



# HALE PARISH COUNCIL

OF THE HALTON BOROUGH IN  
THE COUNTY OF CHESHIRE



**DATED THIS SIXTEENTH DAY OF MARCH 2022**

**MEMBERS OF HALE PARISH COUNCIL ARE HEREBY SUMMONED**

**TO ATTEND THE ORDINARY COUNCIL MEETING OF  
HALE PARISH COUNCIL**

**TO BE HELD AT 7.30PM ON THE**

**TWENTY FIRST DAY OF MARCH 2022**

**IN HALE VILLAGE HALL, HIGH STREET, HALE L24 4AE**

**TO TRANSACT BUSINESS AS SHOWN IN THE AGENDA.**

This meeting is to be held, adhering to the legislation of the Coronavirus Act 2020

A handwritten signature in black ink, consisting of several loops and a long horizontal stroke.

**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](mailto: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.*

## MEETING AGENDA

1. **Apologies** - To Receive apologies for absence
2. **Declarations of Interest** - To Receive declarations of interest
3. **Public Participation** - To adjourn the meeting for a period of public participation

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

4. **Minutes – Minutes** – To approve the Minutes of Hale Parish Council Extra-Ordinary Meeting held on

- i. Wednesday 16<sup>th</sup> February 2022

To approve the Minutes of Hale Parish Council Ordinary Meeting held on :-

- ii. Monday 21<sup>st</sup> February 2022

5. **Matters arising from Previous Parish Council Meetings**

- i. **Planning** – The Chair has contacted Halton BC and the appropriate planning applications for the Jubilee celebrations are being considered.
  - ii. **Trustee Amendment** – The Clerk has contacted Louise Beaton to arrange the amendments to the Trust Deed as agreed. We await the draft resolution in accordance with s.280 of the Charities Act 2011: and an agreement to submit it to a meeting of Hale Parish Council acting as sole trustee of Hale Village Hall

- iii. **Bus Services** – To note the new proposals by the Liverpool City Region to bring the region’s buses back under public control.
- iv. **Donations** – To note that two donations agreed recently
  - i. Donation to Mind £250.00
  - ii. Donation to The Freemen of Hale £2000.00have now been paid
- v. **Trees for Jubilee Celebrations** – To consider the reply from a previously used supplier (below) and to discuss the options available To decide upon the preferred choices for trees to mark the Queens Jubilee and decide upon the next course of action

*Hello Brian,*

*I'm very sorry to hear that the Oak tree failed last year – and disappeared. Such a shame that not everyone in the community is supportive of tree planting.*

*Did you happen to take any photographs of it? If so this may help us to identify the cause.*

*Happy to help with the selection of your new trees. Firstly would you be able to tell me what sort of soil they are to be planted in? and if you have any preference on flower or leaf colour, or size/shape of the eventual tree?*

*If the conditions are suitable I think a few fruit trees would be a good choice. I think it will help to get the local children more excited about planting and looking after the trees if they know they can pick fruit in the summer/autumn.*

*Fruit trees also have the benefit of lovely blossom in the spring.*

*Warmest regards*

*Katie*

- 6. **Ward Councillors Report** – To receive a report from local Ward Councilors if available

**7. Payments and Receipts** - To receive and approve the list of payments and receipts made between 9<sup>th</sup> February 2022 and 16<sup>th</sup> March 2022 as recorded in the cash book record which has been reconciled against the Bank statement to these dates, all payments having been made under Financial Regulation 6.4 as detailed below

14-Mar-22	Room Hire	INV HVH-354	-£12.50	£32,471.95
14-Mar-22	B/P to: Mind	Resident Donation	-£250.00	£32,484.45
08-Mar-22	Direct Debit (GOOGLE CLOUD EMEA)	82385888GGJCKX4JQP	-£13.80	£32,734.45
02-Mar-22	Donation	HALE PARISH COUNCI	-£2,000.00	£32,748.25
01-Mar-22	Direct Debit (HISCOX)	HISCOX PIB 8187826	-£293.92	£34,748.25
28-Feb-22	Salary	HPC	-£1,026.41	£35,042.17
28-Feb-22	Salary	120PA00288525 1806	-£389.69	£36,068.58
16-Feb-22	Repayment	HPC	-£18.70	£36,458.27
16-Feb-22	Salary	120PA00288525 1806	-£193.54	£36,476.97
16-Feb-22	B/P to: Risk Support Serv.	INV - 0025	-£297.00	£36,670.51
15-Feb-22	Room Hire (to be transferred)	BIRTHDAY	£75.00	£36,967.51

