MINUTES OF THE PARISH COUNCIL MEETING HELD 0N 1st NOVEMBER 2026 AT 5.00PM AT HUXLEY VILLAGE HALL

In Attendance: Cllr R Bird
Cllr F Halton
Cllr M Pilkington
Cllr S Ratledge
Cllr L Sackett (Chair for the meeting)
Cllr S Martin
Cllr C Warburton
Clerk: Mrs T Ryall-Harvey
Members of the Public: 0

APOLOGIES: Apologies were received from Cllr C Nicholls, Cllr R Jones and Cllr M Jones due to previous commitments.

DECLARATION OF DISCLOSABLE INTERESTS – Nothing declared

PUBLIC SESSION – no public in attendance.

MINUTES
RESOLVED 26/033 that Cllr Sackett as Chairperson for the meeting signs, as a true and correct record, the minutes of the meeting held on 6th September 2026 proposed by Cllr Halton and seconded by Cllr Warburton and unanimously agreed.

ACTIONS FROM MINUTES (*not otherwise on the agenda)*
Still outstanding:-

- Quote obtained for the painting of the telephone box – Cllr Sackett reported that she had spoken with the WI, who have confirmed that they use the telephone box in Hargrave as a library. The WI, 3 years ago, paid to have the telephone box painted and obtained a quote recently to have the telephone box stripped down, treated for rust and painted for £380.00. Cllr Sackett proposed that the Parish Council contribute half of the cost, if the WI pay the other half this was seconded by Cllr Ratledge and unanimously RESOLVED 26/034.
- Cllr Pilkington has received the route Sir Thomas Moulston took from Hargrave to Tarvin and undertook to share it with the Parish Council.

Completed since the last meeting:-

- Maintenance work on Millennium Gardens has been organised.
- Spray Treatment had been carried out on Huxley footpath since the last meeting.
- Clerk contacted Andy Jones and a new location for the SID has been approved down Hoofield Lane.
- Clerk contacted highways regarding the cutting back of hedge on Long Lane.
- Clerk updated the Action Plan for 2027-28 and circulated it around the Parish Council.
- Bluebells and Daffodils had been purchased.
- Litter picking hoops had been purchased.

BUSINESS AND CORRESPONDENCE
Public Right of Ways – Cllr Pilkington reported that she received a message from the Public Rights of Way Officer regarding the bridge on FP15 which had been repaired and the Public Rights of Way Officer had been

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out with Mr Cooke to look at FP8 and other reported issues on his land, they are in discussion about undertaking repairs on the footpaths on his land.

ACTION: Find out from Cllr M Jones if he is speaking Deborah Lack about the Thomas Moulson route and if CWaC are funding stiles
ACTION: Cllr Pilkington to circulate the Thomas Moulson route
ACTION: Chase Hellmers to see when they can install the kissing gates on FP2 near Green Farm.
ACTION: Ask if the Sir Thomas Moulson Trust have a website or if they would like to have a page on our website.

Highways -Cllr Sackett was pleased to report that CWaC had resurfaced Church Lane Huxley over the half-term. There was some fly tipping on Mill Lane which was reported and cleared by CWaC, and a fridge freezer on Cow Lane, and Cllr Warburton reported that there was a carpet tipped in the layby in Cow Lane.

A resident raised a complaint to the Parish Council in relation to Old Hall Lane, Hargrave, as the road there had been dug up in two places about 8 weeks ago, supposedly to sort out drains. The barriers and holes are still there and there has been no one near it for at least 6 weeks. Residents were fed up with it.

In addition, Cow Lane is closed, not sure what for but this means residents have to divert round through Waverton to get to the Stapleford Road.

The Clerk provided the response received to this complaint from CWaC:-
Old Hall Lane: Relates to CWAC/Colas drainage works following reports of drainage issues reported by Meadow Farm House. Following jetting and investigatory works, two blockages were found in the highway surface water system, and the initial proposal was two replace small sections of drain at these two points. However, once work commenced and enabled further drainage CCTV work to be undertaken, it was found the sections of damage and root ingress were far more extensive than first thought. It is now proposed to replace over a 100m section of drain, which is a lot more substantial and has necessitated a new programme of works (requote, specialist contractor etc). The programme of works is close to being agreed,
ACTION: Share this information on Facebook.
ACTION: Put information on Down our Way about residents checking for road closures on CWaC Website.

Cow Lane: This relates to emergency Scottish Power works to excavate and repair an underground low voltage fault. Works deemed as an emergency enable the utility to enter the road space without prior notification to the council, but works are due to complete this Friday (30/10).

