

Haslingfield Parish Council (“HPC”) Minutes

Monday 14 September 2026

Attendees: Parish Cllrs Liz Hales (LH); Richard Ellis (RE); Michelle Golder (MG); William Harrold (WH); Ann O'Brien (AOB); Robin Perry (RP); David Revell (DR); James Roberts (JR); Lise Jackson – Parish Clerk (LJ); 9 members of the public attended.

Members: 8

Quorum: 4

Meeting commenced 7.30pm

26-189 Apologies

Apologies received from Cllr Gillies and Tipler.

26-190 Declarations of interest

- a. Cllr Golder declared an interest in the Eco Group; Cllrs Harrold and Revell declared an interest in EWR.
- b. It was resolved to give a dispensation for all until the end of the electoral term.
Proposed (LH) Seconded (AO'B) All supported

26-191 Public Forum

A member of public suggested the Councillors watch the People's Emergency Briefing. It was agreed to add to the October agenda.

26-192 Minutes

It was **resolved** to confirm as correct the minutes of the meeting of 10/08/26.
Proposed (MG) Seconded (LH) All supported

26-193 External Reports

- a. The County Councillor's report was received and is available on the website.
- b. The District Councillor's report was received and is available on the website.

26-194 Planning Applications and Decisions:

- a. Notification of the outcome of Planning Decision by SCDC: None
- b. Notification of new Planning Applications:
26/03326/FUL - 1 Workshop And Premises River Lane - Minor external alterations including: New composite aluminium windows and doors with timber infill panels to match, existing woodwork (fascias, cladding) repainted to match windows, new openings including doors and windows, raising of single storey parapet and new Juliette Balcony to first floor with glass balustrade – Majority supported

26-195 Tennis Club lease

A request from the Haslingfield Lawn Tennis Association for an amendment to the lease was considered. HLTA requested an extension to the lease for 20 years, in order to apply for grants to replace the surface. It was agreed to form a working group to discuss.

26-196 Grant Application

It was **resolved** to grant Haslingfield Little Owls £2,500 towards outdoor resources, a laptop and an air conditioning unit. Proposed (LH) Seconded (DR) All supported. If Little Owls are unable to find a funder to provide the remaining funds, they can approach the Council again this financial year.

26-197 Consultations:

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- a. It was agreed that:
 - i. Cambridgeshire County Council’s Rights of Way Improvement Plan – AO’B agreed to complete on behalf of the Council.
- b. DR will co-ordinate the reply to the Local Plan consultation.

26-198 EWR:

- a. Pippa Heylings visited the village on 28 August to be shown the areas that will suffer the greatest impact.

A group of councillors and residents met with EWR Co. engineers to ask for the tunnel in the village to be extended. This was rejected. EWR Co. advised those attending that during construction, access to haul routes on site will be via the A10 and A603 and therefore HG vehicles using village roads should be restricted to the set up phase or temporary issues with main road access. The construction phase is predicted to start around 2032 and to last just over four years. The EWR Co. senior representative was unaware of the PC’s proposal for a construction ombudsman and previously stated that it is not needed. EWR Co. visited sites in the village. Shrinkable clay and subsidence are big issues.

Cllr Hales has updated Pippa Heylings on outcome of this meeting with EWR Co.
- b. It was **resolved** to grant Cambridge Approaches £540 towards legal advice regarding SCDC’s legal requirement regarding the Wimpole SAC.
- c. It was agreed at the August meeting to consider renewing the licence agreement with EWR Co. for land surveys upon receipt of copies of the surveys already carried out. The surveys have not yet been received.

26-199 Haslingfield and Harlton Eco Group

No report received.

26-200 Biodiversity and Environment

It was agreed that Cllr Golder would be the councillor responsible for biodiversity and the environment.

26-201 Rural Exception Sites

It was agreed to consider this item in October.

26-202 Trees

- a. The tree surveyor will attend the village in late September to survey the trees not included in the tree survey. The surveyor offered to carry out this work for no additional cost.
- b. The tree work in The Elms has been carried out and invoiced. The tree surgeon has applied for permission to carry out the work in the Conservation Area. The tree work on the Recreation Ground will be carried out in October.

26-203 HAGA

A report from the Haslingfield Allotment Gardeners Association quarterly meeting was received. HAGA are seeking a new treasurer. The main items on their agenda are repair to the entrance gate and resurfacing the track at the far end of the site.