**8. Accounts** - To receive the reconciled bank statement and summary of receipts & payments (9<sup>th</sup> February 2022 – 16<sup>th</sup> March 2022) against budgets and to accept them as an accurate record

102	14/02/2022	Salary	Hale Parish Council	-£193.54	£36,336.07	16/02/2022
3	15/02/2022	Room Hire	Resident	£75.00	£36,411.07	15/02/2022
104	25/02/2022	Salary	Hale Parish Council	-£1,016.41	£35,394.66	28/02/2022
105	25/02/2022	Expenses	Hale Parish Council	-£10.00	£35,384.66	28/02/2022
106	25/02/2022	Salary	Hale Parish Council	-£389.69	£34,994.97	28/02/2022
109	01/03/2022	Insurance	Hiscox	-£293.92	£34,701.05	01/03/2022
107	01/03/2022	Donation	The Freeman of Hale	-£2,000.00	£32,701.05	02/03/2022
108	02/03/2022	Donation	Mind (Charity)	-£250.00	£32,451.05	14/03/2022
110	08/03/2022	Internet/Website	Google Ireland Ltd	-£13.80	£32,437.25	08/03/2022
<b>CLOSING BALANCE</b>					<b>32,437.25</b>	
				<b>£ -34.70</b>	<b>Bank statement should</b>	<b>£ 32,471.95</b>



- 9. Village Hall Sign** – To approve the wording for the proposed Village Hall sign and to agree a size and budget for the plaque.

HALE VILLAGE HALL

Re-built and opened

OCTOBER 2017

The community of Hale

Recognises the hard work and commitment  
of all those people who contributed  
alongside Hale Parish Council during  
the development of this building project

- 10. Siting of Fawcett Gun on the Memorial Green** – To consider the options and decide upon the placement of the refurbished Fawcett Gun.

**11. Solar Farm Planning Application Ref: 22/00019/PLD**

To Receive an update on the Solar Farm planning application and agree actions



# HALE PARISH COUNCIL

## OF THE HALTON BOROUGH IN THE COUNTY OF CHESHIRE



### **DRAFT MINUTES OF THE EXTRA-ORDINARY PARISH COUNCIL MEETING OF HALE PARISH COUNCIL HELD IN HALE VILLAGE HALL ON WEDNESDAY 16<sup>th</sup> FEBRUARY 2022 AT 7.30pm**

Present: Cllr Mitchell, Cllr Wright, Cllr Spargo, Cllr McNamara, Cllr Trevaskis,  
Cllr Williams

In attendance: The Clerk, the Lord Mayor and two members of the public were present

- 1. Apologies** – Cllrs Healey, Cleary, and Anderson recorded their apologies
- 2. Declarations of Interest** – No declarations of interest were registered
- 3. Public Participation** – To adjourn the meeting for a period of public participation

The Chair allowed the Lord Mayor and the two members of the public attending to make representations regarding the agenda Items.

A working document which has been produced and co-ordinated by the Chair was deliberated upon and the proposals therein were debated. It was agreed that in principal the ideas and suggestions were generally sound and warranted further consideration. However there was some disappointment expressed from the floor that more consultation and inclusion in the ideas proposed had not taken place. In particular The Lord Mayor felt that the report produced had been created without his input and was unhappy that it was credited to the Chair. He felt strongly that as a primary figure in this project he should have received emails to keep him updated.

It was subsequently noted that the Chair had been given the incorrect email address for the Lord Mayor and unfortunately any correspondence he had sent had not been received by him. In mitigation the Chair apologised for not being more “inclusive” with his report but explained that his priority was to achieve a proposal which has the correct information and credibility to enable several funding applications to be submitted subsequently on behalf of the Parish Council. He went on to say that by his understanding he had been asked in a prior meeting to explore the funding options available. He believed that the submission of such applications was the priority in view of the short timescale available. He further expressed a view that everything he has done has been for “the right reasons”

The report presented was credited to the Chair personally to ensure that there was a definite distinction from any document submitted on behalf of Hale Parish Council.

