



Marden Links Parish Hub Working Group Meeting

7 pm Tuesday 28th July 2026

Summary Notes

1. Present – David Bennett, Lorna Taylor, Maggie Hopkins, Paula Barrett, Lesley Hayward, Mike Blake, Kate Ryan
2. Apologies
No apologies
3. **Hub Update**
 - a. Move to New Parish Hall - Suggest W/E 22nd/23rd August
The move of equipment and furniture from the hub will take place over the suggested weekend. Equipment and furniture from the community centre will be done by Paula, Maggie and Chris W prior to this date. Kate and David to meet with landlord to discuss termination of lease (expected to be April 2027, but maybe room for negotiation, discuss kitchen, security cameras and electric heaters. Decorating to make good will be done by John Taylor (thank you John)
 - b. Feedback from Volunteers -
all good, discussion re the hot weather policy - managed well to date. Discussion re low numbers attending on Friday PM decision to stick with the same time for now, reconsider time/format change once moved and settled
 - c. Volunteer rota for September/October
Some gaps but all have a t least one volunteer
 - d. Transition to MPT ? – Hub working group meetings?, ? Keep logo/branding or adopt Tin shed/MPT logo
Overall management of new hall sits with the MPT, Marden links hub, repair café, community garden and events committee are subgroups within. Day to day decision regarding hub RC Garden and events will remain as is. Marden links will continue to meet every two months where possible
 - e. Opening event update
Progressing well Lorna and Lesley are taking a lead on the lunchtime session David, Paula and Kate to float during the day, to answer queries, lead tours and filling gaps for other volunteers where needed. The ribbon cutting will be done by Debbie Owen (daughter of Dudley Price the benefactor of the gifted land) followed by the family fun sessions which ends at 1.45pm Those games that can remain to stay insitu for use in the afternoon. Kelsmore icecream booked to sell ice cream S&A produce



donated soft fruit - doubt as to whether cake seller that was booked is still attending – explore other cake options.
5pm – 11pm bar (part free part paid for. VIP guests free, food vendors 5.30-6pm start sell until 8pm or until sold out. Band will play 2 sets between 6 and 8pm. FOC but have been offered complimentary drinks and choice of food. Some (not all) Volunteers will stay on until everyone has gone home or 11pm which ever is sooner

- f. Discuss Hub opening hours during move week
Hub café as normal 19th and 21st August, No hub 26th and 28th August. Restart as normal hours in the new hall on weds 2nd Sept
- g. Discuss expansion of sessions when moved – Consider 1 volunteer per session and double sessions.
Team keen for expansion, and to consider a morning option Tuesday ams preferred. Discussion re a 4th - decision to trial the third day for a time and then expand to 4 sessions per week when volunteer numbers allow. Tuesdays 10-12, Wednesdays 1-3pm Fridays 2-4pm for now, likely to commence from October once we have settled into new hall. TBC

4. Repair Café Update

- a. Feedback from volunteers –
team continues to expand. Repair requests/bookings seems stable – no drop off in bookings. Continue as we are for now -
- b. Repair tools – items needed to purchase from donations?
Nothing required for this month
- c. Plans Re the relocation to New Parish Hall – consider remain in Hub until lease end
Decision we will remain at the hub until we have had chance to reconcile the tools/equipment we use and establish adequate storage at the new hall
- d. Discuss plans for storage when relocate to NPH
Discussion to relocate the current container at the garden or purchase a further container or storage shed for the RC located at the new hall – preferred option to purchase a shed to match the soon to be outdoor bar
- e. Discussion re plans if RC unable to take place on usual date due to function?
Wherever possible keep to the first Saturday of each month but accept that RC will defer if there is a potential high value booking request for the hall space



5. Community Garden

- a. Next volunteer day
26th September 2026

- 6.** Date & time of next meeting **8th September 2026 7pm** at the New Parish Hall