

# HALE PARISH COUNCIL

## Chairman's Report

Dear Residents,

This has been an extremely busy Council year thus far, involving the update and modernisation of many systems and procedures. A key objective of 2018 was to improve communications from the Parish Council and one way of achieving this goal is through a restyled Parish Council website. I am pleased to report this is now completed and can be found at [www.haleparishcouncil.gov.uk](http://www.haleparishcouncil.gov.uk) Last year, the Parish Council resolved to commence work on a Parish Plan that will see the circulation of a survey to each home in the not too distant future. This survey will help to navigate the decisions made by Hale Parish Council on behalf of the community and all residents are encouraged to complete one in order for their voice to be heard.

I would like to thank all residents who have so far attended our new schedule of events. The recent pumpkin carving workshop and Christmas festival in Hale Village Hall have served to bring the community together and it is a delight to see an increase in participation. This year will see the Parish Council continue a series of workshops with the introduction of adult learning classes - all residents are encouraged to check the new website regularly for updates and notices.

I would like to wish you all, on behalf of the Parish Council, a healthy and prosperous year ahead.

Cllr Luke Trevaskis, Chairman

## HALE COULD BE MERGED WITH DITTON AND HALEBANK IN NEW PLANS PROPOSED BY HALTON BOROUGH COUNCIL

Every twenty years, the Boundary Commission conduct a review of ward boundaries across the country, seeking advice from local groups, residents and Local Authorities.

The Boundary Commission wrote to Halton Borough Council on 26 June 2018 inviting proposals from the Council on a pattern of electoral wards that would accommodate 54 Councillors across Halton.

In a Full Council meeting held on 22 August 2018, Halton Borough Council approved a proposal to merge Hale with Halebank and Ditton, submitting this proposal to the Boundary Commission (who have now accepted to consult on this proposal).

The proposal will see three Borough Councillors representing a new much larger Ward of 5,000+ residents, with electors across Ditton and Halebank voting to elect Hale's representatives and visa versa.

Hale Parish Council agreed to propose an alternative submission to safeguard Hale's independence and current boundary - requesting the Boundary Commission retain Hale with one single Ward Councillor.

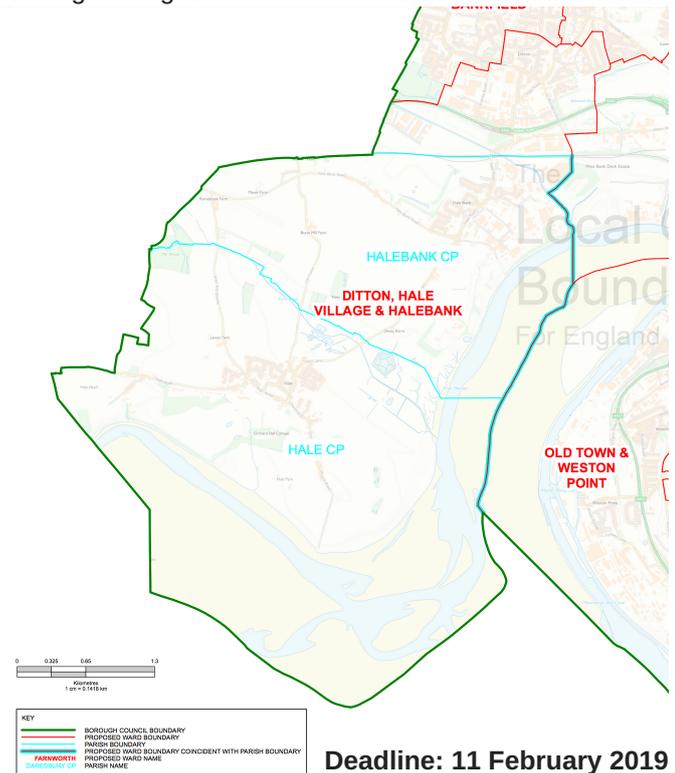
Hale Parish Council also agreed to write to Cllr Mike Wharton and all other Ward Councillors who approved the proposal to merge Hale with Ditton, to request an explanation of their decision and ask if they will write to the Boundary Commission independently to support Hale Parish Council's proposal to protect the unique identity of the village. If residents wish to object to Hale being merged with Ditton, residents are encouraged to send feedback to the Boundary Commission.

