



HALE PARISH COUNCIL
OF THE HALTON BOROUGH IN
THE COUNTY OF CHESHIRE



DATED THIS FIFTEENTH DAY OF JANUARY 2025
MEMBERS OF HALE PARISH COUNCIL ARE HEREBY SUMMONED
TO ATTEND THE ORDINARY MEETING OF HALE PARISH COUNCIL
ON THE TWENTIETH DAY OF JANUARY 2024 AT 8.00PM
IN HALE VILLAGE HALL, HIGH STREET, HALE L24 4AE
TO TRANSACT BUSINESS AS SHOWN IN THE AGENDA.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to be 'B. Hargreaves'.

Mr. Brian Hargreaves
Clerk and Responsible Financial Officer

Note to Councillors:

If you are unable to attend the meeting, please notify the Clerk of your apologies.

Please email: clerk@haleparishcouncil.gov.uk or call 07803611222

Note to Public

Members of the public wishing to address the Council should note that they must advise the Clerk before 10am on the day of the meeting both of their wish to participate in the public forum and their topic. If residents fail to inform the clerk prior to the meeting, permission to speak at the meeting will be at the discretion of the Chairman. All participants are restricted to a maximum of three minutes. If the public wish to ask the Council questions, please note that the Council may not be able to answer the question if the Council has not considered or resolved the question on an agenda item at a prior meeting. Should this be the case, the Council will advise correspondence with the Clerk to request the item should be discussed at a future Parish Council meeting. If the question is considered outside the remit of Hale Parish Council, residents will be referred to Halton Borough Council.

** Please note that anybody wishing to comment should raise their hand, wait to be acknowledged and should address the meeting through the Chair.*

MEETING AGENDA

1. **Apologies** - To Receive apologies for absence
2. **Declarations of Interest** - To Receive declarations of Interest
3. **Welcome – To New Parish Councillor Andrea Hutchinson**
4. **Public Participation** – A period of public participation as set out in the “Note to Public” above.
5. **Minutes** –
 - i. To approve the Minutes of the Ordinary Meeting of Hale Parish Council on 18th November 2024 as a true and accurate record
6. **Accounts** - To receive the reconciled bank statement and summary of receipts & payments 12TH November 2024 – 31st December 2024 to accept them as a true and accurate record and comparison against budget (See Attached)
7. **Invoice Sampling** – As required by Hale Parish Council Financial regulations 2.2 the appointed member shall check and sign all reconciliations against original Unity Bank statements and report including any exceptions to and noted by the council.
8. **Well Being Hub letter** – To hear a presentation from Shirley Bingham regarding support for a wellbeing Hub in the Village Hall and to agree a course of action
9. **Policies** - To review the two Policies below following an update by the Policies working group prior to this meeting.

Parish Council Policy documents reviewed for approval:-

- i. **Combined Equality & Diversity Policy**
 - ii. **Public Complaints Procedure**
10. **Anonymous Parking Complaint** - To review the recently received anonymous complaint and agree a course of action

It is proposed that the Formation of a Parking Working Group should be arranged

Description:

To address the growing parking challenges in the village, it is proposed to form a working group tasked with identifying opportunities to improve parking availability. These challenges affect both residents and visitors and are expected to worsen due to the following:

- The planned development of additional properties on Town Lane.
- Increased trade and footfall as local shops continue to grow in popularity.
- Continued popularity as a tourist destination.

Proposed Objectives of the Working Group:

- Assess Current Parking Needs:** evaluate the existing parking capacity and identify pressure points within the village
- Engage Stakeholders:** collaborate with residents, business owners, and developers to gather input and suggestions.
- Explore Solutions:** consider short-term and long-term options such as improved signage, shared parking arrangements, or the creation of new parking spaces.
- Funding Opportunities:** investigate potential grants or funding to support any proposed parking improvements.
- Report Findings:** provide recommendations to the Parish Council for further discussion and action.

Decision Required:

Approval to establish the working group, determine its membership, and set an initial timeline for its first report.

This initiative aims to proactively address parking issues to ensure the village remains accessible and welcoming for all.

11. Re: Town & Parish Councils & VE Day 80 – 8th May 2025

The Parish Council has received this information regarding plans for celebrating the 80th anniversary of VE Day, taking place on 8th May 2025, from the National Association of Local Councils.

The Guide to Taking Part in VE Day 80, along with all the other aspect they are encouraging Town and Parish Councils to take part in, can be viewed and downloaded from the official VE Day website - www.VEday80.org.uk.

It is hoped that Hale Parish Council will take part in one or more of the activities planned, using the occasion to pay tribute to those that gave so much from within our local community, to ensure the freedom we all enjoy today.

Participating Councils and organisations are being asked to register their involvement as soon as possible by completing the Registration Form on the VE Day 80 website.

- 12. Civic Service Arrangements** – To propose a date for the Annual Civic Service at St Mary’s Church in Hale and to arrange for a member to take the lead in contacting prospective attendees and the new Vicar to arrange the same

- 13. Guildswomen** – To receive any nominations from the Guildswomen working group for individuals to be considered to receive the honour of “Guildswoman”