He stated that any project requiring funding cannot be commenced until an application is approved. In addition a schedule of all proposed costs needs to be submitted for a successful outcome to be achieved

Cllr Spargo gave his opinion that all parties concerned have a collective and common interest and are striving for a similar outcome. The Queens Jubilee is a fantastic opportunity for Hale

Village but in his opinion there has clearly been a breakdown in communications and all future efforts should demonstrate debate and inclusion for any proposals being considered. It was noted by a local resident that one of the proposals under discussion is to present a potted acorn/oak tree to each of the children in the Village. However it was felt that this would not be possible due to the need for these trees to be planted at the correct time in late autumn or early winter. In addition they are susceptible to animals such as squirrels who have acorns as part of their regular diet.

A proposal to install a village beacon was discussed and it was agreed that subject to approval consideration of all the fire risks and spectator attendance should be taken into account. A full planning application will be required with a proper opportunity for residents to give their views before the project can be approved.

Installation of specific jubilee lighting was proposed for discussion where concerns about them only being properly visible in the dark were expressed. It was suggested that the exercise might be cost prohibitive and that appropriate street bunting might be more suitable as an alternative.

Cllr Mitchell noted that during the preparations for the Millennium celebrations in 2000 a number of fund raising events took place in addition to the formal funding applications submitted. She suggested that similar fund raising opportunities existed for residents to explore.

- 4. Queens Platinum Jubilee Celebrations 2<sup>nd</sup> – 5<sup>th</sup> June 2022** – It was resolved to submit the relevant applications for funding for various Installations and celebrations proposed for the Queens Platinum Jubilee celebrations.

Proposed by Cllr Spargo and seconded by Cllr Williams

**The Motion was approved**

- i. Jubilee Green** – It was resolved to approach Halton Borough Council to request voluntarily registration of the piece of land at the Junction of Hale Rd High St. and Ramsbrook Lane under Section 15 (8) of the Commons 2006 Act as a Village Green – renaming the parcel of land as the “Jubilee Green” to commemorate The Queen.

Proposed by Cllr Spargo and seconded by Cllr Williams

**The Motion was approved**

- j. Donation** – an amendment was made to the proposal to donate £1500 to the Freemen of Hale. Upon review It was resolved to approve a donation of £2000 to the Freemen of Hale under Section 137 of the Local Government Act 1972 to assist with staging a Jubilee party and assorted work associated with the Queens Jubilee celebrations.

After the amendment to the initial proposal from Cllr Spargo, Cllr Wright proposed that the sum of £2000 should be approved. This was seconded by Cllr Williams

**The Motion was approved**

- k. Village Trees** - It was agreed that in the light of recently discussed information regarding the gifting of potted oak trees to children within the Village the proposal was considered unfeasible.

A revised proposal for a budget of up to £700 for the purchase of 7 appropriate trees (type to be confirmed in further discussions at next PC meeting) was submitted by Cllr Mitchell and supported by Cllr McNamara. Seven trees signifies the 7 decades that Her Majesty the Queen has been in office. The motion was resolved by Members.

**The Motion was approved**

- 1. Planning** - It was resolved to give the Clerk delegated authority to seek approval from the Environmental Services Division at Halton BC for the approved installations. In addition to arrange for the submission of the appropriate planning application and approve grant applications for funding.

Proposed by Cllr Wright and seconded by Cllr Spargo

**The Motion was approved**

The Chairman closed the Meeting at 9.00pm



# HALE PARISH COUNCIL

## OF THE HALTON BOROUGH IN THE COUNTY OF CHESHIRE



### **DRAFT MINUTES OF THE ORDINARY PARISH COUNCIL MEETING OF HALE PARISH COUNCIL HELD IN HALE VILLAGE HALL ON MONDAY 21<sup>st</sup> FEBRUARY 2022 AT 7.30pm**

Present: Cllr Williams, Cllr Mitchell, Cllr Wright, Cllr Spargo, Cllr Cleary, Cllr Anderson,  
Cllr McNamara, Cllr Trevaskis, Cllr Brown

In attendance: The Clerk was also present

1. **Apologies** – An apology was received on behalf of Cllr Healey
2. **Declarations of Interest** – No Interests were declared
3. **Public Participation** – To adjourn the meeting for a period of public participation
4. **Minutes** –
  - i. Cllr Mitchell proposed that the minutes for Hale Parish Council Ordinary Meeting held on Monday 17th January 2022 should be approved as a true record. Cllr Spargo seconded the proposal.

