

HANLEY CASTLE PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of the Meeting of the Parish Council held on Thursday, 15th January 2026 in Hanley Swan Village Hall.

Present: Councillors: Sue Roberts (Chairman), Sue Adeney, Angela Hartland, Sara Beadon, Steve Pennant, Lesley Smith, Alex Walker.

Apologies: Cllr Pippa Barkley, PC Kev Johns.

In Attendance: The Clerk, C&DCllr Tom Wells, Nick Harper (Pond Warden), Graham Holmes (PFW), 7 parishioners.

01/26 Welcome and Apologies: Cllr Roberts welcomed everyone to the first meeting of the Parish Council in 2026. She accepted the apologies received by the Clerk.

02/26 Declarations of Interest & Dispensation Requests from Councillors

- a) Register of Interests: Councillors were reminded that this must be kept up to date.
- b) Dispensations. No requests had been made.

03/26 Minutes: The Minutes of the Meeting of the Parish Council held on Thursday, 20th November 2025 had been previously circulated and were **approved**.

Members of the public were invited to ask questions or comment on agenda items.

The PIP application at Appletrees, Roberts End was raised as a concern as the information submitted appeared to omit certain details about the plot of land. There was an oak tree that was not shown on the plans and the neighbours had asked for a TPO on it. There was also a pond which acts as a soak away from the buildings and that corner of the plot was reported as prone to flooding on the roadside area. It was thought to be an AGR holding so may require a change of use as it has been farmed consistently over many years. The footpath was also shown in the wrong location on the information submitted. It is on a 40mph stretch of road.

The Picken End planning application that had been approved by the inspectorate was raised. There is now a covenant published confirming it is for affordable homes. It was requested that a letter be sent to MHDC planning regarding the affordable housing element to make sure that local people in housing need were considered first.

ACTION: Write a letter to planning regarding the affordable housing.

04/26 Matters Arising and Progress Reports for information:

- a) Action list was discussed and updated.

05/26 Finance:

- a) To consider and **APPROVE** any payments - The payments in Appendix 1 were agreed.
- b) Receipts Received – None received.
- c) Budget considerations and precept setting. The financial information had been circulated prior to the meeting and was deliberated. An initial proposed precept of £27,000 was put forward and the resulting percentage increase was considered. After a long discussion a precept of £27,000 was proposed;

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5 councillors voted in favour and it was agreed to request that amount for 2026/2027.

As the budget had not been finalised it was requested that it be an item on the next agenda.

ACTION: The Budget to be an agenda item in February.

06/26 Planning:

a) To Consider the following application referred by MHDC for consultation:

Application Number	Location	Proposal
M/25/02034/PIP	Appletrees Hanley Swan Worcester WR8 0DN	Permission in Principle for the proposed erection of up to 6 no. dwellings
Objection lodged to meet deadline		
M/25/01968/PIP	The Grange Hanley Swan Worcester WR8 0DN	Permission in Principle for the proposed erection of one dwellinghouse (self-build)
Objection lodged to meet deadline – Application Refused		

b) To Consider applications received after the Agenda issued – None received

c) Planning Decisions:

M/25/01860/FUL	St Gabriels Church Hanley Swan	Installation of foul water drainage and water supply to serve proposed toilet and kitchenette in Church.	Application Approved
M/25/01883/PIP	Land At (OS 8133 4345) Worcester Road Hanley Swan	Permission in Principle for the proposed erection of between 1 and 4 self or custom build dwellings	Application Refused
M/25/01736/HP	32 Quay Lane Hanley Castle Worcester WR8 0BS	Erection of wooden Car Port.	Application Refused
M/25/01716/NMA	Langdale Wood At (Os 7902 4303) Blackmore Park Road Malvern	Application for a Non-Material Amendment following planning permission M/18/00318/FUL - for revised lodge types and orientation refinements	Application Approved

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<u>M/25/01568/PIP</u>	Land At (Os 8257 4211) Gilberts End	Permission in Principle for the construction of up to 4 dwellings	Application Refused
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Appeals - M/25/01568/PIP - Land At (OS 8257 4211) Gilberts End Hanley Castle- deadline 2nd Feb

M/24/01568/FUL - Land At (OS 8157 4265) Winnington Gardens Hanley Swan
Decision Allowed

d) Mobile Mast Planning Application: Cllr Hartland updated the Council on the mast application. Atlas was going to lodge an appeal against the refusal decision.

