

Minutes of the meeting held on 9th April 2026 in Huntington Community Centre commencing at 7.40pm.

PARTICIPANTS: Councillors J Newman (Chairman), R Bailey, B Lester, J Ashley, L Davies, (Mrs) D Davies (7.08pm), M Tym (8.06pm)

IN ATTENDANCE: David Wheatley (Finance Officer County Councillor C Humphreyson) and 7 members of the Public.

51/26) APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE: Cllr C Benton (Vice Chair), P Wetton, (Mrs) P Bibb, and M Thompson.
Noted

52/26) SEVERN TRENT COMMUNITY FLOOD TEAM

Members of the Community Flood Team introduced themselves and explained their roles and responsibilities. They explained that they are already looking into the flooding issues at the sports ground. Members also raised concerns about the manhole cover that keeps blowing at the end of Ling Road and the grid that keeps dropping near Teddersly Road and the fact that the crossing by the shops that floods whenever it rains stopping people from using it. It was agreed that the issues would be taken back and looked into and if necessary, passed to the appropriate authority.

53/26) ELECTION OF CHAIRPERSON

Cllr Lester nominated Cllr Newman for the position of Chairperson, Cllr L Davies seconded this, and members voted unanimously in favour. Cllr Newman accepted the position.

Resolved

That Cllr Newman is duly elected Chairperson of Huntington Parish Council for the next 12 months.

54/26) ELECTION OF VICE CHAIRPERSON

Cllr D Davies nominated Cllr L Davies for the position of Vice Chairperson, Cllr Lester seconded this, and members voted unanimously in favour.

Resolved

That Cllr L Davies is duly elected as Vice Chairperson to Huntington Parish Council for the next 12 months.

55/26) Election to Committees and posts

The Chairperson drew members attention to the document circulated identifying the existing posts and sub-committee which had been circulated prior to the meeting.

- a) **Finance Committee** – The Chairperson and Vice Chairperson sit on this committee with 3 other members. Nominations and seconds were received for Cllrs Lester, Bailey, and D Davies. Members voted unanimously in favour of the nominated being appointed as committee members.
- b) **Staffing Committee** – The Chairperson sits on this committee with 2 other members. Nominations and seconds were received for Cllr Wetton and Cllr Bailey. Members voted unanimously in favour of the nominated being appointed as committee members.
- c) **Community Association** – due to the lack of attendance of Councillors at this meeting and those present not prepared to take on the responsibilities it was agreed to call for nominations at the next parish council meeting.
- d) **Littleton Leisure Park** - All Councillors are members on block. Cllr Bailey nominated Cllr L Davies as Chairperson for Littleton Leisure Park. This was seconded by Cllr D Davies and unanimously agreed by all members.
- e) **Sports Ground** - All Councillors are members on block. Cllr L Davies nominated Cllr Lester as Chairperson for The Sports Ground, this was seconded by Cllr D Davies and unanimously agreed by all members.
- f) **Village Green** - due to the lack of attendance of Councillors at this meeting and those present not prepared to take on the responsibilities it was agreed to call for nominations at the next parish council meeting.

- g) **Public Events** – Chair and Vice Chair posts due to the lack of attendance of Councillors at this meeting and those present not prepared to take on the responsibilities it was agreed to call for nominations at the next parish council meeting.
- h) **IT and Social Media** – due to the lack of attendance of Councillors at this meeting and those present not prepared to take on the responsibilities it was agreed to call for nominations at the next parish council meeting.
- i) **Bus Shelters** – Cllr D Davies nominated Cllr Lester as Councillor responsible for Bus shelters in the village. This was seconded by Cllr Bailey and unanimously agreed by all.

Resolved

- a) That Cllrs Lester, Bailey and D Davies are appointed members of the Finance Committee.
- b) That Cllrs Wetton and Cllr Bailey are appointed members of the Staffing Committee.
- c) That due to the lack of attendance of Councillors at this meeting and those present not prepared to take on the responsibilities it was agreed to call for nominations at the next parish council meeting for the Community Association chair position.
- d) That all Councillors are members on block and Cllr L Davies is elected Chairperson of Littleton Leisure Park Committee.
- e) That all Councillors are members on block and Cllr Lester is elected Chairperson of The Sports Ground Committee.
- f) That due to the lack of attendance of Councillors at this meeting and those present not prepared to take on the responsibilities it was agreed to call for nominations at the next parish council meeting. For the Village Green position.
- g) That due to the lack of attendance of Councillors at this meeting and those present not prepared to take on the responsibilities it was agreed to call for nominations at the next parish council meeting for the Chair and Vice Chair positions for Public Events committee.
- h) That due to the lack of attendance of Councillors at this meeting and those present not prepared to take on the responsibilities it was agreed to call for nominations at the next parish council meeting for the IT and Social Media position.
- i) That Cllr Lester is elected as Councillor responsible for Bus Shelters in the village.

