

Minutes of the Meeting of Holt Parish Council

19 February 2026

Present :- S Williams (Chairman), B. Curral (Vice Chairman), J. Hill, C.Adams, J. Harper, C. Lightfoot (Clerk).

In attendance:- District Councillor D. Clarke, County Councillor Mrs M. Fordingham.

Absent :- N. Knight, M. Taylor.

1.	There were no members of the public present and therefore no questions.	
2.	Apologies. Apologies were received from Parish Councillor Mrs M. Taylor and Parish Councillor Mr N. Knight. These were accepted by Parish Council.	
3.	Declarations of Interest. (a) Register of Interests: Councillors are reminded of the need to complete/update their register of interests. (b) To declare any Personal Interests in items on the agenda and their nature. (c) To declare any Prejudicial Interests in items on the agenda and their nature. (d) Written requests for the Council to grant a dispensation (s33 of The Localism Act 2011) are to be passed to the Clerk at least 4 clear days prior to the meeting. There were no declarations of interest by Councillors for any items on the agenda.	
4.	Minutes. The minutes of the Meeting of Holt Parish Council held on 15 January 2026 were submitted for approval. Parish Councillor Mrs J. Hill proposed the minutes and this was seconded by Parish Councillor Mr B. Curral. The minutes were approved as a true record of the meeting.	

<p>5.</p>	<p>County and District Councillor Reports for Information.</p> <p><u>County Councillor report.</u> County Councillor Mrs M. Fordingham reported the following matters of note.</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Budget. The Budget will be finalised on Thursday. This will be followed by a Budget Engagement meeting on 23 February 2026 at 5.00pm via Zoom. Parish Council are invited to attend. Please speak to the Clerk if you wish to book a place. 2. Highways reports. Please report any highways issues via the Hub on the County Council website and send the reference number to County Councillor M. Fordingham so she can chase up the issues. 3. Ambassador for apprenticeships. Please contact County Councillor M. Fordingham if you can offer any apprenticeships through locale businesses. 4. Divisional funding. County Councillor Mrs M. Fordingham reported that she is supporting installation of a play area at the Red Lion. There is a proposal to run a stay and play facility for young families from this location. County Councillor Mrs M. Fordingham reported she had further Divisional Funding available and a discussion took place as to whether it would be appropriate to spend some of the funds on replacing or repairing the Parish and Church noticeboards at Holt Castle Barns. Parish Councillor Mr B. Curral agreed to investigate the current state of the noticeboards and what work would be required. <p><u>District Council report.</u> District Councillor Mr D. Clarke reported on the following matters of note:-</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Budget meeting. MHDC additional Council Meeting on Friday after WCC have set budget and Council Tax levels. MHDC Council Tax levels will remain the same. 2. Enforcement issues. An enforcement issue has been raised in relation to some storage containers on Ockeridge Lane. 3. SWDP. The SWDP should be ratified by the end of March. 	<p>BC</p>
<p>6.</p>	<p>Progress Reports for Information.</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Resiting of Parish Noticeboard - update. The Chairman reported that the Parish noticeboard will be erected within 1.8m of highway when it is resited in the bus layby on the A443 and 	

	<p>therefore will need to installed by Highways. Parish Council are still responsible for the removal and storage of the board until it can be relocated by Highways.</p> <p>The Clerk agreed to contact Neville who originally quoted to resite the noticeboard to see if he is happy to remove and store noticeboard for Highways to collect and relocate in bus laybye.</p> <p>2. Hedge cutting in village - update.</p> <p>The Clerk stated that she would chase Top Cut on the outstanding issues to see if this could be carried out before bird nesting season.</p> <p>3. Ockeridge Lane litter bin and overhanging trees - update.</p> <p>The Clerk said she had now received the what 2 words location so she would contact Jim Moule who installed the existing bins in the village and ask him to provide a quote for the work. District Councillor Mr Dean Clarke suggested the Clerk contact MHDC to remind them of their agreement to empty the bin once installed.</p> <p>The overhanging trees have now been dealt with.</p> <p>4. Parish Council email addresses .gov – update.</p> <p>Parish Councillor Mrs M. Taylor is due to send an e-mail in relation to the options for renewing the website and obtaining gov.uk email addresses. If this does not happen there are a number of options which the Chairman and the Clerk are currently investigating.</p> <p>5. Litter picking banner and purchase of litter picking equipment – update.</p> <p>Parish Councillor Mrs . Hill reported that the litter picking banner had been collected. She further reported that it is not necessary to purchase any additional litter picking equipment at present.</p> <p>6. Parish Council Cluster Meeting update.</p> <p>The Chairman reported on this meeting which was held at the end of January. Representatives from Shrawley, Wichenford and Grimley Parish Councils had attended. Common concerns in relation to the planned Council reorganistation and Unitary Authorities. A further meeting has been scheduled for the end of March in Shrawley Village Hall and Chris Wayman from Worcester CALC will be attending.</p>	<p>CL</p> <p>CL</p> <p>CL</p> <p>CL/ MT</p>
<p>7.</p>	<p>Finance.</p> <p>1. To note the current bank balances.</p> <p>The Clerk reported that the current account balance is £1,753.40 and the deposit account balance is £18,337.79.</p> <p>2. To approve payments and consider payments retrospectively.</p> <p>The Clerk asked Parish Council to raise a cheque for £25.00 to compensate Sally and Dave Tregear for supplying the electricity for the Holt Christmas Tree. The cheque was approved by Parish Council and signed by 2</p>	