Cllr Sackett raised again concerns about the drainage issues on Hoofield Lane, the Clerk confirmed that this was likely to be actioned in 2027/27 due to available resources and therefore the Parish Council requested that this road be put on the gritting route as it floods and gets icy in cold temperatures.
ACTION: Clerk to request that this road is gritted as it floods and gets icy.

Cllr Sackett reported that the poppies have now been put up in Hargrave and Huxley with the help of Mike Roscoe.

It was reported that the hedge had been cut by Golden Nook Farm on the bend at Long Lane

Cllr Sackett reported that a quote had been received for the mechanical brushing of the pavement on Huxley Lane. It was proposed by Cllr Ratledge and seconded by Cllr Halton and RESOLVED 26/035 to proceed with the mechanical brushing of the pavement on Huxley Lane at a cost of £470.00.

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Vehicle count, it was reported that the cost by CWaC for undertaking a Vehicle Count through Huxley was around £300 – it was agreed to not proceed with this as Parish Councillors felt that of the number of vehicles that pass through the village would not be 13% for HGV's.

Speeding in Huxley – Cllr Ratledge downloaded information from the SID and circulated it around the Parish Council. He reported that there were approximately 20,000 vehicles per month driving on Huxley Lane. He highlighted that as the road was a 40mph speed limit, most road users were traveling within the 85 percentile, however it was noted that the highest speed recorded was 81mph.
Cllr Ratledge confirmed that the SID has now been relocated to Church Lane following the road by the school being resurfaced.

United Utilities – Cllr Sackett provided a verbal update on the recent works undertaken by UU. Repair works at the T junction, Huxley Lane/Red Lane/Long Lane were now complete.

Parish Councillors reported that barriers and sandbags have been left around the area. Cllr Sackett asked Councillors to let her know of any locations so she could feed this back to United Utilities.

Cllr Sackett reported that the request for community funding/compensation was on-going.

Peak Cluster – Cllr Sackett reported that an update to the original project had been circulated since the last meeting with a new route being proposed through Huxley and Hargrave. A newsletter and consultation has been organised and Peak Cluster are holding an event in Huxley Village Hall where residents need to register to reserve a place.
ACTION: Cllr Warburton to put the newsletter on the Hargrave and Huxley Facebook site.
ACTION: Put the Peak Cluster newsletter on the website.
Cllr Pilkington to encourage residents to share comments regarding the proposed route with the Parish Council and Cllr Sackett will highlight these with Cllr Nicholls for a Parish Council response.
ACTION: Raise with Cllr M Jones to see what other Parish Councils are doing, and would he recommend us joining with any other Parish Council?

Asset Maintenance – Cllr Martin reported the stone War Memorial Monument at Hargrave as he believes it could be leaning and will take measurements.
ACTION: Find out who is responsible for the War Memorial in Hargrave.
ACTION: Is there a War Memorial Trust.
It was reported that the two wooden carvings are rotting on the edges.
Cllr Martin will review and report back to a future meeting.
It was proposed by Cllr Ratledge and seconded by Cllr Pilkington and RESOLVED 26/036 that the kissing gates be removed from the asset register.

Maintenance –

- *Weed Control along Huxley Lane* – reported earlier in the meeting.

- *Millennium Gardens* – a verbal report was received following work being undertaken to maintain the Millennium Gardens since the last meeting.

- *Bulb Planting* – it was reported that daffodils and bluebells have been planted at the Primary School and daffodils have been planted around both villages.

Thomas Moulston Trust Anniversary – Reported earlier in the meeting.

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National Emergency Briefings – The Parish Councillors were asked to consider if the Parish Council wished to organise public showing of the national emergency briefings in the village halls. It was agreed to discuss further at a future meeting. It was noted that the briefing had been shown in Tattenhall recently.

Other Correspondence – nothing raised.

PLANNING

The Planning Register dated 19/10/2026 was accepted and changes to the planning register from last meeting were noted.

It was noted that the following consultation had been receiving into the Parish Council since the last meeting:-

- 26/02836/FUL – The Cottage, Old Hall Lane, Foulk Stapleford, Chester CH3 7RT – Demolition of existing detached double garage and erection of new three bay oak farmed garage and workshop building.
- 26/03020/FUL – Laurel Bank, Church Lane, Huxley, Chester CH3 9BH – Demolition of the existing garage and erection of a single-storey side extension with balcony above, and a two-storey rear extension – The Parish Council agreed to submit a response stating ***no observations***.

It was noted that the following consultations were received and a determination from Cheshire West and Chester Council since the last meeting:-

- 26/01752/FUL – Heath House, Hatton Hall Lane, Hatton, Chester CH3 9AP – Single Storey extension and dormer windows to replace rooflights – ***approved.***
- 26/02836/FUL – The Cottage, Old Hall Lane, Foulk Stapleford, Chester CH3 7RT – Demolition of existing detached double garage and erection of new three bay oak farmed garage and workshop building – ***approved***.

