



HALE PARISH COUNCIL

OF THE HALTON BOROUGH IN
THE COUNTY OF CHESHIRE



DRAFT MINUTES OF THE ORDINARY MEETING OF HALE VILLAGE HALL MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE HELD AT HALE VILLAGE HALL ON MONDAY 12TH OCTOBER 2026 AT 7.30pm

Present: Cllr J McNamara, Cllr P Lewis, Cllr M Fisher, A McNamara, P Turton,
N Thompson, Cllr C Anderson

In attendance: The Clerk and two members of the public

1. **Apologies** – Apologies were received from Cllr M Roberts
2. **Declarations of Interest** – No declarations of interest were received by the Clerk
3. **Public Participation** – As there were no members of the Public present this item was not discussed.
 - *The Chair addressed Item 9 to this point as the resident presenting needed to leave early*
9. **Kitchen Upgrades** – A local resident presented a proposal for upgrading the facilities in the Village Hall kitchen. His proposal would give the venue an ability to cater for large functions but more importantly to provide commercial grade appliances for large scale catering. The committee received quotations and a comparable hire option and will consider the proposal at a future meeting when funding options can be explored
4. **Minutes** – The minutes of the Hale Village Hall Management Committee Ordinary meeting on 14th September 2026 were approved and accepted as a true and accurate account.

Proposed by Cllr Fisher and seconded by Cllr P Lewis

The Motion was approved

5. **Payments and Receipts** – The Payments and receipts for the period 1st September 2026 – 6th October 2026 were approved as a true and accurate account

Proposed by Cllr P Lewis and seconded by N Thompson

The Motion was approved

6. **Accounts** – The reconciled bank statement and summary of receipts & payments between 1st September 2026 – 6th October 2026 were accepted as an accurate record and comparison against budget.

Proposed by Cllr J McNamara and seconded by N Thompson

The Motion was approved

7. **Village Hall Management Committee (VHMC)** - It was recognised that the VHMC currently consists of five full-time Councillors and three non-Council members. A member of the public has expressed an interest in joining the committee as a non-councillor to fill the full quota of non-Council members.

Additionally, there remains a vacancy for a full member, as Cllr M Fisher has now become a full-time Councillor.

8. **Leaf Vacuum Purchase** – It was agreed to ratify the purchase of an electric leaf Vacuum (uses the existing battery) having previously been agreed by email between the Clerk and members.

Proposed by Paul Turton and seconded by Cllr M Fisher

The Motion was approved

10. **Annual Budget** – A draft budget was presented to the Village Hall Management Committee (VHMC) by the Clerk for consideration. The Chair went through the proposal line by line and the meeting felt that the proposal was appropriate and acceptable. It was agreed that the committee would further review the proposal and forward any changes or amendments to the Clerk, prior to the November meeting.

11. Health & Safety Working Group –

- i. **Further Training** – Members feel that there is an additional appetite for the training provided by P Turton and would like it to be included on the next Parish Council Agenda to consider holding another session
- ii. **Village Hall Curtains/Drapes** – Concerns were once again raised about the on-going maintenance of the drapes in the main Hall. A committee member asked about the material used and its fire-retardant properties. Another asked about cleaning and maintaining them in good order. The Clerk will make some enquiries and report back in the November meeting. The Terms of hire will be reviewed to check what provisions are considered for hirers bringing their own equipment onto the premises.

12. Entertainment

- i. **Jazz in the Village** – The Clerk encouraged the meeting to sell tickets for the Jazz concert on 24th October.
- ii. **Quiz Night & Afternoon Tea/Play your Cards Right** – It was noted that both events were a complete success and that people who attended were delighted with what the Parish Council had delivered. Both events were well attended and will be great inclusions to the events calendar for 2027
- iii. **Events Working Group** – This Item was deferred until the November meeting
- iv. **Bat walk** – The private “Bat Walk” which took place on 25th September 2026 was a great success and 35 residents and locals attended. It is hoped that a similar event can be arranged for a suitable date in 2027

- 13.** It was agreed that the next Village Hall Management Meeting will take place on 9th November 2026 at 7.30pm at Hale Village Hall