

Haslingfield Parish Council (“HPC”) Minutes - Draft

Monday 12 May 2026

Attendees: Parish Cllrs Liz Hales (LH); Andrew Gillies (AG); William Harrold (WH); Diana Offord (DO); James Roberts (JR); David Revell (DR); Andrew Tipler (AT); Lise Jackson – Parish Clerk (LJ); 5 members of the public attended.

Members: 7

Quorum: 4

Meeting commenced 7.30pm

26-84 **Election:**

- a. It was **resolved** to elect Liz Hales as Chairman. Proposed (WH) Seconded (AG) All supported

Cllr Hales signed the Declaration of Acceptance of Office for the role of Chairman.

- b. There was no proposal to elect a Vice-Chairman.

26-85 Apologies: Apologies from Cllrs Ellis, Jones, O’Brien and Perry were noted.

26-86 Declarations of interest: No declarations of interest were received.

26-87 Declaration of Acceptance of Office: It was **resolved** to allow absent councillors to sign the Declaration of Acceptance of Office before or at the 8 June meeting. Proposed (AG) Seconded (JR) All supported

26-88 Public Forum: None.

26-89 Minutes: It was **resolved** to confirm as correct the minutes of the meetings of 13/04/26. Proposed (DO) Seconded (AG) All supported

26-90 **External Reports:**

- a. The County Councillor’s report was received. As no County Councillors were in attendance, it was agreed to email Cllr Damary-Homan about Government funding for the roads.
- b. Due to councillors being recently elected, no report was received. The Parish Council congratulated the new District Councillors.

26-91 **Planning Applications and Decisions:**

- a. Notification of the outcome of Planning Decision by SCDC:

[25/04628/PRIOR](#) - Cantelupe Farm, Cantelupe Road – Prior Approval Given

[26/00535/HFUL](#) - 11 Chestnut Close – Granted

In the previous 12 months, the Parish Council considered 28 applications and objected to 11 of those applications. Of those 11, 6 were granted by Planning with no explanation to the PC. It was **resolved** that Cllr Hales would write a letter to Stephen Kelly at Greater Cambridge Planning about this. Proposed (LH) Seconded (WH) All supported

- b. Notification of new Planning Applications: None

County Councillor Peter Fane joined the meeting. It was agreed to re-address item 25-131b.

Cllr Fane stated that the last substantive Highways meeting was on 3 March 2026. It was agreed at that meeting to add £20M to the Highways budget. Even in light of this increase, there will still remain a backlog of repairs. Pippa Heylings MP is looking for funds from the Government. Cllr Fane does not anticipate that the backlog will be resolved before the Unity Authority is in place in 2028. Highways is focusing on the repair and resurfacing of main roads.

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- 26-92 Policies:** It was **resolved** to approve the following policies with the exception of policy c. Complaints. Proposed (AT) Seconded (JR) All supported
- a. Standing Orders
 - b. Financial Regulations
 - c. Complaints (not approved – to be considered at a future meeting)
 - d. Data Retention
 - e. Data Protection, including website Privacy Policy
 - f. Media
 - g. Equality and Diversity
 - h. Grievance
 - i. Accessibility Statement (website)
- 26-93 Arrangements with other bodies:** It was noted that the Parish Council is in the South Cambridgeshire Rail Group (SCRG) with 14 local Parish Councils.
- 26-94 Review of inventory of land and assets:** The land and asset register including buildings and office equipment was noted.
- 26-95 S137 Expenditure:**
- a. The Council spent £6,187.60 on s137 expenditure in 2025-26.
 - b. It was noted that the limit of expenditure under Local Government Act 1972 s137 in 2026-27 for Haslingfield Parish Council is £14,117.20 (£11.60/elector x 1,217 electors).
- 26-96 General Power of Competence:** It was **resolved** that until the next relevant Annual Meeting of the Council, having met the conditions of eligibility as defined in the Localism Act 2011, the Parish Council holds the General Power of Competence. Proposed (AG) Seconded (AT) All supported
- 26-97 Meetings:** It was noted that the time and place of ordinary meetings of the Council up to and including the next annual meeting of the Council (May 2027) would be the second Monday of each month. All meetings will be held in the village hall, unless otherwise advertised.
- The dates for meetings can be found on the Parish Council website.
- 26-98 Insurance:** The current insurance ends on 31 May 2026. It was **resolved** to accept the three-year quote from Zurich Insurance which provides adequate cover for the Parish Council’s assets and liabilities. Proposed (LH) Seconded (AG) All supported
- 26-99 Subscriptions:** It was **resolved** that the PC and staff would continue subscriptions to other bodies: Cambridge and Peterborough Association of Local Councils (CAPALC), Information Commissioner’s Office (ICO), Society for Local Council Clerks (SLCC) and Cambridgeshire ACRE. Proposed (LH) Seconded (JR) All supported
- 26-100 Internal Auditor:** It was **resolved** that the Parish Council would use LGS Services as the internal auditor for 2026-27. A new internal auditor would be considered for the following year, as LGS Services has been used for three years, and it is good practice to change internal auditor every three years. Proposed (DO) Seconded (AG) All supported

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26-101 Bank Signatories: The bank signatories for the Council bank accounts were noted:

Unity Trust bank: Andrew Gillies, Liz Hales and Diana Offord. The RFO is in the process of adding David Revell to the account.

