

# HANKELow PARISH COUNCIL

## MINUTES OF THE HANKELow PARISH COUNCIL MEETING HELD ON MONDAY 4<sup>th</sup> NOVEMBER 2024 AT HANKELow METHODIST CHAPEL

**Present:** Cllr Chris Cope, Cllr Ian Jones, Cllr Gin Foster, Cllr Liz Adams, Cllr Ian Parker, Cllr Bellinger

**In attendance**

Abbi Miller (Clerk), Cllr Rachel Bailey, 1 member of the public

### 24/43 APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Apologies received from Cllr Tom Muxlow.

### 24/44 DECLARATION OF INTEREST

Cllrs Jones, Foster and Parker have all signed a dispensation for being shareholders in the White Lion Pub Ltd. There were no other declarations of interest.

### 24/45 MINUTES OF LAST MEETING

**RESOLVED:** The Parish Council agreed that the minutes of the meeting held on 2<sup>nd</sup> September 2024 be approved as a true and correct record and were signed by the Chair.

### 24/46 QUESTIONS OR COMMENTS FROM MEMBERS OF THE PUBLIC

In accordance with the Parish Council's Standing Orders, section 1d, members of the public were able to ask a question of the Parish Council or make a statement.

There were no questions from the public.

### 24/47 MATTERS ARISING

#### Audit Report

Cllr Cope, Cllr Parker and the Parish Clerk held a meeting on 14<sup>th</sup> October to discuss the recommendations as outlined in the 2023/24 Audit Report.

The Council was presented with:

**Website Recommendation:** Then Media – local business and ChALC preferred supplier. Offer a small parish council package at £25 a month, with a free website build. Will also help transfer documents from the old site at no extra cost. **RESOLVED:** Unanimously agreed. **ACTION:** Parish Clerk to contact Then Media to progress.

**ICO Membership:** Agreed that for £40.00 a year, this would cover any GDPR issues that may arise. **RESOLVED:** Unanimously agreed.

### 24/48 FINANCE MATTERS

#### FY25/26 Budget

The Parish Clerk presented the budget for FY25/26.

The following points were noted by the Parish Council:

- Cllr Foster enquired as to whether Employers Insurance was required or whether this was covered in the Parish Council Annual Insurance. **ACTION:** Parish Clerk to check.

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- Last years auditors' fees has increased this year – the Parish Council would like to look into other options. **ACTION:** Parish Clerk to look into Davenport Accountants, used by Buerton Parish Council.
- The Parish Council agreed to increase the Speed Watch Scheme budget to £400.00 It's approximately £50.00 a battery for the current camera. However, the Parish Council are keen to look into options for a new, more efficient camera. **ACTION:** Cllr Cope to look into getting quotes.
- The Parish Council agreed to reduce the training budget from £450.00 to £150.00 and transfer £300.00 to the Speed Watch Scheme Budget. **ACTION:** Parish Clerk to send Cllr Adams the ChALC training list.
- The Parish Council agreed to reduced the budget from £360.00 to £180.00, as a battery had recently been bought and had not been needed yet.
- The Parish Council agreed to a budget of £400.00 for Website fees based on a predicted £25.00 if the Parish Council instructed Then Media to host the website.

**ACTION:** Parish Clerk to amend the budget and present at the next Parish Council meeting.

The following payments were authorised:

- £25.00 CHalc – Training
- £180.85 HMRC – Underpayment
- £322.08 Abbi Miller – Clerk Wages
- £80.40 HMRC – Clerk Contributions
- £240.00 Hankelow Methodist Church – Room Hire

## 24/49 PLANNING MATTERS

The following planning applications with decisions made since the last meeting held on 5<sup>TH</sup> August 2024:

23/3455N	Chime House, Audlem Rd, Hankelow, CW3 0JE	Householder – Proposed garden room	Refused – 09/09/2024
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### 24/49.1 NEW PLANNING APPLICATIONS

There were no new planning applications.

## 24/50 WHITE LION DRAINAGE ISSUES

Cllr Cope provided the following update:

- It was voted at the last meeting that the latest draft proposal would be presented to an independent solicitor.
- A representative from the White Lion Pub requested a meeting to discuss this.
- At that meeting, the White Lion representative presented a legal agreement in a different format which had been drawn up by their own in-house legal appointee.
- Cllr Cope expressed his concern that this did not offer independent legal advice.
- The White Lion representative agreed to the instruction of an independent solicitor.
- Cllr Cope has emailed a solicitor which he has received an acknowledgement to his correspondence but had not had a response at the time of this Parish Council meeting.

## 24/51 VILLAGE GREEN SUB-COMMITTEE ACTIVITIES

The Parish Council had received a request from Mr Tonks to plant a silver birch tree on the Village Green in memory of his mother, Carol Tonks, long time Parishioner of the Parish.

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The Parish Council agreed that there was no policy in place for such requests and agreed to draw up an Environmental Policy. **ACTION:** All Councillors to provide three statements to help inform an Environmental Policy. **ACTION:** Cllr Cope to provide a response on behalf of the Parish Council to Mr Tonks.

## 24/52 UPDATE FROM CHESHIRE EAST BOROUGH COUNCILLOR

Cllr Rachel Bailey provided an update on the following:

- Out of area recycling centres will no longer accept admittance. Cllr Bailey will investigate the likelihood of a pop-up recycling centre if other Parish Councils were interested.
- Cheshire East has appointed a new Chief Executive to tackle the Council's poor financial state.
- Cheshire East are proposing changing black bin emptying to every three weeks. Concerns that this will increase fly tipping.
- ANSA is currently experiencing a shortage of drivers and this is the cause of missed bin emptying.
- The car parking charges for Audlem had not been implemented in October, and this is now likely to be implemented in December. There are ongoing discussions around whether this will include evenings and Sundays.
- Following the cessation of the D&G bus route through the village, Cheshire East are looking into other initiatives.
- Seats can now be bought on school buses for post-16 students however, it was recognised that this would cost in the region of £900 for a full year.

## 24/53 (ALL) MEMBERS REPORTS TO RAISE TO COUNCIL (FORMERLY AOB)

The Parish Council considered the points raised by Cllr Muxlow regarding the cutting of the boundary hedge with the field along the Northern edge of Longhill Lane, as no cutting has yet occurred, and the small repeater 30mph signs are becoming invisible due to foliage encroachment. Some of the residents have asked as to when the cutting is likely to occur. **ACTION:** Parish Clerk to email landowner

## 24/54 DATE OF NEXT MEETING

Monday, 6<sup>th</sup> January 2025  
Hankelow Chapel, 11 Old School Lane, Hankelow, CW3 0JN

The meeting closed at 21:10 pm.