

HALSALL PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of the Parish Council meeting held on Wednesday 11th February at 7:30pm at St Aidan`s Hall, Renacres Lane, Halsall.

Present: Cllr M.Lyons (Chair) Cllr N. McCarthy-Thomason (Vice Chair), Cllr P. Barker, C.Smith (Clerk), Cllr R. Brookfield, Cllr L. Stephenson, Cllr D.Adams, Cllr B.Roberts and five members of the public.

Information given and permission granted from all attending for the meeting to be transcribed via Plaud.

1.Introductions and Apologies for absence

Apologies received from Cllr T Atly, Cllr K.Wright & Cllr E.Wright.
LCC L.Graham in attendance

2. Declarations of Interest

Cllr Lesley Stephenson declared interest in Renacres Lane wall construction.

3. Open Forum. Chair proposed change to the agenda to allow for items requiring input from the public to be discussed first. This was agreed.

Item **12.** Approved. S137 grant of £500.00 from the Bees & Butterflies. To purchase trees, subject to planning and drainage considerations; planting targeted for 22 March. Appreciation recorded for Bees & Butterflies volunteering.

Local Government Act 1972 s137, grants to local organisations providing a benefit to some or all of the residents.

Item **19.** Residents letter concerning heat pump installation at St Cuthbert school. Agreed. Parish council to submit a comment requesting reconsideration of an alternative location for the heat pump to reduce noise and preserve aesthetics.

Item **7.3 Traffic and Road Safety** (Cllrs N. McCarthy-Thomason, R Brookfield & B Roberts)

a). Noted. Traffic/safety: speeding at 60-to-30 mph transitions, were discussed, particularly in Renacres Lane, Halsall Road and New Cut Lane.

Cllr Graham reported that authorities rarely reduce speed limits unless there have been numerous accidents in the area.

b). Noted. Concerned resident has asked the council to look at extending railings by the school close to Bishop`s walk, for the safety of children and parents/carers.

Ongoing school parking issues; Cllr. T. Atlay, documenting this with photos.

Security camera opposite St Cuthberts was decommissioned on 31st May 2025, we await a reply from LCC as to whether it can be reinstated, if not then removed.

1 Signed.....Date.....

Councillor L.Graham confirmed that the council have agreed to paint all road lines at the junction of Summerwood Lane and Halsall Road.

Clerk to attend police surgery Thursday 12th February to discuss all speeding issues and school parking.

c). Noted. Concerned residents raised the issue of repeated works and current collapse causing large potholes and pooling, causing damage to residents gates. Heavy vehicles contribute silt/debris; residents clearing drains themselves. LCC L.Graham advised reporting via Love Clean Streets app recommended with photos/markers; walking survey and multiple reports encouraged; repairs may take 8–12 weeks.

d). Noted. Resident raised an issue over an 8-foot wall extending onto the public pathway, enforcement/highways contacted repeatedly without action. LCC L.Graham advised the resident to escalate to borough councillor Marilyn Westley.

Return to scheduled agenda.

3.1 West Lancs Borough Councillors

3.2 Open Public Forum

7.2 Human Resources.(Cllrs K. Wright, M.Lyons & P.Barker)

Update on Asst clerk vacancy, nothing to report.

4. To confirm and sign the Minutes of the meeting [2026 14 January 2026](#) Approved.

5. Discuss and agree on any matters arising From the Parish Clerks Report.

5.1 Requested a quote for boarding part of the loft in St Aidan`s for storage. Agreed

5.2 Noted. Gov. email addresses,so far only three councillors have completed the setting up of new email addresses, requested all to complete by the end of month.

5.3 Noted. £75.00 has now been refunded to our HPC account, from the company who had tried but failed to repair the oven in St Aidan`s.

5.4 Noted. Website updates almost complete, only three councillors to still provide a photograph.

5.5 Noted progress on [HPC action list](#), 3 closed, 6 carried forward.

6. To receive reports from Representatives to outside bodies and agree on any actions arising;

6.1 Lancashire Association of Local Councils (Cllrs R. Brookfield & M. Lyons) Nothing to report.

2 Signed.....Date.....

6.2 Ormskirk School Foundation Trust (Cllr D. Adams)

Nothing to report

6.3 Shirdley Hill Community Association (Cllr N. McCarthy-Thomason)

Cllr Noel McCarthy-Thomason reported that the hall is due to be decorated by volunteers, with a start date of week commencing 16th February.

7. To receive reports from Working Groups and agree any on any actions arising;

7.1 Finance (Cllrs M. Lyons, E. Wright, K. Wright) No update.

7.4 Flooding (Cllrs E. Wright , D, Adams & R. Brookfield) No Business.

7.5 Healthy Halsall No Business.

7.6 Environment & Biodiversity Working Group (Cllr M. Lyons, P. Barker)

No Business.

