



HALE PARISH COUNCIL

OF THE HALTON BOROUGH IN
THE COUNTY OF CHESHIRE



**MINUTES OF THE ORDINARY MEETING
OF HALE PARISH COUNCIL HELD AT HALE VILLAGE HALL
ON MONDAY 20th JANUARY 2025 AT 8.00pm**

Present: Cllr Roberts, Cllr McNamara, Cllr Lewis, Cllr Healey, Cllr Trevaskis,
Cllr Wright, Cllr Hutchinson,

In attendance: The Clerk, and seven members of public were also present

- 1. Apologies** – Apologies were received from Cllrs. Anderson and Williams. No apologies were received from Cllr Cleary.

Apologies were also received from Shirley Bingham (Item 8)

- 2. Declarations of Interest** – Cllr Roberts, declared an interest in the item regarding the gun club which a resident raised in the following Item (Public Participation)
- 3 Welcome** - The Chairman welcomed new Councillor Andrea Hutchinson on to the Parish Council
- 4 Public Participation** – Several key issues were discussed and the noise from shooting activities was highlighted, with a representative of the shooting club to be invited for clarification.

Airplane noise from Liverpool Airport was once again discussed, plans for new, quieter planes were considered. Cllr McNamara agreed to invite Robin Tudor from Liverpool John Lennon Airport (LJLA) to attend the February meeting.

It was noted that the Christmas event's Baby Jesus figure was missing from the installation this year. The Parish Council agreed to take full responsibility for its addition to the crib at midnight on Christmas Eve each year from now on.

- 5 Minutes.** – With a minor amendment, the minutes of the Ordinary Meeting of 18th November 2024 were approved as a true and accurate record

Proposed by Cllr Lewis and seconded by Cllr McNamara

The Motion was approved unanimously

- 6 **Accounts** – Cllr Wright proposed that the Accounts, having been reconciled to the bank statement and summary of receipts & payments 12th November 2024 – 31st December 2024 be accepted as a true and accurate record and comparison against budget. This was seconded by Cllr Healey

The Motion was approved unanimously

7. **Invoice Sampling** - In line with financial regulation 2.2 The Council appointed member has checked and signed the reconciled account against original Unity Bank Statements and reported to the Parish Council any exceptions.

Cllr Wright proposed to accept the records and this was seconded by

Cllr Healey

The Motion was approved

8. **Wellbeing Hub Letter** – The representation by a local resident was deferred due to her absence through illness.
9. **Policies** – It was resolved to approve the two policies on this agenda.

i. Combined Equality & Diversity Policy

ii. Public Complaints Procedure

Cllr Trevaskis stated the importance of being proactive in recognising and addressing the needs of a diverse community. It was noted that some issues should be addressed as they arise while others can be planned for in advance. He went on to state that some issues can be handled by the Clerk without needing Council approval.

Cllr Hutchinson suggested there is an increasing need for regular EDI training for staff, Council members and volunteers. It was noted that it is becoming more important to recognise the needs of members of our diverse community.

While it was recognised that some matters should be addressed as they arise others can be planned for in advance. There is clearly requirement for accessible information and services for partially sighted and dyslexic individuals. It was proposed that a survey could be included in the next Newsletter to gauge community feedback on the Council's accessibility

Cllr Trevaskis proposed to accept the motion. This was seconded by

Cllr Lewis

The Motion was approved

10. **Anonymous Parking Complaint** – It was stated by Cllr Trevaskis that there is insufficient parking in Hale Village and as such there should be a channel of communication created with Halton Borough Council to improve matters. It is noted that certain areas around the Village such as the vacant parking area at the rear of Town Lane could be re-purposed to alleviate some of the problem and that the installation of yellow parking restriction lines could also be installed.

It was agreed to address the parking problem initially in the Parish Council Newsletter, while asking PCSO Steve Marnick for advice and assistance. The Clerk will contact Halton Council to enquire about the availability of prominent signage for the Village.

Cllr Lewis suggested that the village school could provide parking of a weekend or at busy holiday periods, however it was noted that the availability is relatively small.

11. Town & Parish Council's & VE Day 80th – 8th May 2025 – The Chairman suggested the formation of a sub-committee tasked with planning events which will be well organised, popular and well attended. It was agreed that a meeting between representatives of the Parish Council, Hale British Legion and The freemen of Hale should be arranged. The Chair agreed to take a lead in this and to report back to this Council.

12. Civic Service 2025 – It was agreed that the Annual Civic Service will take place on Sunday October 5th provided that St Mary's Church can accommodate it. It was agreed to contact the new Vicar and confirm the plans asap. Cllr Anderson & a local caterer will be asked to assist with food while the Freemen of Hale can provide a bar if required.

Cllr McNamara proposed to accept the motion.

This was seconded by Cllr Wright

The Motion was approved unanimously

13. Guildswomen – No new nominees have been received and in the absence of Cllr Williams this matter was deferred until a later date.

Proposed by Cllr Roberts and Seconded by Cllr Trevaskis

The Motion was approved unanimously

The Chair Closed the Meeting at 9.45pm