



PARISH COUNCIL MINUTES

Tuesday 7 July 2026

Village Hall, Nell Hill

7.00 pm

Members Present: Cllr N Hartley (Chairman), Cllr R Holmes, Cllr P Minter, Cllr D Stewart, Cllr D Wallace

Officers Present: Mrs K Clay, Parish Clerk/RFO

In attendance: 1 member of public

34/26 Apologies

All councillors in attendance.

35/26 Interests

There were no declarations of interest.

36/26 Minutes

The Council **RESOLVED** unanimously to approve and sign the Minutes from the Parish Council meeting held on Monday 18 May 2026 as a true and accurate record.

37/26 Accounts

The Council **RESOLVED** unanimously to approve the financial statement as presented by the Clerk.

A copy of the financial report is attached as Appendix A.

38/26 Clerks Report

- a) Three of the new signatories have been added to the bank mandate but there is an issue with them not showing on the authorisation list. Until such time as this issue can be resolved, the current delegation for payment authorisation remains in place.
- b) A section of the footpath at the entrance to Skinner's Close was badly damaged due to the contractors working for Thames Water parking on it. It was repaired within two days of a complaint being lodged.
- c) The water pipeline replacement works have moved off of Queens Road and into Skinner's Close. They will return to Queens Road with a road closure from approximately 22 July. This date is subject to change if any issues are encountered during the works in Skinner's Close.

39/26 Policies

The Council **RESOLVED** unanimously to update the Expenses, Information Technology & Email and Investment policies as presented.

A copy of all the updated policies will be added to the website.

40/26 Public session

No comments or questions from the public present.

41/26 Playground

Cllr Holmes worked quickly to rectify some issues which arose in early June. The inspections continue and there were new issues to report.

42/26 Playground Refurbishment**a) Tender**

The Council **RESOLVED** unanimously to accept the quote from Wicksteed for refurbishment of the top and bottom sections of the playground (except the swings) at a net cost of £60,000, subject to some minor alterations which are to be discussed with them.

b) Funding

The Council **RESOLVED** unanimously to use the £12,000 currently in the playground refurbishment reserve towards the project and continue to seek the remaining funding from other sources.

43/26 Post Box

The Council **RESOLVED** unanimously to set a budget of up to £250 to purchase and install a post box at the village hall, and that the Council's postal address will be updated to this location.

44/26 Village Event

The Council **RESOLVED** unanimously to organise an Apple Cider Festival on Saturday 19 September 2026. Whilst the event is anticipated to be self-funding, a working budget of up to £200 was agreed for any up-front costs required.

45/26 Planning**a) To note responses via delegation**

S/LBC/26/0684 Cherry Tree Farm, Hannington Wick – Repairs and maintenance to barn.

NO OBJECTION. The Parish Council acknowledges and supports the comments made by the Conservation Officer within their report.

b) To consider a response to any other applications received prior to the meeting.

There were no applications to consider.

c) To note updates on outstanding planning applications

S/HRN/26/0570 Sewage Works, Queens Road – Removal of hedge.

CONSENT GRANTED, as the application did not meet the relevant criteria for retention under archaeological, historical or ecological reasons.

46/26 Local Plan

The further response agreed at the May meeting was sent to Mr Thomas at Swindon Borough Council on 19 May. Cllr Hartley, Cllr Stewart, Cllr Minter and the Clerk held a meeting with Mr Thomas on 25 June, where it was confirmed that the Lower Burytown Farm HELAA S0500 was not going to be included in the Local Plan at Regulation 19. The Council will continue to keep a watching brief on this land in case of any other developments.

Regulation 19 of the Local Plan was approved by Cabinet on 1 July and will be considered for approval by the Full Swindon Borough Council on 6 August. The formal publication and consultation period for Regulation 19 will take place around mid-September for 6 weeks. The Local Plan will then be submitted for independent examination by the Planning Inspectorate in December 2026.

