

# HANLEY CASTLE PARISH COUNCIL

**Minutes** of the Meeting of the Parish Council held on Thursday, 19<sup>th</sup> March 2026 in Hanley Swan Village Hall.

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

**Apologies:** Cllrs Wells, Graham Holmes (PFW), PC Kev Johns.

**In Attendance:** The Clerk, Nick Harper (Pond Warden), 3 parishioners.

**30/26 Welcome and Apologies:** Cllr Roberts welcomed everyone to the March Meeting. She accepted the apologies received by the Clerk.

## **31/26 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.

**32/26 Minutes:** The Minutes of the Meeting of the Parish Council held on Thursday, 19<sup>th</sup> February 2026 had been previously circulated and were **approved**.

**Members of the public were invited to ask questions or comment on agenda items.** No questions were raised but Cllr Roberts expressed her thanks for the assistance with the Smart Water Kit distribution by two of the parishioners present. It was agreed that more ideas on how to distribute the kits were required. The Café Market was suggested. **ACTION: Cllr Roberts to talk to the Café Market organisers.**

## **33/26 Matters Arising and Progress Reports** for information:

- a) Action list was discussed and updated.
- b) **Website, Email & IT.** The new website and email addresses were now live. Cllr Pennant gave a tour of the website and said he was pleased with the amount of work the developers had done and that it would save the IT team a great deal of time moving things to the new platform. There would be a team of four administrators going forward to maintain the site and it was felt that the admin functionality was very straightforward. All email addresses had been set up with one for each councillor and one for the Clerk.
- c) **Policies** – Cllr Adeney had drawn up a list of 21 policies that would be good practice to be adopted by a parish council and shown on their website. It was agreed that after the Annual Meeting the policies would be divided up amongst the councillors who would take responsibility to look at them and bring them to future meetings to discuss, review and adopt.

## **34/26 Finance:**

- a) To consider and **APPROVE** any payments - The payments in Appendix 1 were agreed.
- b) Receipts Received – £795 Lengthsman reimbursement

## **35/26 Planning:**

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

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<a href="#"><u>M/26/00379/FUL</u></a>	Land At (Os 8157 4265) Winnington Gardens Hanley Swan	Variation of conditions 2 (approved plans) and 12 (boundary treatment) of Planning Permission M/24/01568/FUL allowed on appeal 6000576 (Erection of four dwellings, new access arrangements and associated works.)
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b) To Consider applications received after the Agenda issued - None

c) Planning Decisions:

<a href="#"><u>M/26/00168/GPDE</u></a>	Bumblebee House 3 Brinkley Drive Hanley Castle	Prior Notification for a Larger Home Extension – Single storey rear extension	Decision - Other
<a href="#"><u>M/26/00114/NMA</u></a>	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.	Application Approved

d) Planning Appeals: PLANNING INSPECTORATE REF:- 6004746 Appellant(s)  
 Proposal: Permission in Principle for the proposed erection of up to 6 no. dwellings  
 Site at: Appletrees Hanley Swan Worcester WR8 0DN – deadline 9<sup>th</sup> April

**ACTION: Object on the grounds that the villages need to be kept distinct - base additional comments on MHDC objection to PIP in Gilberts End. TPO now in place.**

e) Proposed Glyncbrook Development – The Parish Council voted to object to the proposal. It was noted that MHDC was commenting that a proper consultation had not been undertaken.

f) Past Planning applications – Cllr Hartland had been approached by a Coverfield resident that had complained to MHDC Planning about concerns with the BL application. They thought that it was different to the approved plans and asked if the Parish Council would contact MHDC. **ACTION: Cllr Hartland to provide the Clerk with the details of the alleged breach so that planning enforcement could be contacted.**

**36/26 District and County Councillors’ Reports:** Members not present.

**37/26 Reports of the:**

a) Parish Paths & Tree Warden (Steve Pennant) – The footpath report was read out. Cllr Pennant had now taken up the role of Tree Warden as well.