07/26 District and County Councillors' Reports: Cllr Wells said he had been contacted by a parishioner regarding the poor state of the footway at the Holloway. He reported on the financial planning that was taking place at WCC and the strain that their budget was under. There was funding available from councillors' budgets for Health & Wellbeing projects if there were any in the Parish. The SWDP had still not been agreed but a decision by the summer was a possibility. Councillors mentioned the number of PIP applications that had been received over the previous two months and asked if he could be of assistance with them. He talked about how they were being applied for in most parishes as applicants hoped that if there were agreements in principle it would be a green light for the developers. He was very concerned about them. **ACTION: It was agreed that the Parish Council would write to Harriet Baldwin MP expressing its concern about PIPs and mentioning that when they were refused they often went to the planning inspectorate and were then allowed.**

08/26 Reports of the:

- a) Parish Paths Warden (Steve Pennant) – Report was read out.
- b) Pond Warden (Nick Harper) – The pond was full. It was also advised that some of the picnic benches would need replacing in the near future and should be a budget consideration 2027/2028. A litter pick had taken place which had found some interesting items that had sadly been dumped by the pond. A donation of Malvern stone had been received and would be used around the pond. A suggestion was made to look into whether it would be feasible to set up a facility for people to be able to make donations towards future memorial furniture around the pond.

ACTION: The Clerk to see if that is a possibility.

- c) Playing Field Warden (Graham Holmes) – The agreed £1000 contribution required from the Parish Council to fulfil the Football Association Grant would be required in the 2026/2027 financial year.
- d) Allotment Update – The contact details requested by Platform had been provided and contact from them was awaited.
- e) Local Police (Kev Johns) – December Report circulated.
- f) Parish Plan (Steve Pennant) – A detailed report providing an update on the latest activity was given. Drop in sessions were to be held on 24th Jan and 7th

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March. These were being advertised through social media, the Parish Link and a leaflet drop.

09/26 Highways Matters

- a)** Road Safety Matters – Cllr Wells said that he had requested a meeting with Karl Perks to discuss the Highways' requirement of 20 properties within a certain distance before they would consider a 30mph limit. He noted that Hanley Castle had the school and 18 properties within 600 metres.
- b)** Works for Lengthsman or Reporting to MHDC/WCC – Report that a pole by the village shop has been knocked down. **ACTION: The Clerk to report.**

10/26 Hanley Environment Group

- a) HEG proposal for comms strategy – a document detailing the proposed strategy had been circulated ahead of meeting and a member of HEG talked about what was being proposed. They hoped it would help to expand the volunteer group and improve communications and cost effectiveness. The proposal of spending £830 to use an outside agency to assist was discussed, it was agreed that it would provide tools for HEG, the Parish Council and other groups going forward and all voted in favour of the proposal.

11/26 Correspondence

- a) MHDC Overview - Council Tax 2026-2027 & Police & Crime Commissioner
- b) SWDP Review Main Modifications Event – 6/1-17/2/2026 – Email circulated with link to event.
- c) Parish Priorities – Jan-March 2026 Speed Monitoring request submitted.

12/26 Topics raised by Councillors, Committees, Clerk & Parishioners

- a) Policies to be reviewed in turn at meetings.
ACTION: The Clerk to contact CALC to get advice and work through them
- b) Café Market – The Parish Council had agreed to attend the Café Market on 31st January; they would talk about the Parish Plan and also hand out the Smart Water kits. Cllrs Pennant, Adeney & Roberts all agreed to attend.
ACTION: The Clerk to ask if there are any user guides with them.

13/26 Items for the next agenda:

Budget proposal

14/26 Date of next meeting: The date of the next meeting was set for 19th February 2026.

Signed (Chairman) Date: 19th February 2026

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Appendix 1: Schedule of Payments & Receipts 15th January 2026

Payments to be Approved January

Red Penguin	Parish Plan Banners	£126
	Total	£126

Signed Date: 19th February 2026
Chairman