



HALE PARISH COUNCIL

OF THE HALTON BOROUGH IN
THE COUNTY OF CHESHIRE



DRAFT MINUTES OF THE ORDINARY MEETING OF HALE PARISH COUNCIL HELD AT HALE VILLAGE HALL ON MONDAY 19th JANUARY 2026 AT 8.00pm

Present: Cllr M Roberts, Cllr P Healey, Cllr G Wright Cllr C Anderson, Cllr Trevaskis, Cllr P Lewis, Cllr A Hutchinson

In attendance: Eight members of public were present

1. **Apologies** – Apologies were received from the Clerk Brian Hargreaves. In his absence Cllr Hutchinson recorded the minutes of the meeting (attached)
2. **Declarations of Interest** – Two Cllrs raised their hands, Cllr Pat Lewis declared an interest in item 16 – Financial Regulation and Cllr Andrea Hutchinson declared an interest in item 12 – Planning application
3. **Public Participation** – The Chairman opened the floor to public participation:
 - One member of the public asked if the Parish Council could recommend a reliable taxi service within the village as they have been let down on a few occasions using a local taxi service. The consensus was that whilst there is no nominated local taxi serve hosted in Hale Village it was suggested maybe Uber or Alpha taxis could be a reliable taxi services
 - One member of the public has offered to donate their time and equipment to any residents that would like to take up basic photography skills and IT skills. Whist the equipment is a little old, it could be a great entry level for some who do not have these skills.
 - One member of the public has asked if the Village Hall website still has ongoing issues. It was conveyed that The Clerk is looking into this and it is an issue with the Domain name. it was also noted there are people in the village that may be to help get the website up and running.
 - Pathway to the car park – adjacent to the side of the building it was requested whether we can have better lighting as it is dimly lit and poses a health and safety issue.

Action : The Clerk will request quotes to carry out the additional work

- One member of the public objected to the wording that was published on the PC website regarding the previous meeting held in November. The member of the public has contacted the Clerk directly and stated that it was not a true reflection of what was discussed. The notes albeit in draft form on the website were subsequently amended to better reflect what was discussed at November's meeting and will be published as approved minutes at this meeting.
- Village Hall (VH) use – One member of the public has feedback that over time the use of the VH has changed which has resulted in increasing traffic and frequently vans and cars are obstructing access outside their home. A member of the public has noted that they have been verbally abused by many vendors using the VH to set up events. They have also objected to the use of the land at the back of the VH and state that it's an infringement on their privacy. It was noted there isn't enough sufficient access for large vans/cars to offload if they are setting up for an event which then cause double parking in Pepper street or alternatively vehicles being blocked in. The chair and the PC took the concerns of the resident on board and were at pains to explain that no formal decisions have been made about the land at the back of the VH and that there will need to be a response back from Savills regarding the extended longer lease terms requested. This will then be addressed at the relevant Parish Council meeting where formal consultation will take place so that all residents can express their views and concerns

One member of the public gave his views about Hale Village Precept and its future footprint. Hale Parish Council (HPC) are unaware of any imminent changes and if any news is received, they will inform residents through the usual means

4. **Minutes.** – With a minor amendments regarding the dates published, the minutes of the Ordinary Meeting of 17th November 2025 were approved as a true and accurate record

Proposed by Cllr G Wright

Seconded by Cllr P Lewis

The Motion was approved unanimously

5. **Accounts** – This Item was deferred until the Parish Council in February

Proposed by Cllr M Roberts

Seconded by Cllr G Wright

The Motion was approved

6. **Invoice Sampling** – This Item was deferred until the Parish Council meeting in February

Proposed by Cllr M Roberts

Seconded by Cllr G Wright

The Motion was approved

7. Instant Access Account – This Item was deferred until the Parish Council in February

Proposed by Cllr M Roberts

Seconded by Cllr G Wright

The Motion was approved

8. Draft Calendar of events – It was agreed that a Working Group should be established. It was agreed that the Clerk will arrange an informal working group and have a councillor nominated for each event who can coordinate volunteers etc.

Action It was agreed that a Working Group should be established.

Action Remove the 7th Feb out of the Village Hall booking system as there is no confirmed event taking place.

9. Jazz Evening - It was agreed that the Parish Council should stage the proposed Jazz Evening as per the proposal by the performers. This should be added to the Events Calendar as soon as possible.

10. Pension Policy - This Item was deferred until the Parish Council in February

Proposed by Cllr M Roberts

Seconded by Cllr P Lewis

The Motion was approved

11. Multi – Year funding - The group asked if the Parish Council can allocate ad hoc funding. There was no decision made this item. However, **Action Wellbeing Fund** to be included in the next Newsletters as a call to residents that they can apply to the wellbeing fund

12. Planning Application Cllr Hutchinson has a conflict of interest and cannot add any commentary

13. Neighbourhood Development Plan - Cllr Trevaskis explained the possibility of setting this up highlighting that it does need to be community led.

Action to be included next Newsletter and Cllr Trevaskis will draft a summary describing the task.

14. Noise Pollution –

Action Cllr Anderson will reach out to the resident for more information

15. Trustee Deed –

Action – To be deferred until the next PC meeting to discuss frequency of meetings

Proposed by Cllr M Roberts

Seconded by Cllr G Wright

The Motion was approved

16. Financial Regulation – It was agreed there should not be any conflict of interest however it was noted that Standard Orders should be set up for Employees wages so that they are paid on time and will not require 2nd signatory.

Action Clerk to arrange standing order for VH and PC employees

17. Park Vendor Proposition –

Action Clerk to acquire some more information about the proposal

18. Land Adjacent to Village Hall. There was a lengthy discussion about this at the beginning of the meeting from public participation. It was agreed to defer to the next meeting and will need to hear back from Savills regarding the lease

Proposer Cllr Lewis Pat

Seconder Cllr Carol Anderson

The Motion was approved

19. Civic Service –

Action Cllr Joe McNamara will take the lead. This event will also be noted in item 9.

20. Remembrance Sunday –

Action - Cllr Joe McNamara will take the lead but will also be noted within item 9.

Action - Also need to confirm if VH has been booked for refreshments on these dates

21. Guildswomen – It was agreed that the guildswomen are their own entity and as such the PC have apologised for any of the ‘legacy’ nominations which have been lost or misplaced in the past.

22. Future Parish Council Meetings – All dates for Parish Council Meetings through 2026 into 2027 were approved.

Proposer Cllr Carol Anderson

Seconder Cllr Andrea Hutchinson

The Motion was approved