

**Minutes of No Man's Heath & District
Parish Council Meeting
held at Cholmondeley Coronation Hall, Bickley
at 7.00 pm on Thursday 6th November 2025**

PRESENT

Chairman: Cllr David Lithgow Smith

Cllr Kathryn Collings Cllr James Crossland Cllr Peter Guildford

Cllr Tim Harrop Cllr Charles Higgie Cllr Fran Lithgow Smith

Cllr David Pegram Cllr Michael Voisey

Clerk - Mrs Ruth Shackleton.

Members of the Public and Parish – one member of the public attended part of the meeting.

1. APOLOGIES

Cllr Trevor Parker Cllr Stephen Roberts

Cllr Roberts has applied for a six-month leave of absence from Council meetings due to personal circumstances impacting his attendance.

RESOLVED:- that the Council accept Cllr Roberts request for a leave of absence from attending Council meetings for a period of six months

Proposed by Cllr Collings and seconded by Cllr F Lithgow Smith.

2. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

There were no declarations of interest made.

3. PUBLIC PARTICIPATION

- Councillors asked that Cllr Higgie give further consideration to his position on the Council and take into account the wishes expressed by the Parish Meeting for him to step back from Council duties until matters in his personal life have been resolved.

Cllr Higgie declined the request to step aside and stated that he believed the parish meeting held earlier this year had been inappropriate.

Cllr D Lithgow Smith clarified that the Parish Meeting was called by 8 residents under the terms on the Local Government Act 1972

Cllr Collings advised the meeting that she has written to both the Monitoring Officer at CWaC and the local MP to seek guidance on the matter.

- Councillors expressed that, going forward, they wish to receive emails only where they relate directly to Parish Council business or where they have agreed to correspond via email. This is to be formally confirmed at the next meeting.

4. MINUTES

RESOLVED:- that the minutes for the Parish Council meeting held on 4th September 2025 (previously circulated) be accepted as a true and proper record.

Proposed by Cllr Crossland and seconded by Cllr Pegram.

5. ACCOUNTS AND PAYMENTS

5.1 Accounts:-

RESOLVED:- that the Council approve the accounts as previously circulated.

Proposed by Cllr Pegram and seconded by Cllr Harrop.

5.2 Payments:-

Chq No	Payee	Amount
669	Running Costs	£ 58.92
670	HMRC Quarter 3	£ 339.80
671	DONATION:- Royal British Legion	£ 100.00

672	Cholmondeley Coronation Hall	£ 30.00
673	Lone Star Vinyls (to be paid for by grant due from the Co-op)	£ 250.00
Phone	Purchase of Kissing Gates	£4,260.00

Receipts:-

None received.

RESOLVED:- that the Council approve the above payments.

Proposed by Cllr Pegram and seconded by Cllr Harrop.

5.3 **Bank Account:-**

Reconciled balance of the Current Bank Account as at 30th September 2025:-
£31,124.93.

Balance of the Deposit Bank Account as at 30th September 2025:- £ 7,842.82.

5.4 **Budget to Date:-**

The Council received and noted the budget to date as at 30th September 2025.

6. **BUDGET PROVISION BRIEFING**

Cllr D Lithgow Smith informed the meeting that Malpas Joint Burial Committee may submit a request for a maintenance grant; this will need to be taken into consideration when the Council is setting the precept in January.

7. **PLANNING**

Planning Register:-

The Council noted the planning register and the observations previously circulated. The Council were informed of current / imminent planning applications in Malpas which will impact on the parish, especially at the junctions with the A41 at Hampton and No Mans Heath. The Council agreed to write to CWaC to express their concerns.

8. **HIGHWAYS**

Cllr Harrop updated the meeting as follows:-

- There are outstanding issues with pedestrian warning signage on the A41.
- There are ongoing discussions regarding a proposed new Speedwatch location in Hampton.
- NMH mini roundabouts:- the work has now been completed .

The Council congratulated Cllr Harrop for all his efforts in having the work to the mini roundabouts done.

Cllr Collings is to send a list of the outstanding highways issues to Cllr Harrop. She provided the following update:-

- The dropped kerb has been installed opposite Cholmondeley Rise walk way, and the lines painted.
- CWaC is yet to install access protection markings at footway for Cholmondeley Rise, also pedestrian warning signs at Heath Row / Cross o'th' Hill Road - these were both due to be carried out and completed with the mini roundabouts works.

9. **POLICE**

The police report was circulated previously.