47/26 Neighbourhood Plan**a) Plan Review**

The Council **RESOLVED** unanimously to note the project initiation report and use the information within it in regard to governance framework, delivery programme, procurement strategy and project management arrangements as a working document for moving a review of the plan forward. Advice from Swindon Borough on the report will be sought. Quotes for any consultant support required will be sought following this review.

b) Delegation and TOR

The Council **RESOLVED** unanimously to set up a NDP Steering Group and delegate to it the co-ordination of a review and update of the Hannington Neighbourhood Plan. Cllr D Stewart was approved as the Chairman of the steering group. The Clerk is delegated to finalise the Terms of Reference for the steering group, in consultation with all councillors via email. The Parish Council will remain the qualifying body and retain overall responsibility for the entirety of the Plan review and update.

c) Funding

The Council **RESOLVED** unanimously to use the £4,704.92 CIL and £5,295.08 of reserves, to provide a total budget of £10,000 to commence a review of the Hannington Neighbourhood Plan. Any further expenditure required will be considered during the setting of the 2027/2028 budget.

48/26 Reserves

The Council **RESOLVED** unanimously to vire the following reserves into the Neighbourhood Plan Review budget for 2026/2027 (currently £1,000):

£2,000 - Maintenance & Replacement

£1,000 - Playground

£500 - village events

£795.08 - general reserves

Total vired = £4,295.08.

49/26 Councillor reports

- A request for a new dog waste bin at the end of Dickie Baileys Lane was discussed. There was no support for one to be installed at this location.
- Concern was raised about the tree with the large branch overhanging the road on Swanborough Lane, as there is now a large fungus growing on it.

As this tree is on Cllr Wallace's land he confirmed he would seek advice on the trees health from an arboriculturist.

50/26 Public Session

No comments or questions from the public present.

The Council **RESOLVED** unanimously that, under the Public Bodies (Admission to Meetings) Act 1960, the public be excluded on the grounds of the confidential nature of the business about to be transacted in item 51/26.

Cllr Holmes & Cllr Wallace left the meeting room.

51/26 Vexatious Policy

The Council **RESOLVED** unanimously to approve the recommendation in the confidential report provided by the Clerk, to remove the restrictions implemented on one resident under the Councils Vexatious Complaints and Correspondence Policy on 10 July 2025 (item 41/25). Should there be a return to the previous volume and type of correspondence within one year of this restriction being lifted, the Clerk is delegated, in consultation with the Chairman, to re-invoke the Vexatious Complaints and Correspondence Policy for a further period of one year on the grounds that their correspondence exhibits multiple behaviours of those listed at item 4 of the Vexatious Complaints and Correspondence Policy.

The Parish Clerk will advise the resident that the decision to cease correspondence with them in July 2025 has been rescinded, but that the Vexatious Complaints and Correspondence policy will be immediately reimplemented should they resume sending excessive and vexatious correspondence to the Clerk and/or any member of the Council.

It was further **RESOLVED** that Cllr Holmes & Cllr Wallace will form the Councils appeal panel, as per item 5.4 of the Policy, should the Vexatious Complaints and Correspondence Policy have to be reinstated and an appeal is lodged.

Cllr Holmes & Cllr Wallace returned to the meeting room.

52/26 Next meeting

Thursday 3 September 2026 @ 7.00 pm in the village hall.

The meeting concluded at 8.30 pm.

Signature of the Chairman: _____ Date: 3 September 2026



FINANCIAL STATEMENT

Bank Account Balance as at 01/07/2026

	£
Current account	500.71
IA Deposit account	21,741.34
32 Day Deposit account	10,138.04
Total	<u>32,380.09</u>

	£
Receipts	Amount
HMRC (VAT)	219.90
	219.90

	£	£
Payments (Paid and upcoming Jun-Aug)	Net Total	VAT
Banking services fee	12.75	0.00
Grounds Maintenance	725.01	144.99
Office costs	56.29	0.66
Regular payments	1,233.84	0.00
Training	40.00	8.00
	2,067.89	153.65

Mrs K Clay
Clerk & Responsible Financial Officer
07.07.26