

CLERK'S REPORT

Matters arising

MPC did not receive any requests to run an election in connection with the resignation of Joanne Piper-Bourn. MPC is therefore able to continue co-opting for this and other vacancies.

Chris Cottam's chairman's declaration of acceptance of office was received on 22 April 2026.

Training is available for new councillors and those who have not taken the Being a Better Councillor courses, as per MPC's training policy. Chairman training is also available. Training has to be booked by the clerk (GALC policy).

There are a number of long-term outstanding items including: photos/blurb for the website, councillor training, removal of Christmas tree lights and an update regarding the cycle racks.

The community speedwatch camera is back in place ready for verification, to be discussed at item 22ai.

Clerk's report

Thank you to all who attended and presented at the Annual Parish Assembly.

MPC's insurance document Special Events and Activities guidelines was recirculated to all councillors on 05.05.2026. Regarding checks that are a requirement of MPC's insurance policy, the clerk reminded councillors that weekly play area checks must be carried out as per the above document. In the past the clerk has highlighted the legal position regarding the claim period which MPC needs to be aware of: claimants have 3 years from the date of any incident to make a claim, and minors have until 3 years after their 18th birthday to make a claim.

A drain has been cleared at the junior playing field, and council has requested quotes to consider replacing the current drain cover with a manhole cover, which will prevent soil and grass entering the system.

Further to MPC's decision in April, the BT broadband and phone contract has not been renewed. There is a final bill of £17.67 to be collected by direct debit on 3.06.2026. Information regarding the MPC mobile phone number has been advertised.

Posters for community events at the games area and sports field have been advertised.

An article about MPC achieving the bronze LCAS award has been posted on the website.

Neighbourhood Plan information has been published on the website.

MPC has received an email from Starboard Systems Limited (Scribe) (accounts and cemetery software) to confirm that it has entered into a compliant Data Processing Agreement (DPA) and confirms that the email is 'written and binding' evidence required by MPC's internal auditor to verify MPC's compliant contractual arrangements with third-party software providers.

It has been reported that there are items on MPC property. MPC will write to the owner once supplied with further details.

Dogs are not allowed in the junior playing field except to be on the public right of way. A large dog off the lead was reported to the police and their advice was circulated to councillors:

If any dog/dogs are behaving aggressively call 999. If you just want to inform the police of a similar incident then contact the local PCSO or call 101.

The National Association of Local Councils (NALC) reported that it is bitterly disappointed that the government's legislative programme in yesterday's King's Speech failed to include measures to enable remote and hybrid council meetings permanently, and are deeply concerned by the absence of legislation to strengthen the standards regime in local government.

Gloucestershire Association of Local Councils (GALC) has invited member councils to submit motions for consideration at the GALC Annual General Meeting 2026.