

HANLEY CASTLE PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of the Meeting of the Parish Council held on Thursday, 19th February 2026 in Hanley Swan Village Hall.

Present: Councillors: Sue Roberts (Chairman), Sue Adeney, Angela Hartland, Pippa Barkley, Steve Pennant, Alex Walker.

Apologies: Cllr Sara Beadon, PC Kev Johns.

In Attendance: The Clerk, C&DCllr Tom Wells, Nick Harper (Pond Warden), Graham Holmes (PFW), 5 parishioners.

15/26 Welcome and Apologies: Cllr Roberts welcomed everyone to the February Meeting. She accepted the apologies received by the Clerk.

16/26 Declarations of Interest & Dispensation Requests from Councillors

- a) Register of Interests: Councillors were reminded that this must be kept up to date.
- b) Dispensations. No requests had been made.

17/26 Minutes: The Minutes of the Meeting of the Parish Council held on Thursday, 15th January 2026 had been previously circulated and were **approved**.

Members of the public were invited to ask questions or comment on agenda items.

A big thank you was received for the Smart Water kits and a request to make sure that people are reminded to register them. A question was raised about the Picken End hedgerow that had been removed; Cllr Adeney said that it was as per the planning application which indicated that a new hedge would be planted. The request was made to look at the planning application and the green infrastructure and what was feasible within the site.

ACTION: Write to the developer to say that the Parish Council would be monitoring as the development progressed.

18/26 Matters Arising and Progress Reports for information:

- a) Action list was discussed and updated.
- b) Website, Email & IT Proposal – The IT Policy that Cllr Pennant had circulated was discussed and it was agreed to adopt it. All voted in favour of using Parish Online and to have the domain hanleycastleparish.gov.uk

ACTION: Cllr Pennant to advise the company and start the process of moving to .GOV.UK email addresses and website to ensure the council meets Assertion 10 requirements.

19/26 Finance:

- a) To consider and **APPROVE** any payments - The payments in Appendix 1 were agreed.
- b) Receipts Received – None received.
- c) Budget considerations – Budget amounts for 26/27 were discussed and the budget in Appendix 2 was approved.

20/26 Planning:

- a) To Consider the following applications referred by MHDC for consultation:

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Application Number	Location	Proposal
<u>M/26/00168/GPDE</u>	Bumblebee House 3 Brinkley Drive Hanley Castle	Prior Notification for a Larger Home Extension – Single storey rear extension
No objection raised		
<u>M/26/00114/NMA</u>	Badgers Church End Hanley Castle Worcester WR8 0BL	Application for a Non-Material Amendment following a grant of planning approval M/25/00755/FUL - minor amendments to the external features of the elevations.
No objection raised		
<u>M/26/00062/CCO</u>	1 St Gabriels Terrace Hanley Swan Worcester WR8 0DY	Discharge of conditions: 3 (materials); 5 (broadband); 6 (percolation test); 7 (water management); 8 (boundary treatment); 9 (landscaping); and 13 (CEMP) of planning permission M/22/01881/FUL
No objection raised		
<u>M/26/00047/OL</u>	Home Farm Blackmore Park	To replace the existing 4 spans of Low Voltage overhead line, and 4 poles as per plan 5778019
No objection raised		

b) To Consider applications received after the Agenda issued

<u>M/26/00243/CCO</u>	Land At (Os 8125 4252) Picken End Hanley Swan	Discharge of condition 6 (CEMP) of planning application M/22/00471/FUL, approved at appeal (ref. 3364189)
Information only as not a consultee. The CEMP was discussed and would be emailed to Councillors		

c) Planning Decisions:

<u>M/24/01560/FUL</u>	The Orchards House Haylers End Hanley Castle	Change of use, conversion and extension of barn to	Application Approved
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	Worcester WR8 OAL	form a single self-build dwellinghouse	
<u>M/25/02034/PIP</u>	Appletrees Hanley Swan Worcester WR8 0DN	Permission in Principle for the proposed erection of up to 6 no. dwellings	Application Refused
TPO had been put in place for the trees on the site.			

d) Planning Appeals:

<u>M/25/01883/PIP</u> Deadline 2 nd March	Land At (OS 8133 4345) Worcester Road	Permission in Principle for the proposed erection of between 1 and 4 self or custom build dwellings
<u>M/25/01968/PIP</u> Deadline 25 th Feb	The Grange Hanley Swan	Permission in Principle for the proposed erection of one dwellinghouse (self-build)
<u>M/25/00849/TC</u> Deadline 27 th Feb	Hillcourt Farm Welland	Installation of a 20m lattice tower, 6 no. antenna apertures, 2 no. 600mm microwave transmission dishes

22/26 District and County Councillors' Reports: Cllr Wells talked about the temporary lights at Danemoor Crossroads, installed while the Hanley Road was closed due to flooding. The lights had become stuck on red which had caused a problem. The feedback was that they worked well but needed to be more responsive to the traffic flows.