councillors. Parish Council thanked Mr and Mrs Tregear for their generosity and the Clerk was asked to send a card expressing these sentiments.

The following payments were reviewed and approved retrospectively by Parish Council.

TO	DATE	DESCRIPTION	AMOUNT
20 January 2026	Bank transfer	Mrs C Lightfoot (Clerks salary)	412.80
20 January 2026	Bank transfer	Top Cut Ltd	168.00
15 February 2026	Bank transfer	Top Cut Ltd	168.00
16 February 2026	Bank transfer	Mrs C Lightfoot (Clerks salary)	412.80

3. To review the current spend against budget.

Parish Council noted the Accounts spreadsheet which had been circulated by the Clerk prior to the Meeting.

A discussion took place with regards to making a contribution to the Village Hall project. The Chairman reported that given there was a cap on donations in a calendar year Parish Council may want to consider giving a donation before the end of the 2025/26 financial year. Parish Council agreed to schedule this on the agenda for the next meeting of Parish Council on 19 March 2026 when a clearer picture of the funding requirements for the Village Hall project should be available.

4. To complete the documentation to update the bank mandate.

The Clerk confirmed that the bank mandate had been updated to include Parish Councillor Mr B. Curral. Parish Councillors Mrs C. Adams and Parish Councillor Mr N. Knight were asked to submit the appropriate information to the Clerk so they could be added to the bank mandate.

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8. **Planning.**

1. Applications pending.

Application No.	Location Details	Decision Status
M/25/00400/FUL Land At (Os 8144 6324) Holt Heath	Erection of 33no. dwellings, including 13no. affordable dwellings, new access off B4196, new landscaping and associated works	Pending Decision
<i>No further information on this application.</i>		

2. Approvals/ Refusals.

Application No.	Location Details	Decision Status
M/25/00590/FUL M/25/00591/LBC	Naunton Farm Holt Heath Worcester WR6 6NG Extensions and alterations to create a flat at second floor level for holiday let use.	Application Refused
<p>3. Other planning issues. Planning Appeal 6003232.</p>		
Application No.	Location Details	Decision Status
M/25/00590/FUL M/25/00591/LBC	Naunton Farm Holt Heath Worcester WR6 6NG Extensions and alterations to create a flat at second floor level for holiday let use.	Awaiting decision
<p><i>No further information on this appeal.</i></p>		
<p>9.</p>	<p>Correspondence for information.</p> <p>The Clerk read out an email from a Parishioner in relation to planning application M/25/00400/FUL Land At (Os 8144 6324) Holt Heath. The accompanying documents were made available to Parish Councillors.</p> <p>Following a discussion Parish Council concluded that the issues raised had previously been submitted to MHDC planning and reviewed by the appropriate experts. It was further considered that a number of the issues raised would be addressed in the planning response from MHDC. Parish Council did not feel that there were further material matters to be raised with MHDC planning.</p>	

10.	Clerk's report on urgent decisions since the last meeting. There were no issues to discuss	
11.	Councillor's reports and items for future agendas. 1. Vehicle show. A date is still to be finalised for this but it will probably be at the beginning of September. 2. Precept loan. The Chairman agreed to research Precept loans for the next meeting so an informed discussion can take place with a view to supporting the Village Hall project.	SW
12.	Date for the next Meeting. This is scheduled for Thursday 19 March 2026.	