



Present: Cllr T. Pinches (Acting Chair) S. Bunn, D. Renshaw, L. Hodnett, L. Crocombe, D. Thakrar, E. Aspin, J. Marshall, M. Roberts, C. Stanley

Clerk: A. Palmer

County Councillor: S. Ritchie-Simmons (apologies received)

Members of Public: There were 2 members of public present

Highley Parish Council

Tuesday 1st September 2026

“Under the Local Government Act 2014 meetings can be recorded and broadcast. Those who attend a meeting should expect to be recorded. Any request from a member of the public not to be recorded can be conveyed to the Clerk and the request will be respected by those recording – who will also be expected to inform the Clerk as a courtesy.”

FC26-27.50 - Chair's Welcome

FC26-27.51 – Apologies for Absence

Cllrs A. Hancox, H. Hancox, T. Quinn, C. Whitehouse.

RESOLVED to accept these apologies.

Power: *Local Government Act 1972, s.85* (approval of reasons for absence)

FC26-27.52 – Declarations of Interest

There were no declarations made.

Power: *Localism Act 2011, s.31* (disclosable pecuniary interests) Members must leave the room where required.

FC26-27.53– Parishioners’ Question Time

A parishioner raised concerns regarding the scale of potential future development in Highley, noting that up to 700 additional houses have been referenced in various discussions and consultations. They highlighted significant pressures on local road capacity, stating that existing infrastructure is already struggling and that the B4555 effectively operates as a one-way route. He expressed concern that further growth would increase congestion, commuting difficulties, and the likelihood of accidents.

They also raised issues relating to public transport availability, particularly the mismatch between bus timetables and typical working hours, and ongoing problems with sewerage capacity and repeated roadworks. He emphasised that Highley is frequently referred to as a “town” despite lacking the facilities associated with one, noting limited shop capacity, only one public house, and the need for many residents to commute for employment. The parishioner stressed that these factors collectively pose risks to safety and undermine the village’s ability to accommodate large-scale development.

The Committee noted the comments.

Power: *Public Bodies (Admission to Meetings) Act 1960* Public participation permitted under Standing Orders.

FC26-27.54 - Minutes

RESOLVED to accept the minutes of the meeting held on **Tuesday 7th July 2026**.

Power: *Local Government Act 1972, Sch. 12, para.41(1)*

FC26-27.55 – Casual Vacancy Update

RESOLVED to accept the application from Mrs J Smith unanimously and book SALC training for 30th September: Fundamentals for Councillors.

Power: *Local Government Act 1972, s.87 & s.89* (vacancies and elections) Update on Notice of Vacancy and co-option timetable.

FC26-27.56 – Reports

Power: *Local Government Act 1972, s.111* (powers to discharge council functions)

- Policing Report – None received
- Clerk’s Update - **Use of Highley Parish Council Contact Details – Clerk’s Request** Council to consider and approve the Clerk’s request to continue using the Highley Parish Council telephone number and postal

address for the additional small clerk roles. **RESOLVED** to approve use of telephone number and postal address.

- Working groups and/or committees:

Youth Working Group – verbal update from Cllr M Roberts (Chair) following Youth Partnership meeting (full WG meeting with partners taking place 3/9)

Revenue and Resources Committee – Minutes on SharePoint and website. Q1 28/7/26

Staffing Committee (appraisal noted) NALC has advised the national pay award for 2026/27 has now been agreed at 3.3% with effect from 1st April 2026. **RESOLVED** to approve the backdated payment.

Severn Centre Advisory Board Update – deferred until next month following Halo meeting

- Shropshire Councillor Report - NONE RECEIVED apologies sent

FC26-27.58 Village Maintenance & Allotments (including Bus Shelter Working Group)

Meeting booked for 24th September

FC26-27.59 – Planning Applications

To consider planning applications received, including any submitted after publication.

View the application directly online: <http://pa.shropshire.gov.uk/online-applications/applicationDetails.do?activeTab=summary&keyVal=TIL8U4TDK2K00>

CONSULTATION EXPIRY DATE:

PLANNING REFERENCE - **26/02770/FUL**

DEVELOPMENT PROPOSED - Erection of single storey rear extension

LOCATION: - Wrens Nest Bungalow, Netherton Road, Highley, Bridgnorth, Shropshire.