Cllr Warburton reported upon a large greenhouse had been erected at a neighbouring property and she would endeavour to find out more information and would report it to enforcement if necessary.

Tarvin Neighbourhood Area Application – the revised Neighbourhood Area Application was circulated for members information, clarification was sought from CWaC in relation to the amended area within Tarvin Parish that currently sits within Central Gowy (South) Neighbourhood Plan and is proposed to be included in Tarvin's NP, moving forward how would that impact Hargrave and Huxley's Neighbourhood Plan.
ACTION: Clerk to email CWaC to seek clarification.

FINANCIAL ITEMS

Cashbook and Out-turn Forecast YTD
RESOLVED 26/037 Year to date cashbook and out-turn report dated 19/10/2026 was approved as a true and correct record.

Bank Reconciliation against Cashbook YTD – RESOLVED 26/038 – that Cllr Warburton signed the Bank Reconciliation and Bank Statements.

Payments for approval:-
RESOLVED 26/039 to accept list below of income received and payments made or due to be made since the last meeting for approval.

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Income received since the last meeting for approval

Date	Payable to	Gross Amount	Comment
09/09/2026	Bank Interest	£11.12	Monthly Bank Interest
09/10/2026	Bank Interest	£10.87	Monthly Bank Interest

Payments made since the last meeting for approval

Date	Payable to	Net Amount	VAT	Gross Amount	Comment
08/09/2026	www.Bostonseeds.co.uk	£86.66	£17.33	£103.99	Bluebell Bulbs
11/09/2026	Amazon	£59.40	£11.88	£71.28	Litterpicking Hoops
21/09/2026	PJ Hellmers Ltd	£183.75	£36.75	£220.50	Weed Control on Footpath in Huxley
28/09/2026	Joseph Oliver	£160.00	£0.00	£160.00	Gardening in Hargrave (Millennium Garden)
28/09/2026	Walkers Nurseries	£76.80	£15.36	£92.16	Daffodils for Hargrave and Huxley
08/10/2026	TEEC Limited	£191.00	£38.20	£229.20	Domain registration and hosting fees
13/10/2026	Royal British Legion	£146.00	£0.00	£146.00	Poppy Wreath and Lamp-post Poppies
14/10/2026	Hargrave PCC	£30.00	£0.00	£30.00	Village Hall Hire
19/10/2026	Service Charge	£4.25	£0.00	£4.25	Bank Service Charge
29/10/2026	HMRC PAYE	£2.40	£0.00	£2.40	HMRC Tax Month 7
23/10/2026	Mrs T Ryall-Harvey	£367.42	£0.00	£367.42	Salary Tax Month 7

Payments not yet made for approval

Payments	Net Amount	VAT	Gross Amount	Comment
Mrs T Ryall-Harvey	£367.62	£0.00	£367.62	Salary Tax Month 8
HMRC PAYE	£2.40	£0.00	£2.40	HMRC Tax Month 8
Mrs T Ryall-Harvey	£96.40	£0.00	£96.40	Expenses

PARISH COUNCIL MATTERS

CIL Working Group – nothing further to update.

Neighbourhood Plan Working Group – Cllr Sackett reported that a Neighbourhood Plan Working Group should be organised to include Cllr Warburton, Cllr Sackett, Cllr Jones & Cllr Nicholls before the next Parish Council Meeting.

ACTION: Clerk to liaise with Cheshire Community Action about Design Code and costings, if there are any funding opportunities.

Action Plan - the draft Action Plan for 2027-28 was circulate and it was unanimously RESOLVED 26/040 to adopt.

Budget for 2027-28 – to agree a date for a Working Group to look at draft budget.

ACTION: Clerk to circulate a date for a meeting – Tuesday night 8th December at 6.30pm.

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Grant Giving – It was reported that two residents/groups had contacted the Parish Council and one application had been received in so far. Closing date was 30th November and applications would be considered after this.

Womble Walk/Community Litter Picking Event– it was reported that the Womble Walk/Community Litter Picking Event took place on 10th October. The Chairman thanked all those who attended for their time.

DOWN OUR WAY – items for inclusion in the next issues of Down Our Way was sought.

- Next parish council meeting.
- Peak Cluster

NEXT MEETING

The next meeting will take place on Sunday 10th January 2027 at Hargrave Village Hall at 5.00pm.
Cllr Halton and Cllr Warburton not available for the meeting.

The meeting closed at 18:54

Signed:……. Dated:…….

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