting closed at 9.03pm

Signed: Cllr Whitehead
Dated: 16/02/2026