The objection from Hale Parish Council can be found online at [www.haleparishcouncil.gov.uk/notices](http://www.haleparishcouncil.gov.uk/notices) - if residents wish to use this as a template, it is encouraged to amend as necessary to ensure your objection is seen as uniquely valid.

Each representation from residents and local user groups is said to carry as much weight as a Local Authority and representations are not limited to one per household (if four residents reside within one household, four objections will be accepted). Objections should note identifiable natural boundaries such as Rams Brook which borders the village, the community spirit that binds Hale together, the identity and interests of the village (with evidence of community links such as the Parish Council, organisations and other voluntary groups within the village), and the poor transportation links between Hale and Ditton. By Hale retaining its own identity, and one Ward Councillor, this would produce an 'electoral inequality' in comparison to the rest of Halton (which the Boundary Commission try to avoid), resulting in Hale's sole Councillor having approximately 15% less electors to represent than other Councillors in Halton. Whilst uncommon, the Boundary Commission have already made similar exceptions for other areas of Cheshire such as Blacon who also have a 15% electoral variance per Councillor.

**Objections must be posted to: Review Officer (Halton), LGBCE, 1st Floor Windsor House, 50 Victoria Street, London, SW1H 0TL or emailed to [reviews@lgbce.org.uk](mailto:reviews@lgbce.org.uk) no later than 11 February 2019.**

[www.lgbce.org.uk/all-reviews/north-west/cheshire/halton](http://www.lgbce.org.uk/all-reviews/north-west/cheshire/halton)



# PEEL ENERGY SUBMIT PLANNING APPLICATION FOR SOLAR FARM ON HALE HEATH



Peel Energy have submitted a Planning Application to Halton Borough Council to erect approximately 275 x 2.7M high photovoltaic solar panels across Hale Heath - on over 15 acres of Grade 1 agricultural Green Belt that currently sits within 80 acres of land proposed by Halton Borough Council to be removed from Hale's Green Belt in the first draft of their Local Plan.

Visit the planning portal at [www.halton.gov.uk](http://www.halton.gov.uk) and search for application number 18/00513/FUL for further details. Hale Parish Council have submitted an objection which can be viewed at [www.haleparishcouncil.gov.uk/notices](http://www.haleparishcouncil.gov.uk/notices)

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## NOTICES

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### Grant Applications Now Open

Since its formation, Hale Parish Council has awarded over £100,000 in grant donations to local organisations and groups within the Parish. Hale Parish Council is currently accepting grant applications for 2019 and residents who have a project they are currently working on or an idea they would like assistance with are encouraged to download an application form at [www.haleparishcouncil.gov.uk/grants](http://www.haleparishcouncil.gov.uk/grants)

Past grant recipients have included Hale Village Hall, St Mary's Church, Hale Playgroup, Hale Guides, Hale Scouts, Hale Carnival, Hale Brownies, Hale Recreation Association, Hale Youth Centre, Hale Boys Football Club, Hale Cricket Club, Hale Homewatch, Hale in Bloom, Hale School, Guildswomen of Hale, Freemen of Hale, Shetland Rescue, Hale War Memorial, Hale Park and Hale Coffee Shop.

### Village Hall

The first year of operation has seen revenue from hirers almost double, with monies reinvested to make further improvements to the catering facilities to serve a wider scope of requirements. The Village Hall is now an ideal location for birthdays, anniversaries, functions and wedding celebrations with a kitchen that now boasts a commercial dishwasher, two commercial refrigerators and improved coffee making facilities. Booking details can be found online at [www.halevillagehall.org](http://www.halevillagehall.org)

### Clerk + RFO Vacancy

A vacancy has become available for a part-time Parish Clerk and Responsible Financial Officer with Hale Parish Council. The position would suit a candidate who is able to commit to a minimum of 10 hours per week and has a background in local government administration. Applicants must have obtained a CiLCA qualification or be working towards completing the course. Responsibilities include bookkeeping, VAT returns, accounts and transaction management, preparation of agendas and minutes, regular inspection of assets, community engagement, drafting of policies, writing of newsletters, grant applications, development of action plans, and maintenance of website, whilst ensuring the Council abides by its Code of Conduct, Standing Orders and relevant government legislation. To download a Recruitment Pack, please visit [www.haleparishcouncil.gov.uk/notices](http://www.haleparishcouncil.gov.uk/notices)