Nationwide: Andrew Gillies, Liz Hales and Diana Offord

Cambridge Building Society: Andrew Gillies, Liz Hales and Diana Offord

26-102 Direct Debits: It was **resolved** to continue the following direct debits for 2026-27:

Civic.ly (GoCardless)	Asset management software
Three (Hutchison 3G)	Mobile phone
ICO	Registration
Lloyds	Multipay card
NEST	Pension
Pennon Water Services	Allotment water
Royal Mail Group	PO Box

Proposed (LH) Seconded (JR) All supported

26-103 Annual Governance and Accounting Report:

- a. The report was received from the internal auditor, as well as the Annual Internal Audit Report 2025/26.
- b. It was **resolved** to approve the Annual Governance Statement 2025/26. Proposed (WH) Seconded (AG) All supported
- c. It was **resolved** to approve the Accounting Statements 2025/26. Proposed (LH) Seconded (AT) All supported

26-104 Grant request: A grant request from Haslingfield Primary School PTFA for funds towards a new pool liner was considered. The PTFA will put some funds towards the cost of the liner (£4,000), and two unspecified donations have been offered to the PTFA from parents. It was **resolved** to grant the PTFA up to £2,500, depending on the size of the donations from parents. The PTFA will inform the Clerk of the amount required. Proposed (LH) Seconded (DO) Majority supported

26-105 EWR:

- a. EWR Co. have made a few small changes to the proposal in Haslingfield, including increasing the length of the tunnel towards the north west. There are still major concerns, including:
 - Dust from construction compounds
 - 24/7 work on cuttings/tunnel for at least two years
 - Freight loop with diesel trains waiting over the River Rhee
 - HGV routes through Harston past the doctors' surgery
 - Uncertainty about how many local roads will be used for HGV traffic
 - Area of works include all roads in Haslingfield

Cllrs Revell and Harrold are proposing an extension of the tunnel by 1km to the north west. The benefits include less agricultural land take, less earth to be moved, less impact from dust, easier access to the A603, moving compounds away from the village, less noise, less impact on the landscape,

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benefits to Harlton and better for MRAO. They have requested a meeting with EWR Co. about this proposal, hopefully to take place in the next few weeks. It was **resolved** to support this proposal and encourage councillors to aim to speak to Harlton PC. Proposed (LH) Seconded (AT) All supported

SCRG held a meeting with Mayor Paul Bristow on 30 April, which was positive and supportive. A meeting with the Rail Minister is scheduled for 2 June.

- b. It was **resolved** that Cllrs Hales, Harrold and Revell will respond to the consultation on behalf of the PC. Proposed (DO) Seconded (AG) All supported. These councillors were thanked for their work.

26-106 Haslingfield and Harlton Eco Group: No update was received.

26-107 Barton Road speed control measures: The negative effect on residents in Barton Road, including vibrations and cracks in houses, from vehicles passing over the speed bumps was discussed. It was **resolved** that Cllr Hales would contact Highways about possible measures to resolve these effects. Proposed (LH) Seconded (JR) All supported

26-108 Grounds Maintenance Contract: It was noted that the contractor agreed to cut an additional cross path in Wellhouse Meadow for no additional fee.

26-109 Playground Inspections:

- a. It was **resolved** to commission three quarterly operational inspections (the fourth being the annual inspection) for the playground and skatepark from Online Playgrounds. Proposed (LH) Seconded (AT) All supported
- b. The wetpour laid by Kompan in December 2025 is shrinking more quickly than would be expected. The Clerk has contacted Kompan and asked for an explanation. They are investigating and will respond.
- c. It was agreed to replace the wetpour on the largest section of the playground this year. The Clerk will seek quotes.
- d. It was agreed to replace the spring animal in the playground before laying wetpour if possible. The Clerk will seek quotes.

26-110 Village Hall: The relationship between the Parish Council and the Badcock Recreation Ground Trust requires clarification. It was **resolved** to seek legal advice at the fixed fee of £3,600 (ex VAT) from Birketts LLP. Proposed (DO) Seconded (LH) All supported

26-111 Village Hall budget: A budget of £15,000 was agreed by the Parish Council in November towards costs arising from implementing stage 1 of the Energy Audit and towards a public toilet. The Badcock Trust requested that some of the funds are re-directed towards new hard standing outside the hall, including the pavements outside the changing rooms and a bin store. It was **resolved** to prioritise the hard standing. Proposed (LH) Seconded (AT) All supported

26-112 Dog waste bin: It was **resolved** to replace the dog waste bin on Cantelupe Road. A green topsy bin, which is dual purpose for general waste and dog waste, will be purchased from SCDC for a cost of £417.75. Proposed (WH) Seconded (AG) All supported

26-113 Clerk’s Report: The Clerk’s Report was received.

26-114 Finance: It was **resolved** to pay outstanding accounts. Proposed (JR) Seconded (AG) All supported

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Payee	Description	Amount
HMRC	Tax and NI	£870.61
Staff	Salaries and home expenses	£3,369.97
Lise Jackson	Mileage	£23.99
William Harrold	Village website expenses	£7.73
CAPALC	A O’Brien training	£35.00
CAPALC	W Harrold training	£35.00
CAPALC	Rights of Way training – Clerk	£35.00
LGS Services	Internal Audit	£300.00 (inc VAT)
Nurture	Grass cutting	£639.42 (inc VAT)

Meeting ended 9:40 pm

Date of next meeting: **Monday 8 June 2026** at 7:30pm in the Village Hall

Issued by the Parish Clerk: Lise Jackson
14 May 2026