



Working to sustain and grow a successful, safe, and caring community

Minutes of a meeting of Hadnall Parish Council held on Monday 14th July 2025 at 7.30pm at Hadnall Village Hall

Before the meeting, Cllr Henry Crow signed his Declaration of Acceptance of Office.

25/047 REGISTER OF ATTENDANCE and APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Present: Cllrs Laura Tarburton (Chair), Henry Crow, Steve Downing, Andrew Marston.

Apologies: Apologies were submitted by Cllr Ian Jackson and accepted.

Clerk: Alison Utting

Also: 8 members of the public. SC Cllr Brendan Mallon joined the meeting later.

25/048 CO-OPTION – There were no applications.

There are still three vacant seats on the parish council. The Chair pointed out that, as a result, even a small number of councillors being unavailable can lead to meetings being cancelled due to not meeting the legal quorum. That in turn could lead to the opinions of Hadnall residents being unrepresented when key issues – like big planning applications – are being discussed. Residents are urged to consider whether they could join the Parish Council.

25/049 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST – None.

25/050 MINUTES - It was resolved that the Chairman should sign the minutes of the Annual Community Meeting and the annual meeting of the parish council, both held on 12th May 2025, as true and correct records of those meetings.

25/051 PROGRESS REPORT

- a) **Flooding** – The parish council has been provided with a letter from Severn Trent for people who may be having trouble selling their homes as a result of the recent press coverage of flooding issues. Contact the Clerk if you would like a copy. Any updates from Severn Trent on the proposed works to improve the drainage systems will be published on our website and Facebook page.
- b) **Place Plan** – Clerk to respond to Lucy Roberts with update on footpaths and to check progress re off-street parking matter; LT to talk to school in September re bus shelter.

- c) **Local Plan** – SC has put out a call for sites as the first step towards a new Local Plan for Shropshire. They will be starting from scratch, so sites approved in the previous administrations plan will not be carried forward.
- d) **Training** – Cllrs Crow and Jackson have completed Fundamentals training, Cllr Downing attended Risk Assessment and Management training, and Cllr Tarburton completed the 3-part Planning training. The key takeaway from the latter was the vital importance to communities of creating a Neighbourhood Plan.
- e) **AGAR** – The Annual Governance and Accountability Return for 2024-25 has been completed, all documents published on the HPC website, and the Exemption Certificate submitted to the external auditor. This completes the end-of-year audit process.
- f) **Councillor recruitment** – As noted above, the shortage of councillors is impeding the parish council in its role. Leaflets advertising the role are in the process of being distributed door-to-door and will be placed in the shop, village hall, etc. Councillors expressed sincere thanks to 1st Wem Scouts for the delivery of leaflets in the village. Job descriptions to be added to relevant websites.
- g) **Dog waste signs** – To be re-ordered and delivered to SD.
- h) **Community Led Plan** – An initial meeting has been held, with Cllrs Downing and Tarburton representing the Parish Council. Next steps were agreed.
- i) **Wedgefields land registration** – No progress to report. Clerk to chase.

25/052 PUBLIC PARTICIPATION SESSION

The following matters were raised:

Hedges at Blacksmiths View not being cut. As is so often the case, ownership is the key issue here. Clerk to investigate. No hedge cutting possible before September unless a safety issue.

Grass cutting on the Moat area. Several residents raised concerns. While there has been general support for 'No Mow May', there is a feeling that mowing has been completely neglected with the result that area looks untidy, is a fire hazard in dry weather, and that even the 'pathways' that were cut shorter are now knee length and impeding most walkers. The laid footpaths are also being overgrown. A resident also raised the issue of molehills that are apparently spreading and causing trip hazards and the moles are now spreading into private gardens. Clerk to raise these concerns with Sansaw Estate.

Overgrown hedge along A49 blocking footpath (church layby area) – SC

responsibility, to be reported on fixmystreet.com

25/053 OTHER REPORTS – See Cllr Brendan Mallon’s report at 25/058.

25/054 ASSETS AND MAINTENANCE

a) **Asset report**

Cllr Downing has been putting a lot of work into updating the Asset Register and making safety and maintenance checks easy to complete. Tasks outstanding: SD to meet with AB for VAS signs handover. Play equipment folder – Was it passed from BB to AM, and where is it now? If lost, Clerk to see whether information can be requested from installer.