### Guildswomen Nominations

Last year, Hale Parish Council were delighted to recognise the hard work of three women in Hale with a Guildswomen Award. Congratulations to Ann Blundell, Barbara Tennant, and Dorothy Trimble who were named at the Civic Service for their commitment to helping our community over the years. If you know any women who deserve to be nominated for an award this year, please download an application form at [www.haleparishcouncil.gov.uk/notices](http://www.haleparishcouncil.gov.uk/notices)

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## THANKS

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### Civic Service

Thank you to everyone who attended the annual Civic Service. The service at St Mary's Church was delightful and it was a pleasure to welcome residents back to our new Village Hall for refreshments. It was attended by about 55 residents and it was an afternoon enjoyed by all. We hope that more residents and their families will join us this year and make the Civic Service something the whole Parish can enjoy. All being well, this year's service will be on 6 October 2019.

### War Memorial

On the 100th anniversary of the Great War and the great sacrifice of our Nation's servicemen and women, Hale Parish Council have facilitated a restoration of the War Memorial. Councillors would like to thank the War Memorials Trust for funding the cleaning of the stone work, Martin McCoy (Landscape Architect) at Halton Borough Council, Cllr Mike Wharton and Hale British Legion for their help and support in the cleaning of the gun and funding for the silent soldier.

# A SAFETY MOMENT FOR HALE

So, what is a Safety Moment? A Safety Moment is something that helps promote individual safety behaviours and shows our caring nature to reduce the chance of injury to ourselves, those around us and things of physical value. A Safety Moment should only take several seconds of your time and is an individual thought process of a potential unsafe practice followed by a solution that ensures the safety of all people that may be involved. A good example is driving through the Village with the thought process of the safety of pedestrians taking into account narrow pedestrian walkways, school crossings and other road users. The solution is to abide within the regulated speed limit at all times with a timely anticipation of what might be around the corner.

So, a good Safety Moment is timely, topical and to the point of which the thought process should be delivered just before we begin the relevant activity. Example: each Monday we locate our collection bins at the foot of our path or driveway but how many of us restrict pedestrian access in some cases forcing pedestrians to step onto the road similar to that of part pavement car parking? Try to ensure pedestrians have enough pavement space at all times - think of the disabled or those with prams.

Finally, safety moments need to be to the benefit of us all, what we are doing is taking a few seconds to direct attention to the simplest of activities in addition to aiming to reduce the number of safety incidents around us. A Safety Moment is a demonstration of the fact that we care about our neighbours and our Village.

A timely, topical and to-the-point safety moment influences good safety behaviour, prevents incidents and reassures people of Hale Village that we value them. If you're not taking a moment, why not?

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## WHAT'S ON

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### Hale Memory Makers

Memory Makers will launch on Wednesday 6 March 2019 to offer support to people living with Dementia or Alzheimer's Disease and their carers. The group will meet every first Wednesday of each month in Hale Village Hall from 6pm-8pm. Activities such as board games, painting, colouring, puzzles, and music will be on offer with a bowl of warm soup.

### Carnival 2019

Hale Carnival will return once again this year on Saturday 8 June 2019 in Hale Park from 12noon. This year's theme is 'The Sea' and residents who are taking part are encouraged to explore anything under, above or simply related to, 'The Sea'. The Carnival Committee are also keen to see environmental issues looked at. Those looking to enter the annual Scarecrow Competition should get their thinking caps on. If you would like to book a stall at this year's Carnival, please contact Cllr Catherine Williams by emailing [cathylou75@gmail.com](mailto:cathylou75@gmail.com) - prices start from £15 per stall.