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*It was **resolved** to continue the meeting beyond 2 hours. Proposed (AO'B) Seconded (LH) All supported*

26-204 Playground and Skatepark

- a. The repair work at the playground is scheduled for later in September.
- b. The quarterly inspection report was received. As the inspector is also the contractor who will carry out the repairs from the last inspection report and the repairs are not yet complete, they agreed they should not have carried out this inspection. To compensate, they agreed to provide the PC with one further inspection in the spring free of charge.
- c. A communication board at the playground was considered. It was agreed to explore costs and investigate grants.
- d. A report from the volunteer was received about the next stage of the skatepark. He has offered to carry on further work during the Christmas period.
- e. It was **resolved** to replace the bin at the skatepark and make a claim on the insurance. Proposed (LH) Seconded (MG) All supported

26-205 Assets

- a. Path lights: The path lights are due to be replaced later this month.
- b. Car park barrier: The new car park barrier has been installed.
- c. Bench on village green: It was agreed to consider this item in October.
- d. War Memorial: It was agreed to consider this item in October.
- e. Wellhouse Meadow: To consider quotes for the repair of:
 - i. Wellhouse – It was **resolved** to accept the quote from Coulson. Proposed (LH) Seconded (DR) All supported
 - ii. Bakehouse – It was **resolved** to accept the quote from Coulson. Proposed (LH) Seconded (DR) All supported
 - iii. Wellhouse Wall – It was agreed to ask for further quotes for repair.
- f. Bakehouse request – It was agreed to investigate insurance, health and safety and risk assessments.

26-206 Verge by Village Hall

Purchasing the verge by the Village Hall was previously considered by the Parish Council. Advice was received from Searches at Cambridgeshire County Council:

The verge, while not owned by CCC, is a highway maintainable at public expense. This means that the surface of the land forms part of the public highway and is vested in Cambridgeshire County Council as the local highway authority but the sub soil may be owned by another. As the County Council do not own the land, it cannot be purchased or transferred by them. As the land is recorded as part of the highway maintainable at public expense, it is subject to highway rights - that it should remain open to the public to pass over and would also be subject to utilities having a right to place apparatus within the public highway (subject to licences/permits where appropriate). Any party who wanted to gain control of the land, either to enclose or potentially protect it

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from other schemes, then the highway rights would need to be extinguished via a process known as "stopping up". As this request is not linked to any future development, the stopping up process would be under Section 116 of the Highways Act 1980 (HA1980), which can be a complex and costly process. However, the stopping up process can only be undertaken where the local highway authority considered the land no longer necessary for highway purposes. Having looked at this area, it is highly unlikely that the County Council would consider such an application at this location, as the land as circled red below lies at a road junction and is required as public highway for visibility purposes. If any application was made under TCPA1990, then the County Council would likely object to the application.

It was therefore agreed to not apply to proceed with this or to plant up the area but rather to ask the grounds maintenance contractor to seed the verge with grass seeds.

26-207 Flu clinic

It was **resolved** that the Parish Council would pay the hall booking fee of £15 for the flu clinic. Proposed (AO'B) Seconded (MG) All supported

26-208 Remembrance Day

- a. It was **resolved** to make a donation of £25 to the Royal British Legion for Remembrance Sunday. Proposed (WH) Seconded (RP) All supported
- b. It was agreed to request a wreath from the RBL.

26-209 Councillor email addresses

Due to issues with spam messages and identity theft, it was **resolved** to remove the councillor email addresses from the website while looking into options. Proposed (WH) Seconded (JR) All supported

26-210 HR Committee

It was agreed to consider this item at the October meeting.

26-211 Policies

- a. It was **resolved** to adopt the Tree Management policy. Proposed (MG) Seconded (LH) All supported

26-212 Clerk's Report

The Clerk's Report was received in advance of the meeting.

26-213 Audit

The External Auditor's report for 2025-26 was received. It was noted that the Clerk would act on the note from the auditor.

26-214 Finance

- a. It was **resolved** that WH, DR, LH and AO'B would be signatories on the CCLA investment account. Proposed (WH) Seconded (JR) All supported
- b. The signatories on all PC bank accounts will be confirmed when the CCLA account is set up.
- c. The pay increase for staff, including back pay from 1 April 2026, was noted.

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- d. It was **resolved** to pay the outstanding accounts. Proposed (JR) Seconded (AO'B) All supported

Payee	Description	Amount
HMRC	Tax and NI	£807.49
Staff	Salaries (inc backpay), home expenses	£3,156.63
Lise Jackson	Mileage	£31.13
Liz Hales	Expenses – lunch for EWR meeting	£70.30
Liz Hales	Expenses – stationery	£54.00
CAPALC	Councillor training – M Golder	£75.00
CAPALC	Councillor training – planning (x4)	£180.00
Community Heartbeat	Defibrillator spares	£391.84 (inc VAT)
Coulson Building Group	Car park barrier	£1,067.69 (inc VAT)
Dor-2-Dor	Scarecrow leaflet delivery	£120.00 (inc VAT)
Nurture Landscapes	Grass cutting	£870.49 (inc VAT)
PKF Littlejohn	External audit	£504.00 (inc VAT)
Red Graphic	Printing for scarecrow festival	£212.40 (inc VAT)
Shire Trees	Tree work	£2,418.00 (inc VAT)
The Connections Bus	Youthwork	£1,956.00

Meeting ended 9:55 pm

Date of next meeting: **Monday 12 October 2026** at 7:30pm in the Village Hall

Issued by the Parish Clerk: Lise Jackson

29 September 2026