56/26) CHAIRMAN'S ANNOUNCEMENTS AND ANY OTHER AGENCIES PRESENT

The Chairman reported that Angela Smith had submitted her resignation as Parish Councillor with immediate effect, he then took members through his written report that had been circulated prior to the meeting. The report was accepted as presented.

Noted

57/26) COUNTY COUNCILLOR REPORT - CLLR CRAIG ROGER HUMPHREYSON

Cllr Humphreyson reported that he has been looking into what can be done within budget to prevent vehicles driving over the grassed area at the top of the village.

Members discussed with Cllr Hunphreyson the issues and concerns regarding the footpath along the side of the Cottage. It was agreed that it needed a finger post to ensure the public can clearly see that it is a public right of way and not a private garden. The current small sign situated at ground level on the gate post is not easily seen. Cllr Hunphreyson agreed to look into this matter.

Noted

Cllr Tym arrived at 20.06

Cllr Humphreyson left the meeting at 20.09.

58/26) DISTRICT COUNCILLOR REPORT

Cllr Ashley apologised for the lack of a written report and explained that he has not been in attendance at District Council due to illness.

Noted

59/26) MINUTES OF THE MEETINGS HELD ON THE 9TH APRIL 2026.

The minutes of the Parish Council meeting held on 9th April 26 had been circulated for members consideration. Cllr Lester proposed that the minutes be approved and signed as a true and accurate copy. This was seconded by Cllr Bailey and all members unanimously agreed.

The minutes of the Annual Parish Meeting had been circulated to check for accuracy. Cllr L Davies proposed that the minutes be accepted as true and accurate, this was seconded by Cllr Lester and unanimously agreed by members.

Resolved

The minutes of the Parish Council held on 9th April 26 were approved as a true record of the meetings and were signed by the Chairman.

That the minutes from the Annual Parish Meeting held on 9th April 26 be accepted as a true and accurate record.

60/26) MATTERS ARISING

None that would not be covered by an agenda item.

Noted**61/26) FINANCE****ACCOUNTS FOR PAYMENT**

Salaries for May 2026	£	5,593.59	
NEST Pensions – May	£	373.01	
Cropper Grounds Maintenance (April)	£	780.00	
H.Caulfield (phone - May)	£	5.00	
D.Wheatley (stamps)	£	29.12	
TFM (fence paint, weed killer & fuel)	£	65.50	
Hygienic Concepts (sanitary unit)	£	317.62	
Chairman's Allowance	£	500.00	
Staffs CC (GDPR Governance - Tier 2)	£	310.00	
L McClymont (call point covers and reset keys)	£	12.37	
TOTAL	£	7,986.21	

DIRECT DEBITS TAKEN SINCE THE LAST MEETING

Coopers Waste	£	102.62	
BT (Internet)	£	82.64	
Microsoft (365 subscription)	£	129.03	
Yu Energy (Electricity)	£	107.20	
Yu Energy (Gas)	£	157.46	
E-on (electricity)	£	9.76	
TOTAL	£	588.71	

INCOME FOR MONTH

South Staffs DC (Precept)	£	54,500.00	
TOTAL	£	54,500.00	

FINANCIAL STATEMENT

CURRENT ACCOUNT BALANCE	£	85,810.75	
LESS PAYMENTS AGREED	£	7,986.21	
LESS OUTSTANDING CHEQUES			
BALANCE IN CURRENT ACCOUNT	£	77,824.54	
TOTAL	£	77,824.54	

ON DEPOSIT

BUSINESS INSTANT ACCESS ACCOUNT		
General reserves + interest	-£ 53,002.31	
Memorial Garden sink fund - per "recommendation"	0.00	
Community Centre sink fund	£ 3,181.26	
Leisure Park sink fund - per budget	£ 17,599.86	
Sports Ground sink fund - per budget	£ 20,900.17	
Bus Shelter sink fund - per budget	£ 6,956.80	
Election expenses sink fund	£ 18,258.38	
Play Area sink fund - per budget	£ 53,910.25	
Community Events sink fund - per budget	£ 6,898.65	
Skate Park sink fund - per budget	£ 24,000.00	
Village Green sink fund - per budget	£ 15,448.70	£ 114,151.76
Total	£ 114,151.76	

a) Payments – The Finance Officer took members through the payments presented.