10. **PUBLIC RIGHTS OF WAY / KISSING GATES**

Cllr F Lithgow Smith updated the meeting:-

Cholmondeley Estates Office have agreed to take delivery of 10 Kissing Gates and install them. The Clerk is in the process of placing the order.

Once Cllr F Lithgow Smith has identified how many kissing gate parts and full gates there are remaining, Paul Helmers is to be instructed to continue with the installation programme.

Cllr F Lithgow Smith informed the meeting that it is proving difficult to get responses from some landowners.

The Clerk has followed up the request that was sent to UU to reimburse for the cost to install some of the gates; Cllr F Lithgow Smith is to make further enquiries.

11. **LITTLERS CROFT**

Cllr Collings provided the following update:-

- Cllr D Lithgow Smith and Cllr Collings have disagreed with CW&C regarding any new play equipment, unfortunately CW&C will not budge. At present, the Council will not be looking for further funding for new equipment for the park. It is hoped that this will change in the future and it can be picked up again.
- The park has seen a lot of activity over the summer / warmer months with parents coming from all over to use. There have been a few issues with the car park and residents telling visitors that it is a privately owned carpark. Cllr Collings has spoken with CWaC about this, and will chase up again. There have been a few people with dogs on the play area again.
- The contractors have again done a great job with the grass cutting this year.
- The new picnic bench has now been installed near the football pitch (Cllr Collings has had to mend the goal nets a couple of times due to damage).
- The Council passed on their thanks to Richard Latham (local resident) who has been mowing the football pitch in his own time.

12. EVENTS WORKING GROUP – CHRISTMAS EVENT

Cllr Collings provided the following update:-

- The Christmas Event will take place on Saturday 29th November 2025. All licences and insurance are in place. Official letters have gone out to relevant residents affected by the road closure. There will be a full road closure in place with access for emergency services only.
- Over 300 flyers for the event have been hand delivered locally.
- The Christmas tree is being donated by Steelforce and supplied by Edge Grange Christmas trees, who have also donated to the Christmas grotto gifts. The mulled wine and Mince pies are being donated by Wise Ltd this year. The Co-op have donated £250.00 towards the grotto.
- Over 60 local children have been booked into see Santa in his new grotto they will all receive a gift (this sold out in just 24 hours).
- There will be Christmas music and carols from St Chads Church and several market stalls.
- The Council formally thanked Steelforce, Edge Grange Christmas Trees, Wise Ltd, Corbetts and the Co-op for their contributions to the event.

13. VILLAGE APPEARANCE AND GATEWAY SIGNS

Cllr Collings provided the following update:-

The village gates and signs have now been installed with positive feedback received from local residents.

The planters around the village are looking beautiful, thank you to all the residents for continuing to maintain the planters and to Tony Day for co-ordinating the volunteers.

14. LAMPOST POPPIES

Cllr Collings provided the following update:-

- The Council formally thanked Tony Day for installing the Poppies around the village again this year, they look great; he has suggested a further 12 are ordered for next year due to getting old and broken.

RESOLVED:- that the Council agree to purchase 24 lamppost poppies for No Mans Heath and Hampton.

Proposed by Cllr Harrop and seconded by Cllr Collings.

15. CONNECTIONS LOCALITY MEETING (RURAL)

Cllr Roberts previously circulated a report to Councillors.

16. WITNEY LANE

Cllr D Lithgow Smith is to speak with Cllr Roberts regarding the issue with pollution on Witney Lane and to establish what action can be taken by the Council.

17. CW&C RECYCLING FACILITY

Cllr Harrop is liaising with Ward Cllr Williams regarding use of the recycling facilities in Whitchurch.

18. CLERK'S REPORT

- 2026 meetings:- the hall has been booked for the Council meetings.
- Insurance:- both the picnic bench and village gates have been added to the Council's list of assets and to the insurance schedule.
- Planning:- the clerk updated the meeting regarding a complaint received.

19. CORRESPONDENCE

A list of correspondence received was previously circulated.

PART 2

RESOLVED:- The Council agreed to exclude members of the public and press so as to discuss employee related matters.

Proposed by Cllr Collings and seconded by Cllr F Lithgow Smith.

1. CLERK'S SALARY AND HOURS

Signed

Dated

Scheduled Parish Council Meetings

Dates for 2026 meetings:-

Thursday 8th January 2026

Thursday 5th March 2026

Thursday 14th May 2026

Thursday 2nd July 2026

Thursday 3rd September 2026

Thursday 12th November 2026