**ACTION: Contact Chris Lewis-Farley regarding getting a list of TPOs in the Parish.**

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b) Pond Warden (Nick Harper) – Issue with verge parking by the pond which is damaging the verge. It was agreed to look into putting wooden posts and/or small signs to discourage parking but also to speak to the pub to ask them to request people park on the road rather than half on the verge.

c) Playing Field Warden (Graham Holmes) – **Report read out. ?**

d) Allotment Update – Plot holders were working very hard and it was agreed that those without a contract with Platform would receive one under the Parish Council. When the allotments come under the responsibility of the Parish Council it was agreed to look into paying someone to assist with the clearing of the vacant plots and also to attend to the hedgerow as it was in a terrible state. Annual payments were due; the Clerk to contact Platform to ask if they should be paid to them or to wait. CALC had provided guidance on running allotments.

**ACTION: Clerk to contact Platform to ask whether annual payments should be made and to whom.**

e) Local Police (Kev Johns) – no report

f) Parish Plan (Steve Pennant) – An update on the 2<sup>nd</sup> consultation event was provided; very good feedback had been received and a request for more parish events to be held. Parish Volunteers were discussed and it was agreed to contact Biddi Kings as she holds a list of Environment Group volunteers and it was thought it would be good to have a central list. The use of a community whatsapp group was also raised.

### 38/26 Highways Matters

a) Road Safety Matters – The white gates had been partially installed but the ones to the north of Hanley Castle would have to be moved as the location impacts on a resident's visibility. They should be reinstalled in the next few weeks. Cllr Barkley said that the VAS by Highball was 6 years old and made by SWARCO. The battery should last for 12 years so they have suggested monitoring the weather conditions when it was not working and also if it was after a busy period on the road. **ACTION: The Clerk to email the parishioner and ask him to monitor the VAS to see if it is the battery or gloomy days causing the problem.**

b) Works for Lengthsman or Reporting to MHDC/WCC – none for this month.

### 39/26 Hanley Environment Group

a) Update on activities – A talk on farming was held at the village hall with a series of speakers that talked about their challenges. It was well received but not as many from the Parish as hoped attended.

b) Flooding – a meeting had been held with Wade Muggleton and he was going to organise the digging out of the existing old ponds to help reduce the flooding.

c) The annual litter pick would be held on Saturday 21<sup>st</sup> March, meeting in Hanley Castle or on the Green in Hanley Swan at 10am.

### 40/26 Correspondence

a) Waste Local Plan: early baselining and engagement – response by 15<sup>th</sup> April

b) CALC Councillors Survey – circulated to all councillors.

### 41/26 Topics raised by Councillors, Committees, Clerk & Parishioners

a) Permission granted for Co-option of Casual Vacancy – the vacancy could now be advertised and the advert would be put up on the websites and in the

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Parish Link. The preference would be for a parishioner from Hanley Swan to ensure equal representation between the two villages. **ACTION: Advertise Councillor Vacancy.**

b) **Parish Enabler:** Cllr Adeney talked about Welland's Parish Enabler Role. It was for 10-15 hours a week that had been paid for by a grant which was now coming to an end. Cllr Adeney was keen to look into the possibility of sharing the role with Welland and would speak with Cllr Wells to see if there was any additional funding available for the role. **ACTION: Cllr Adeney to investigate.**

c) **MHDC Self Build Quota** – Cllr Hartland had heard that MHDC had filled their self-build quota - if this was correct it could be used against future planning applications if required. **ACTION: The Clerk to contact MHDC Planning to ask.**

d) **Parishioner Attendance** – Encouraging more parishioners to attend meetings was discussed and it was agreed that an item would be placed in the Parish Link.

## 42/26 Items for the next agenda:

Policies

**43/26 Date of next meeting:** The date of the next meeting was set for 16<sup>th</sup> April 2026.

Signed .....

(Chairman) Date: 16<sup>th</sup> April 2026

## Appendix 1: Schedule of Payments & Receipts 19<sup>th</sup> March 2026

PCC		Church Grass Cutting Donation	£2,400.00
Jane Jordan		WIX Plan Monthly	£22.80
Jack Cotterill Tree Services		Trees for Planting	£3,612.00
Angela Hartland		Printing Invoice	£45.00
Susanne Bennett		Toad Signs	£63.00
		Total	£6,142.80

Signed ..... Date: 16<sup>th</sup> April 2026  
Chairman