

Accessibility Statement for Mary Tavy Parish Council

Mary Tavy Parish Council is committed to ensuring digital accessibility for people with disabilities. We are continually improving the user experience for everyone and applying the relevant accessibility standards.

Measures to support accessibility

Mary Tavy Parish Council has installed the UserWay Accessibility Widget to ensure accessibility of the Parish Council's website.

This widget offers a broad selection of functions that users can mix and match to meet their individual accessibility needs. Each of the functions can be turned on or off or set at an interim value. Furthermore, settings for each user are automatically saved for future site visits. The functions include:

- Keyboard Navigation: Navigate most of the website using just a keyboard.
- Read Page: Listen to most of the website.
- Contrast: Change contrast levels. Choose from the following: normal contrast, invert colours, dark contrast, light contrast and desaturate.
- Highlight Links
- Bigger Text: Choose from four increasing font sizes without the text spilling off the screen.
- Text Spacing: Modify line spacing for improved readability for dyslexic and visually impaired users.
- Stop Animations
- Legible Fonts
- Reading Guide: Converts the cursor into a high contrast horizontal reading guide. Focuses and guides the eyes to reduce eye strain for users who are visually impaired, dyslexic and users with Presbyopia.
- Tooltips: Shows alternative text and aria labels for on-screen elements with a simple mouse hover. Tooltips are prominent, high contrast and easy to read for low-vision users with accessibility needs.

We've also made the website text as simple as possible to understand.

AbilityNet (<https://mcmw.abilitynet.org.uk/>) has advice on making your device easier to use if you have a disability.

What to do if you cannot access parts of this website

If you need information on this website in a different format, please contact Katherine Anness (Clerk):

- email: parishclerk@marytavyparishcouncil.co.uk
- call: (01822) 616047
- write: Mary Tavy Parish Council, C/O Katherine Anness (Clerk), 32 Oak Road, Tavistock, PL19 9EZ

We'll consider your request and get back to you within 14 days.

Reporting accessibility problems with the website

We're always looking to improve the accessibility of this website. If you find any problems not listed on this page, or think we're not meeting accessibility requirements, please contact Katherine Anness (Clerk) using the contact details provided above.

Enforcement Procedure

The Equality and Human Rights Commission (EHRC) is responsible for enforcing the Public Sector Bodies (Websites and Mobile Applications) (No.2) Accessibility Regulations 2018 (the 'accessibility regulations'). If you're not happy with how we respond to your complaint, contact the Equality Advisory and Support Service (EASS) (<https://www.equalityadvisoryservice.com/>).

Technical information about this website's accessibility

Mary Tavy Parish Council is committed to making its website accessible, in accordance with the Public Sector Bodies (Websites and Mobile Applications) (No.2) Accessibility Regulations 2018.

This website is partially compliant with the Web Content Accessibility Guidelines version 2.1 (<https://www.w3.org/TR/WCAG21/>) AA standard, due to the non-compliances listed below.

Non accessible content

We have recently conducted a self-evaluation of the accessibility of our website using WAVE Web Accessibility Evaluation Tool. The content listed below is non-accessible for the following reasons:

Non compliance with the accessibility regulations

Some images do not have a text alternative, so people using a screen reader cannot access the information. This fails WCAG success criterion 1.1.1 (non-text content).

Some images without alternative text have resulted in an empty link. Images that are the only thing within a link must have descriptive alternative text. If an image is within a link that contains no text and that image does not provide alternative text, a screen reader has no content to present to the user regarding the function of the link. This fails WCAG success criteria 1.1.1 (non-text content) and 2.4.4 (link purpose in context).

Some form controls do not have a corresponding text label. If a form control does not have a properly associated text label, the function or purpose of that form control may not be presented to screen reader users. This fails WCAG success criteria 1.1.1 (non-text content); 1.3.1 (info and relationships); 2.4.6 (heading and labels) and 3.3.2 (labels or instructions).

We plan to add text alternatives for all images by September 2021. We have already started work on this; many of our images now meet accessibility standards.

When we publish new content, we'll make sure our use of images meets accessibility standards.

Content that is not within the scope of accessibility regulations:

PDFs and other documents

Many of our older PDFs do not meet accessibility standards- for example, they may not be structured so they're accessible to a screen reader. This does not meet WCAG 2.1 success criterion 4.1.2 (name, role, value).

The accessibility regulations do not require us to fix PDFs or other documents published before 23 September 2018

(<http://www.legislation.gov.uk/uksi/2018/952/regulation/4/made>) if they are not

essential to providing our services. For example, we do not plan to fix agenda and minute PDFs that were published before 23 September 2018.

Any new PDFs we publish will meet accessibility standards.

Assessment approach

Mary Tavy Parish Council assessed the accessibility of its website by the self-evaluation approach utilising the WAVE Web Accessibility Evaluation Tool (<https://wave.webaim.org>).

Formal approval of this accessibility statement

This statement was prepared by Katherine Anness (Clerk) and was approved by:

Mary Tavy Parish Council at its Meeting held on 11th August 2020

Minute Reference: page 13

Next review due: January 2021