### Annual Parish Meeting

The Annual Parish Meeting will be held on 18 March 2019 at 6pm in Hale Village Hall (53 High Street, Hale, Cheshire, L24 4AE). All local government electors are invited to attend and the purpose of the meeting is to discuss parish affairs. Representation from local groups and organisations within Hale is encouraged. If you wish to share your progress over the past twelve months at the meeting, please inform the Clerk no later than 11 March 2019 - [haleparishcouncilclerk@gmail.com](mailto:haleparishcouncilclerk@gmail.com)



### British Sign Language Course

A British Sign Language course will be starting in Hale Village Hall in March, delivered by resident Simon Morris. The course will be free of charge and sponsored by Hale Parish Council. It is hoped this will be the first of many adult learning classes organised by the Wellbeing Committee. Parishioners can sign up to the course by emailing [haleparishcouncilclerk@gmail.com](mailto:haleparishcouncilclerk@gmail.com)

### A Flippin' Great Day

There will be another Pancake Walk this year on Sunday 3 March at 2pm, from the Childe of Hale Pub car park to St Mary's Church. All participants will receive a printed certificate, a pancake and drink upon completion. Children (over four years) will be provided with a pan and pancake, and parents/guardians are welcome to also bring their own. All pancakes are kindly donate by local residents and this event is supported by the Freemen of Hale and the Guildswomen of Hale. This is the second year this event has been held and it is hoped it will become an annual occurrence.

### Table Top Sales

Following on from a successful table sale last year organised by resident Cerri Gallagher, the Parish Council will be opening up Hale Village Hall to any residents looking to pass on their unwanted toys, Christmas presents, household goods, garden furniture and clothes. Sellers will be charged £10 per table and admission is free to buyers. Please email the Clerk to book a table. The table sales will be from 11am-1pm:  
Sunday 17 March 2019 • Sunday 23 June 2019 • Sunday 8 September 2019 • Sunday 24 November 2019

# 2019 MEETINGS OF HALE PARISH COUNCIL

## Public Attendance at Parish Council Meetings

Everyone is welcome to attend Parish Council meetings and encouraged to suggest agenda items by contacting the clerk.

All meetings are held in Hale Village Hall, 53 High Street, Hale, Cheshire, L24 4AE.

If you have any special requirements please contact the Clerk prior to the meeting.

Please note, members of the public wishing to address the Council must advise either the Clerk or Chair of the meeting before 10am on the day of the meeting both of their wish to participate in the public forum and their topic. Permission to speak at the meeting will be at the discretion of the Chair. 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 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.

Dates of meetings may change and residents are encouraged to check [www.haleparishcouncil.gov.uk/meetings-minutes](http://www.haleparishcouncil.gov.uk/meetings-minutes)

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## FULL COUNCIL MEETINGS

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All of the below meetings will be held at 7.30pm.

18 February 2019 • 18 March 2019 • 15 April 2019 • 8 May 2019 • 17 June 2019 • 15 July 2019 • 16 September 2019  
21 October 2019 • 18 November 2019

Extra-ordinary meetings maybe requested by the public on items of particular or urgent concern by contacting the clerk.

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## COMMITTEE MEETINGS

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Civic Service Committee - 6.30pm

25 February 2019 • 17 June 2019 • 2 September 2019 • 2 December 2019

Hale Village Hall Committee - 4pm

18 February 2019 • 18 March 2019 • 15 April 2019 • 8 May 2019 • 17 June 2019 • 15 July 2019 • 16 September 2019 -  
4pm • 21 October 2019 • 18 November 2019

War Memorial Committee - 6pm

1 July 2019 • 2 September 2019 • 7 October 2019

Parish Plan Committee - 10am

18 February 2019 • 18 March 2019 • 15 April 2019 • 8 May 2019 • 17 June 2019 • 15 July 2019 • 16 September 2019  
21 October 2019 • 18 November 2019

Guildswomen Committee - 6.45pm

8 May 2019 • 15 July 2019 • 16 September 2019 • 18 November 2019

Staffing Committee - 6pm

18 March 2019 • 17 June 2019 • 16 September 2019 • 18 November 2019

Resources Executive Committee - 12noon

18 March 2019 • 17 June 2019 • 16 September 2019 • 18 November 2019

Airport Action Committee

TBC - Subject to LJLA Consultative Committee meeting dates.

Community & Wellbeing Committee - 2pm

18 March 2019 • 8 May 2019 • 15 July 2019 • 16 September 2019 • 18 November 2019

**ALL AGENDAS AND MINUTES OF MEETINGS CAN BE FOUND ONLINE AT [WWW.HALEPARISHCOUNCIL.GOV.UK](http://WWW.HALEPARISHCOUNCIL.GOV.UK)**

The clerk maybe contacted by emailing [haleparishcouncilclerk@gmail.com](mailto:haleparishcouncilclerk@gmail.com)