SUPPORT

Reference: **26/02989/FUL** (validated: 10/08/2026)

Address: 15 Netherfield, Highley, Bridgnorth, Shropshire, WV16 6EZ

Proposal: New dormer window and alterations to front elevation

Applicant: Marion Rumble (15 Netherfield, Highley, Shropshire, WV16 6EZ)

View online at: <http://pa.shropshire.gov.uk/online-applications/applicationDetails.do?activeTab=summary&keyVal=TJEVF9TDK0V00>

SUPPORT

View the application directly online: <http://pa.shropshire.gov.uk/online-applications/applicationDetails.do?activeTab=summary&keyVal=TJR6Z8TD0M200>

CONSULTATION EXPIRY DATE:

PLANNING REFERENCE - **26/03072/FUL**

DEVELOPMENT PROPOSED - Erection of self-build property and formation of vehicle access.

LOCATION: - Proposed Dwelling South Of Woodend Farm, Vicarage Lane, Highley, Shropshire. **SUPPORT**

Power: *Town and Country Planning Act 1990* (right to be consulted)

FC26-27.60– Grant Applications

NOTED that the **Chair** has completed, and the clerk to submit the Neighbourhood Fund application form to Shropshire Council **by 30 September 2026**.

Power: Local Government Act 1972, s.137 (grants for community benefit).

FC26-27.61 Correspondence (plus any received following publication of agenda)

- Road Closure: Yew Tree Grove 18th Sept (STW)
- Letter of complaint – acknowledged and forwarded to MO
- Road Closure: Multiple notices for Netherton Lane BT works cutting trees 19th and 25th October
- Environment Agency Application for drought order emailed 17/8/26
- Wavenet deadlock letter
- Road Closure Underhill St 14th Sept – 5th Oct
- An email has been received from Severn Valley Country Park (Station Road side) advising that they are progressing a re-wilding plan for an area currently maintained as short-mown grass. The Council **NOTED** correspondence from Severn Valley Country Park regarding the planned re-wilding of an area currently maintained as short-mown grass. Councillors welcomed the update and raised two matters requiring follow-up:
 - **Graffiti on Trees:** Councillors requested that the Clerk chase up the previously reported graffiti on trees within the New England managed area of the park (photographs to follow from LH).
 - **Ranger Meetings:** Councillors asked when the **regular liaison meetings** with SVCP Rangers will be reinstated, noting that Cllrs DT and JM wish to attend.

The Clerk was instructed to contact the SVCP Rangers to request clarification on these points.

Power: *Local Government Act 1972, s.111* To note and consider correspondence received.

FC26-27.62 – Finance plus any invoices received following publication of agenda

Power: *Local Government Act 1972, s.150* (financial administration) and *Accounts & Audit Regulations 2015*

To acknowledge **August** payments approved by R&R committee (Receipts & payment Detail supporting documents)

- Clerk's salary +backdated NJC increase • HMRC • LGPS • Lebara SIM
- CCLA interest • Severn Centre Youth Club Room Hire July £45.60 x2
- RJM Basket Watering £1,125 • St Marys Churchyard £487.50
- LITE Ltd £900 inc VAT (£450 paid July £450 upon completion)

To approve **September** payments:

- Clerk's salary • HMRC • LGPS • Lebara SIM
- CCLA interest • St Marys Churchyard £487.50 • RJM basket watering Aug
- Electricity Q2 £3,201.24 • All About Youth 1 of 2 2026 £3,240

Any invoices received prior to meeting:

£6.50 key cut back gate to Severn Centre to access water bowser

£55.92 Amazon A4 and wallets

Items awaiting invoice or completion of works may also be considered:

- Hedge cutting C. Coomby £600

RESOLVED to accept to make the payments. Finance Attached.

Power: Local Government Act 1972, s.101 (delegation of functions).

FC26-27.63 – Date of Next Meeting

The next meeting of Highley Parish Council will be held on **Tuesday 6th October at 7.00pm** in The Library at The Severn Centre.

FC26-27.64 – Exclusion of Press and Public

To resolve that, under Section 1(2) of the Public Bodies (Admission to Meetings) Act 1960, the press and public be excluded from the meeting for the following item(s), as publicity would be prejudicial to the public interest due to the confidential nature of the business to be transacted.

Power: *Public Bodies (Admission to Meetings) Act 1960, s.1(2)* To resolve exclusion for confidential business.

DRAFT