7.7 Halsall News (Cllr N.Mccarthy-Thomason)

Agreed. To begin investigating the bimonthly magazine proposal and to discuss it with the church. The potential for a higher quality magazine at a lower annual deficit was seen as favorable.

Local Government Act 1972 s142, power to provide newsletter.

8. Planning applications

8.1 Applications.

2026/0055/FUL The erection of a new outbuilding to the rear of the existing property.The Willow House 1 Halsall Farm Grove Halsall Ormskirk Lancashire L39 8AB Received on 26 Jan 2026/Validated: Tuesday 27 Jan 2026 Status: Registered.

Approval of details reserved by condition no's 9,10 & 11 of planning permission2024/0547/FUL relating to Hedge & Tree Planting, Environmental Management Plan and Bird boxes. Mill Brow Farm 98 New Street Halsall Lancashire L39 8RSRef NO 2026/0033/CON Received Mon 19 Jan 2026/Validated Mon 19 Jan2026/Status:Registered.

Certificate of Lawfulness - Use of glasshouses, yard and buildings for B8 Use.and To The Rear Of 19 Summerwood Lane Halsall Lancashire Ref. No: 2026/0058/LDC | Received: Mon 26 Jan 2026 | Validated: Mon 26 Jan 2026 | Status: Registered

2025/0937/PNP Application for Determination as to Whether Prior Approval is Required for details - Erection of proposed construction of a new barn.Application received29 Jan 2026. Validated 2nd Feb 2026.Status: Registered.Ambrose Farm Carr Moss Lane Halsall Ormskirk Lancashire L39 8RY

3 Signed.....Date.....

No comments raised.

8.2 Any planning applications on the day of the meeting.

None.

8.3 To note recent Planning Decisions

2025/1005/FUL Decision: Planning Permission Granted
Proposal: Introduction of new Part M compliant disabled access ramp to replace existing access steps and path Location: St Cuthberts Church, Halsall Road, Halsall, Ormskirk, Lancashire, L39 8RG

9.1 To approve the [2026 11 feb Schedule of payments](#)

Agreed.

9.2 To review the [Spend to Date 2026 Feb](#)

Agreed.

Clerk reported prior surplus amount of £1250.00 for reserves will be higher, approx £4000.00. Reserves to be earmarked: £1,000 for defibrillators due early 2027, £2,000 toward solicitor costs for the woodland.

9.3 To approve the [2026 Jan bank rec](#)

Agreed.

9.4 Independent Review of Bank Balances. Cllr E Wright had circulated bank balances.

Agreed.

10. Woodland Project. (Cllrs D. Adams, L. Stephenson, T. Atley & P.Barker)

Noted. Complete the constitution, collaboratively review and finalise the CIO application; set a submission timeline.

Plan content for an exhibition at the Summer Fair, prepare clear public guidance on the future plans for the woodland, giving detailed access/safety and project timelines.

Share woodland plans with planning enforcement to confirm required approvals.

Local Government Act 1972 s124 (1) parish council may acquire by agreement any land... (b) for the benefit, improvement or development of their area.

Cllr B.Roberts left at 20.26pm

11. To Approve annual review of policies & procedures

[2024 Reserves policy](#) Approved

4 Signed.....Date.....

WLBC Codes of Conduct Approved

Other policies as due

- IT policy- May 2026
- Document retention-June 2026
- Halsall news- June 2026
- Vexatious- Sept 2026
- Model Financial Regulations- June 2026
- Standing Orders March 2026

13. Noted. A request for a mobile post office.

Haskayne village hall has a post office service on Mondays 11-1pm, a local service deemed non-viable due to low demand and security risks.

14. Noted in item 1.Plaud transcript was used in the meeting 11th February 2026. Plaud has been added to our data protection policy.

15. Noted. Unity Bank Charges to increase monthly fee and reduce interest rate Monthly charge of £6.00 to increase to £7.00
Interest rate of 2.10% to reduce to 1.95

16. Noted.Holly Close flooding and septic tank, no further action to be taken by Halsall Parish Council, LCC have carried out a satisfactory site visit.

17. Agreed. Cllr Ray Brookfield to go forward as our candidate in the ballot for Buckingham palace garden party 12th May 2026.

18. Noted Update on Footpaths from OSS, Ken Sharp

DMMS submitted, now with LC Council. Tension with landowners over footpaths, the process will take time, Council to continue support.

20. Notice of information-only items.

Date & time of next meeting

Next meeting will be on 11th March 2026 at the Memorial Hall, 7.30pm.

Meeting closed: closed 20.54pm

5 Signed.....Date.....