The only note from SD’s 2025 inspection of assets is that a few of the benches need rubbing down and restaining. (To be added to Community Payback tasks).

b) **Tree inspection report**

Council resolved to accept the full arboricultural report at the offered price. Clerk to request that the report be amended to remove listings of trees not owned by and amendment of resulting recommended works. HC offered to obtain another quote, with decision on the works to be taken at September meeting. No high priority works necessary.

c) **Hedge at Hawkstone Close** – Earlier clarification by the Parish Council established that the Church Lane hedges are maintained by Sansaw Estate and the hedge bordering Hawkstone Close maintained by Shropshire Council. However, it is still unclear whether this includes the inside of the hedge. Clerk/Cllr Mallon to investigate.

d) **Defibrillator** – It was resolved to approve (retrospectively) the purchase of replacement pads and battery and that a First Aid kit also be purchased (SD). Anyone can now complete the monthly check using the checklist compiled by SD. The Clerk should now be the contact for The Circuit but this has not been happening. Clerk to chase.

e) **Footpaths** – A close match to the current gravel can be supplied by Evans Aggregates at £48 per tonne bag plus £20 delivery (plus VAT). Council resolved to place an order for 5 bags at the quoted price, with delivery to be arranged in the autumn once work schedule has been agreed with the Community Payback team (likely to be November, LT to liaise.) Weeds will need to be sprayed prior to works – Clerk to request the work to be done by K&S. The gravel would be delivered to Bowling Club car park in the first instance. Team need to be provided with necessary equipment and somewhere to store it. A resident kindly offered a garage for this purpose. Brushes and stain for benches also to be provided.

25/055 PLANNING

- a) Council considered the following **planning applications**:

25/02148/FUL Hardwicke Farm SY4 3DL

Proposal: Subdivision of existing dwelling to create three dwellings including associated parking provision.

HPC resolved to support this application (Prop: AM, Sec: LT, unanimous).

- b) The following **planning applications** were also received in advance of this meeting:

25/02487/TPO The Brace – Cut back tree limb overgrowing driveway and road by 2.5m.

HPC is happy to support this necessary work.

24/04834/FUL Land south of Wedgefields, proposal for 44 dwellings

The application has been amended with the addition of many documents including a Flood Risk Assessment. Council resolved to address this application at an additional meeting to be held on Monday 21st July at 7.30pm in Astley Village Hall (please note change of venue due to lack of availability of venues in Hadnall).

It was also noted that the following application is due to be decided at the **Shropshire Council Planning Committee** meeting scheduled for 15/07/2025:

25/00908/FUL Holmleigh – Erection of two dwellings in land adjacent.

LT and AU to attend the meeting, LT to speak.

- c) There were no **planning decisions** published in advance of this meeting.
d) It was noted that HPC supported the proposed **street name** 'The Grange' for the new houses south of Hall Drive (25/06752/NEWSTN).

25/056 FINANCE

- a) Council approved (retrospectively) expenditure of £41.42 for leaflet printing (recruitment and CLP).
- b) Council resolved to give a grant of £250 to 1st Wem Scouts towards Jamboree camps in 2026 (Prop: LT, Sec: SD, unanimous)
- c) Council noted the following **payments** made in June 2025:

Amount	Details	Power to spend
678.20	Clerk's salary (May, June)	LGA 1972 s112
169.40	PAYE (months 2 and 3)	

101.22	Electricity for street lighting	Parish Councils Act 1957 s3. Highways Act 1980 s301
437.00	HPC insurance 28/05/2025 - 2026	Employers' Liability Act 1969. LGA 1972 s111
6.00	Bank charges	LGA 1972 s111

Council agreed to make the following **payments**:

Amount	Details	Power to spend
388.10 235.25	Clerk's salary (July) and expenses PAYE (months 2 and 4)	LGA 1972 s112, LGA (financial provisions) 1963 s5.
TBC	Electricity for street lighting	Parish Councils Act 1957 s3. Highways Act 1980 s301
120.00	Training (HC, IJ, SD)	LGA 1972 s111
250.00	Grant (1st Wem Scouts)	Local Government (Misc Provisions) Act 1976 section 19
577.50	Grounds maintenance (2nd quarter)	Open Spaces Act 1906, ss 9 and 10
425.90	Defibrillator supplies	Public Health Act 1875 s234
41.42	Leaflet printing	LGA 1972 s111
16.52	Floodlighting electricity	Parish Councils Act 1957 s3. Highways Act 1980 s301
57.60	Parish Online fee 2025-26	LGA 1972 s111
6.00	Bank charges	LGA 1972 s111

Council noted the following **receipts**:

Amount	Details	Power to accept
1052.27	Reclaimed VAT 2024-25	VAT Act 1994 s33
6975.38	Neighbourhood Fund	LGA 1972 s139
207.43	Interest on CCLA account	LGA 1972 s111

- d) Council received and approved the **accounts** and **bank reconciliation** to date.
- e) Council resolved to move £7000 (N Fund) from the current account into the CCLA investment fund, once the new signatories have been processed.

25/057 ADMIN

- a) **HPC email accounts** – The Clerk's account is now live. Cllr accounts to be operational shortly.
- b) **Publication scheme, policies and procedures** – SD has provided a list of compulsory and recommended documents from his recent training. Clerk to review existing policies and present any additional/amended policies to the September meeting.

- c) Council noted that the Clerk's **salary payment** date is now 27th of the month.
- d) **Declarations of Pecuniary Interest** – Councillors were reminded of the legal obligation to submit these forms to Shropshire Council. Clerk to check progress.

25/058 UNITARY COUNCILLOR'S REPORT

SC Cllr Brendan Mallon introduced himself to those present and apologised that other commitments had prevented him from attending sooner. He shared an update which will be available on the HPC website.

25/059 SHROPSHIRE TOGETHER

LT agreed to complete the Call For Information survey. No one is able to attend the Shropshire Together Conference on 25th July and it was agreed that a cost of £21 per head was an unnecessary obstacle to participation.

25/060 NALC NEIGHBOURHOOD PLANS RESOLUTION

Hadnall Parish Council acknowledges that:

- Neighbourhood planning empowers local communities to shape the development and growth of their areas through the creation of Neighbourhood Plans.
- The preparation of Neighbourhood Plans requires significant time, expertise, and financial resources, often placing a burden on parish and town councils.
- Neighbourhood Plans contribute to more democratic, locally informed planning decisions and support the delivery of sustainable development aligned with community needs and aspirations.

Therefore, it is Resolved to -

1. Call upon His Majesty's Government to provide increased and sustained funding to support the development, review, implementation and maintenance of Neighbourhood Plans.
2. Request that the Government ensures funding is accessible to all communities, to promote inclusivity and fairness in the planning process.
3. Write to Helen Morgan MP and the Secretary of State for Housing, Communities, and Local Government to communicate this resolution and advocate for enhanced support for neighbourhood planning.

Prop: LT, Sec: SD, unanimous.

25/061 CORRESPONDENCE

- a) NALC/ACRE – Flood resilience survey. LT agreed to complete this.
- b) SC – Post elections survey, completed by clerk.
- c) NALC – New edition of Local Councils Explained.
- d) Training opportunities – shared by email. Book via clerk.
- e) SC Leader (Heather Kidd) – Letter to all cllrs, forwarded.
- f) SC - Shropshire's Great Outdoors Annual Public Survey 2025 (open till 14/09).

g) HM gov - Has backed proposal to reintroduce remote/hybrid meetings.

h) **HIGHWAYS:**

- Planned closure of Wood Road 18th-19 September (24hrs) - Trial holes to locate existing utilities and determine ground conditions for upcoming water mains scheme.
- Planned closure of A49 Sundorne roundabout to Battlefield roundabout 22nd – 27th September overnight (8pm till 6am).
- Planned closure of Plex Lane 13th-15th October overnight (9pm till 6am).

25/062 MINOR MAINTENANCE ISSUES AND ITEMS FOR FUTURE AGENDA

A suggestion regarding the groundskeeping schedule was put forward as a future agenda item.

The meeting closed at 9.40pm.

NEXT MEETING: 21st July (additional), 8th September.

Signed: _____ Date: _____