It was proposed by Cllr Newman that all payments are approved. This was seconded by Cllr D Davies and agreed by all members. All payments approved.

b) Financial Statement – The Finance Officer took members through the Finance Statement. Members accepted the Financial Statement as presented.

c) Governance Support Contract – Members agree to continue with the Governance Support contract with Staffordshire County Council and agreed to stay with Tier 2. This was proposed by Cllr Newman and seconded by Cllr L Davies.

d) Parish Office – The Chairman took members through is written proposal circulated prior to the meeting to develop a Parish Office within the Community Centre. A space that can be used by members to access IT equipment and work together collaboratively on projects. There is a cost involved purchasing the office equipment needed to provide 3 or 4 workstations. As an initial discussion point Cllr Newman had provided costs from Amazon for equipment needed to get a basic set up. Obviously, the more equipment members wish to be provided the more expensive the project will become. Members agreed to the project in principle but requested that 3 comparable quotes be obtained.

Resolved

- That all payments are approved for payment as presented.
- That the Finance Summary report was accepted as presented.
- That Governance Support contract tier 2 with Staffordshire Council is approved for the next 12 months.
- That the project to develop a Parish Office space is agreed in principal but comparable quotations are needed for all equipment needed.

62/26) PLANNING

There were no planning matter received for consideration at this meeting.

Cllr Ashley reported that the owners of the McColls building have changed their minds on what they want to do with the building. The property has been advertised to let.

Cllr Ashley also reported that he has called the planning application for Ashcroft Hollow in to the planning committee. He is recommending refusal as grossly over developed. He also pointed out that this business is not a care home it is a nursing home.

Noted

63/26) CORRESPONDENCE

Date	From	Topic	Action
26/04/26	Cannock Chase Council	Cannock Chase Local Design Guide Supplementary Planning Document Consultation	Circulated via email
05/05/26	SPCA	Circulating information form the Staffordshire Police regarding increase of the terrorist threat level in the UK to SEVERE	Circulated via email
11/05/26	Severn Trent	Confirmation of a site visit carried out regarding the water coming out of a drain near the Sports Ground. Also confirming their attendance at the Parish Council meeting.	Circulated via email

11/05/26	SPCA	Councils are no longer required to publish elected or co-opted members home addresses. Section 65 of the English Devolution and Community Empowerment Act 2026 removes the requirement for a local government member's home address to be published in Council registers of interest.	Circulated via email
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Noted

64/26) COMMUNITY CENTRE

The Chairman took members through the written report written by the Clerk which was circulated prior to the meeting. Members accepted the report as presented. It was proposed by Cllr D Davies to approve permission for the Clerk to contact the regular plumber to repair the leaking radiator and the urinal flush. This was seconded by Cllr Newman and agreed by all members.

Noted

65/26) AMENITIES

- a) **Village Green** – Cllr Newman took members through his report which was circulated prior to the meeting. Members agree to purchase more flowering bedding plants for the Memorial Garden. The Clerk was approved to spend up to £50 on bedding plants.
- b) **Littleton Leisure Park** – Cllr Newman took members through the report written by the clerk and circulated prior to the meeting. The report was accepted as presented.
- c) **Sports Ground** – Cllr Lester took members through his written report prepared by the clerk and circulated prior to the meeting. Members accepted the report as presented. Cllr Lester added that the last game of the Football Season will be played this weekend and the Clerk can arrange for pitch repair work to be carried out by the Grounds Maintenance company.

Resolved

- a) That the Clerk is to purchase bedding plants for the Memorial Garden up to the value of £50.
- b) Noted.
- c) Noted

66/26) PUBLIC EVENT

Cllr Newman took members through the written report provided by Angela Smith before her resignation which was circulated prior to the meeting. In the absence of a lead Councillor for Public Events, it was agreed that a meeting would be held on Thursday 4th June. Also, due to the absence of a lead Councillor members approved delegated powers to spend from the budget to Parish Council Chair, Clerk and Finance Officer.

Resolved

That delegated powers to spend against the Public Events budget are approved for the Parish Council Chair, Clerk and Finance Officer.

67/26) ITEMS FOR DISCUSSION AT THE NEXT MEETING.

None

68/26) DATE AND TIME OF NEXT MEETING

The next meeting will be held on Thursday 11th June 2026, commencing 7pm in Huntington Community Centre.

There being no further items for discussion the Chairman closed the meeting at 21.02.

Signed _____

Date _____