#### **The Motion was approved**

- ii. Cllr Trevaskis proposed that the minutes for Hale Parish Council Extra-Ordinary Meeting held on Thursday 27th January 2022 should be approved as a true record. Cllr Williams seconded the proposal.

#### **The Motion was approved**

### **5. Matters Arising From previous Parish Council Meetings**

- i. Item 5 (i) was noted by members
- j. Item 5 (j) was noted by members
- k. The Chair Expanded upon this subject and gave an overview of the attached objection submitted on behalf of the residents of Hale Village. In particular he identified 4 primary areas of concern which were addressed. Two of these were expanded upon. The first in relation to the application land not being operational in nature and the second in consideration of the proposed solar panel array not being considered as “buildings”.

6. **Ward Councillor's Report** – There was no report received by the Clerk for consideration on this occasion
7. **Payments & Receipts** – A proposal by Cllr Spargo to accept all payments made between 9<sup>th</sup> January 2022 – 8<sup>th</sup> February 2022 as recorded in the cash book record which has been reconciled against the Bank statements to these dates, all payments having been made under Financial Regulation 6.4 as detailed was received and seconded by Cllr Cllr McNamara

**The Motion was approved**

8. **Accounts** – Approval of the reconciled bank statement and summary of receipts for the Third quarter of 2021 (1<sup>st</sup> January 2022 – December 8<sup>th</sup> February 2022) presented by the Clerk was proposed by Cllr Spargo and seconded by Cllr Anderson

**The Motion was approved**

9. **Trustee Amendment** – The council resolved that the Clerk should contract the service of Louise Beaton to draft an amendment to the Trust Deed. Hale Parish Council will need to meet again as a trustee (I.E there can be no other council business discussed.) to accept the amendment once it has been provided by Louise. The amendment will need to be sent to the Charity Commission who have up to 90 days to raise an objection. If no objection is raised after 90 days then the Council can continue as a trustee to proceed with the actions as outlined in the amendment and meet once again as a trustee to appoint additional members.

Proposed by Cllr McNamara and seconded by Cllr Williams

**The Motion was approved**

10. **Resident Donation** – A proposal by Cllr Brown to make a donation to “Mind” mental health charity in support of a recently deceased resident was accepted and a donation of £250 agreed. The proposal was seconded by Cllr Trevaskis.

**The Motion was approved**

11. **Bus Service** – Cllr Spargo gave an account of the poor bus service being experienced in Hale Village at present. He outlined the fact that as a resident of 46 years he has witnessed a decline in the travel times from Hale Village into Liverpool city Centre with a journey which previously took approximately 35 minutes now taking over an hour. Cllr Spargo proposed that the existing X1 bus which runs directly from Runcorn into Liverpool city Centre could be re-routed through Halebank, Hale Village and then on past Liverpool John Lennon Airport and back out onto the existing route providing a faster more efficient service for residents. It was agreed that the Clerk will contact the three ward councillors with a request to explore the possibility of better options being available and to make an approach to Mersey Transport Authority regarding the licensing of improved passage might be considered.

Proposed by Cllr Cleary and seconded by Cllr McNamara

**The Motion was approved**

**12. Sign for Village Hall** – It was resolved to commission and install a commemorative plaque in Hale Village Hall. The plaque will record the opening date of the new Hall and will credit the work of community groups and volunteers who helped to have the new building developed. In addition any funding authorities will be credited with the wording and dimensions of the plaque to be agreed by members in a proof format prior to the commencing manufacture.

Proposed by Cllr Spargo and seconded by Cllr Wright

**The Motion was approved**

The Chairman closed the Meeting at 8.45pm

# Historic move to bring Liverpool City Region buses back under public control confirmed

Liverpool City Region Combined Authority confirms historic move



**A plan to bring buses back under public control has moved forward** (Image: Andrew Teebay/Liverpool Echo)

An historic move to bring the Liverpool City Region's buses back into public control has been made.

Members of the Liverpool City Region Combined Authority have given their backing to proposals to adopt a franchise model that would put control of services, fares and timetables back in local hands.

The move will represent the biggest change to the public transport network in the city since the 1980s.

The franchise system would still involve services being run by private operators, but would allow city region leaders to set fares, timetables and routes.

The plan is part of Metro Mayor Steve Rotherham's plan to introduce a "London-style" transport network.