23/26 Reports of the:

- a) Parish Paths Warden (Steve Pennant) – Footpaths extremely muddy!
- b) Pond Warden (Nick Harper) – A car had almost ended up in the pond! It was noted that the RBL footprint was breaching the boundary. **ACTION: Write to Cllr Wells, Citizen Housing & MHDC advising that the boundary is being breached.**
- c) Playing Field Warden (Graham Holmes) – The field was flooded so not in use.
- d) Allotment Update – The contracts and hand over was with the solicitors. It was noted there are 6 plots with 3 current tenants and 3 vacant plots.
ACTION: Get advice from CALC on how much should be charged.
- e) Local Police (Kev Johns) – January Report circulated
- f) Parish Plan (Steve Pennant) – An update on the consultation held on the 24th January was provided. The feedback was that it had been a very good social occasion and more people would be encouraged to attend the next one on 7th March.

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24/26 Highways Matters

- a) Road Safety Matters – The white gates should be installed in the next few weeks.
- b) Works for Lengthsman or Reporting to MHDC/WCC – work being done around the school and in Hanley Castle.

25/26 Hanley Environment Group

- a) HEG Budget – The budget was discussed under the Finance section of the meeting. The proposed budget was agreed and it was also agreed that pond planting would come out of the HEG budget.
- b) Tree planting update - The tree planting should take place in March.
- c) Update on activities – A talk on farming was being held at the village hall with a series of speakers that would talk about their challenges. The annual litter pick would be held on Saturday 21st March, meeting in Hanley Castle or on the Green in Hanley Swan at 10am.

26/26 Correspondence

- a) HGV Lorries using Park Lane to try to access the paper factory – Email circulated. **ACTION: Ask the factory to provide signs to say no access to the Factory.**
- b) Former RBL boundary – Email circulated. See 23/26 b).
- c) Letter re Local Government Reorganisation Consultation – open until 26th March (email circulated)
- d) Albion Lodge Defib – request to refund replacement battery. (Email Circulated) – **ACTION: write to Albion Lodge to ensure that the Defib is accessible to the community 24 hours a day to get the funding.**
- e) Road outside 12 Coverfield – Clerk passed on contact details for Citizen Housing.
- f) VAS sign outside Highball Centre not holding charge – **ACTION: Cllr Barkley to look at the details of the VAS so the company can be contacted regarding the cost of a replacement battery.**
- g) Offer of Security & Smart Marking Drop in sessions to be held by West Mercia Police (email circulated)

27/26 Topics raised by Councillors, Committees, Clerk & Parishioners

- a) Resignation of Cllr Smith leading to Casual Vacancy – The Vacancy Notice had been displayed and if there was no call for an election a Casual Vacancy would be advertised at the next meeting. **ACTION: Invite Lesley back to the Annual Meeting.**
- b) Council Meeting Seating arrangement (AH) – A new seating arrangement was trialled.
- c) Condition of the pavement outside the school on B4211 (SB) – **ACTION: Wait and see what happens when the weather improves.**
- d) Airband internet wireless access signal as installed at St Mary's (SP) – It was reported that this would not be an option to take forward in other areas of the Parish.
- e) Parents are parking on double yellow lines outside HCHS. (SB) – **ACTION: Ask PC Johns to monitor the double yellow lines at the end of the school day.**
- f) Monthly Review of Council Policies. **ACTION: Cllr Adeney to provide a list of policies and start to look at them monthly.**

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g) Smart Water – ACTION: Look into giving them out at a Café Tuesday.

28/26 Items for the next agenda:

Policies

29/26 Date of next meeting: The date of the next meeting was set for 19th March 2026.

Signed

(Chairman) Date: 19th March 2026

Appendix 1: Schedule of Payments & Receipts 19th February 2026

Lengthsman		January Invoice	£795.00
Jane Jordan		Website Renewal	£17.40
Elan		VAS Warranty	£238.00
PCC		Donation for Use of Chapel	£50.00
			£1,030.40

Signed Date: 19th March 2026
Chairman

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APPENDIX 2

HANLEY CASTLE PARISH COUNCIL PRECEPT and BUDGET 2026-27

	Budget 2025/2026	Agreed Budget 2026/2027
Income		
Bank interest		
Precept	23000	27000
Donations		
Grants/WCC		
	23000	27000
Expenditure		
Staff costs - including National Insurance	7500	8300
Administrative costs	1000	1000
Members allowances & expenses	75	
Insurance	1000	1500
Donations under Section 137	500	500
Subscriptions	1500	2000
Grass cutting	7000	7000
PCC Donation to Grass Cutting	2400	2400
Playing field rent & Agreed FA Contribution (£1K)	500	1500
Play area / Playing Field	3000	500
Tree works / Pathways	1000	200
Audit fee	400	500
Training courses	250	250
Contingencies	1000	1000
Noticeboards	0	0
Pond	1000	1000
Hall hire	400	700
Election expense	0	0
VAS Equipment / Maintenance	0	250
Defibrillator	500	500
Hanley Environment Group	5000	4750
Traffic Calming Initiative	0	0
Neighbourhood/Parish Plan		1400
Allotments		
Totals	34025	35250
Surplus/(Deficit)	-11025	-8250