He told the combined authority meeting this afternoon that the opportunity to fix the "broken, fragmented and too expensive" bus system was one of the main reasons he stood to be Metro Mayor.

Mayor Rotherham added that the plan is a "once in a lifetime opportunity to reverse the disastrous decision to deregulate services outside of the capital" and members needed to "grasp the opportunity devolution has afforded us for generations to come."

John Fogarty, executive director of corporate services, said the move represented a "significant milestone" as buses are the "most important strand of the transport network."

He said that the plan is about "how communities link to each other and key public services."

Mr Fogarty said there are still "significant risks involved with franchising" and the pandemic has emphasised this.

Questioned by Cllr Graham Morgan, leader of Knowsley Council, on the how transition to the new system will be funded, Mr Fogarty said there will be further work done on affordability, but major capital costs could be funded by borrowing.

These would be paid back by future bus revenues.

The Metro Mayor said if a London-style public transport network is to be achieved, London-style subsidies will be needed from the UK Government.

Matt Goggins, assistant director for bus, admits that franchising "isn't the direction" that providers Arriva and Stagecoach would want to go in but he hopes to continue to work with the current operators to benefit customers.



**Metro Mayor Steve Rotheram**

The decision to adopt a franchise model will be subject to an audit of the proposed scheme and a full public consultation.

Liverpool City Region Mayor Steve Rotheram said that franchising would allow passengers to enjoy cheaper, quicker and more reliable services and was now identified as the preferred option to deliver a bus network designed around the needs of local people, not private shareholders.

Speaking after the decision he said: “Good public transport is the hallmark of any modern, successful city region and buses are its backbone. Hundreds of thousands of people rely on our region’s buses every single day. They are a lifeline for connecting people in our communities with each other and opportunity.

“But too many feel left behind by a system that simply does not work for them. In too many places, public transport is too confusing, too unreliable, and too expensive. Liverpool City Centre can sometimes feel as far away as London.

“Today we have taken a massive step towards putting that right. Thanks to devolution we have the power to roll back the 1980s and reverse four decades of disastrous deregulation. We’re taking back control of our bus network and running it in the interests of local people – not private shareholders.

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**Hale War Memorial.**

1 message

3 March 2022 at 15:32

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To: Hale Clerk <clerk@haleparishcouncil.gov.uk>

Sirs,

At our Branch meeting last night, it was reported that there is a proposal afoot that a cannon be placed within the railings surrounding the Village War Memorial to mark the Platinum Jubilee of HM the Queen. Those present at the meeting asked me to write to you to outline the Branch's concerns.

When researching the men whose names appear on the memorial some years ago, I was told by a since deceased local man that for many years there had been two cannons displayed outside the old Drill Hall and that over time these had been removed, with one possibly having been buried on that site. I am now told that the cannon which it is proposed to place on the War Memorial Green is one of those two cannons. Although none of our members has seen this cannon, I am told that it is quite small and its history and origins are not known. At present, there is a Field Gun on the Green, of Russian origin, captured by German troops in WW2 and then recaptured by British troops before the end of that war. It, therefore, has some relevance to the purpose of the War Memorial. Initially erected to commemorate those local men killed in the Great War (it was anticipated that this would be the last ever World War) in 1922, it was subsequently adopted, as was the case all over the UK, to commemorate the local dead of WW2 as well. These dates feature prominently on the memorial itself. On this basis alone, it appears to us that the cannon has no relevance to either of these conflicts nor to the memorial itself.

Until the installation of the Christmas Tree to which, I am sure you will recall, the Legion objected, it had been strict Parish Council policy that nothing should be placed on the War Memorial Green - the plaque on the outside of the railings and the rose bush planted by the Guildswomen outside of the railings illustrate this policy. It was always feared by our members that abandoning this policy might lead to an influx of tributes but nevertheless permission was granted for the Christmas Tree. In our thinking, the War Memorial is exactly that - a commemoration of those who died in two World Wars - and not a War or Military Museum. Whilst we agree that if this is one of the original cannons, it deserves to be preserved and displayed, we believe that its rightful position would be outside the Village Hall, which is on the site of the Old Drill Hall. Whether the cannon is a suitable tribute to HM's 70 years reign is another matter.

I ask that the views of the Royal British Legion Hale Branch be considered carefully before any decision is reached.

Yours

Chairman  
Hale Branch  
Royal British Legion.