



HIGHLEY PARISH COUNCIL

Present: Cllr T. Quinn (Chair) Cllr. T. Pinches (Vice-Chair) D. Thakrar, E. Aspin, L. Hodnett, S. Bunn, P. Vinal, C. Whitehouse, L. Crocombe, M. Roberts, C. Stanley.

Clerk: A. Palmer

County Councillor: Sharon Ritchie-Simmons

Members of Public: There were one member of the public in attendance.

Highley Parish Council – Tuesday 14th April 2026

0.0 Chairs Welcome.

Power: Local Government Act 1972, s.111 and Sch.12 para.12 (conduct of meetings).

01.Apologies for Absence

J. Marshall, A. Hancox, H. Hancox

M. Green (resignation received)

RESOLVED to accept the apologies.

Power: Local Government Act 1972, s.85 (attendance and apologies).

02.Declarations of Interest

There were no declarations of interest.

Power: Localism Act 2011, s.31 (disclosable pecuniary interests).

03. Parishioners Question Time

The Chair clarified standing orders and defined public participation for members of the public.

Power: Local Government Act 1972, s.100A and s.111 (public participation and meeting administration).

04. Minutes

RESOLVED to approve the minutes of the meeting held on **Tuesday 3rd March 2026**

Power: Local Government Act 1972, Sch.12 para.41(1) (approval of minutes).

05. Members received the following reports:

- a. **Clerks report** - attached
- b. **Policing report** – no report received, apologies sent
- c. **Shropshire Councillor Ritchie-Simmons** – attached

Councillors raised concerns regarding the condition of the road leading to The Ford at New England. It was noted that there is currently no depth gauge in place, creating a

safety risk during periods of higher water levels. Photographs have been shared with the Council, and members agreed that options for utilising CIL funding should be explored. Following numerous site visits, councillors felt that progression is now required, with consideration given to resurfacing the entire stretch of Brook Road due to ongoing deterioration. The road is heavily used despite being a single-lane route, with a significant drop-off along the edge, making it increasingly hazardous. Additional warning signage was also requested.

Power: Local Government Act 1972, s.111 (incidental powers)

06. Installation of Light in High Street Defibrillator Cabinet

Members are asked to consider the installation of a replacement light within the defibrillator cabinet located on the High Street. The existing Costcutter defibrillator cabinet light fitting has failed and is now obsolete; a conversion to an LED fitting is therefore proposed. The cost for the investigative work carried out, together with the repair is £284.00 + VAT.

This work has been completed without charge

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

07. Insurance Renewal – Pre-Renewal Questionnaire

Members noted the circulation of the insurance renewal pre-questionnaire and were requested to complete the document. It was **RESOLVED** that authority be delegated to the Chair and Vice-Chair to finalise and submit the completed questionnaire on behalf of the Council.

Power: Local Government Act 1972 – Section 111 (Subsidiary Powers)

08. Town and Parish Council Asset Transfer Policy – Update

Members received and noted the update from Shropshire Council regarding the newly approved Town and Parish Council Asset Transfer Policy, which provides a clearer framework for the transfer of council-owned land and buildings where there is demonstrable community benefit. The supporting documents were considered. Councillors discussed the potential local implications of the policy and the wider service-devolution programme. It was agreed that further work is required to understand which assets may be available for transfer and to examine possible opportunities in more detail.

Power: Local Government Act 1972, s.111 (incidental powers)

09. Neighbourhood Governance – SALC Briefing Pack

Members received and considered the Neighbourhood Governance Pack circulated by SALC, produced in partnership with the West Midlands County Associations (WMCALC), outlining the emerging neighbourhood governance proposals within the English Devolution and Community Empowerment (EDCE) Bill. The briefing and supporting documents were noted.

Councillors discussed the template council motion and covering letter included within the pack, along with potential local priorities and adaptations.

It was unanimously agreed to **support the principle** of ensuring an influential role for parish and town councils within any future neighbourhood governance arrangements.

Members further **agreed** that this position should be raised with Shropshire Council, the local MP, and communicated to residents as appropriate.

Power: Local Government Act 1972, s.111 (incidental powers).

10. Members are reminded to complete GDPR training

(link emailed 25/3) certificates to be returned to Clerk upon completion.

Power: Local Government Act 1972, s.111 (incidental powers).

11. Brief Reports from working groups/committees

Members gave brief verbal updates to the following meetings:

16/3/26 Area SALC (TQ)

17/3/26 Environmental LNRS Working Group – shared at Annual Parish Meeting

25/3/26 Chairs Network Meeting (TQ)

27/3/26 Community drop-in (LH)

Power: Local Government Act 1972, s.111 (incidental powers).

12. Planning applications received - with recommendations from the planning committee. Plus, any planning applications that are submitted after publication of agenda (Councillor Pinches)

View the application directly online: <http://pa.shropshire.gov.uk/online-applications/applicationDetails.do?activeTab=summary&keyVal=T9Y7OXTDG6100>

PLANNING REFERENCE - 26/00439/REM

DEVELOPMENT PROPOSED - Approval of reserved matters (appearance) pursuant of 23/00065/OUT for the erection of 3No dwellings to include access, layout and scale

LOCATION: - Land Rear Of Beech Croft, Vicarage Lane, Highley, Shropshire, .

APPLICANT: Mr Ian Houghton **OBJECT**

Power: Local Government Act 1972, s.101 – Delegated authority to the Planning Committee to consider and comment on planning applications.

13. Grant Applications for Consideration

Members considered the following grant applications received:

a) **Highley Senior Citizens Pop-In Club** Amount requested: **£720** Purpose: Contribution towards room hire costs.

RESOLVED to approve to make the payment.

b) **Highley Miners Welfare Football Club** Amount requested: **£481** Purpose: Purchase of a 20ft storage container (part funded by a Football Foundation grant).

Members are asked to determine whether to approve the above applications.

RESOLVED to approve to make the payment.

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

14. Correspondence (plus any correspondence received following publication of agenda)

1. Road Closure: Woodhill Road April and May

2. Road Closure: Astbury Hall Lane to B4555 22nd to 26th June

3. Road Closure: Netherton lane 18th May
4. Road Closure: Telegraph lane 18th May
5. Road Closure: B4555 Knowle sands to Eardington 18th May
6. Road Closure – Netherton Lane to Church Lane 18th May to 4th June
7. Road Closure B4555 Knowle Sands 19th July
8. Road Closure Netherton lane 3rd June

Power: Local Government Act 1972, s.111 (incidental powers).

15. Finance

Clerks' salary – End of Month

Lebara Sim £5 per month

HMRC - Tax and NI

LGPS payment as agreed

CCLA bank Interest Month 12 ??? credit

SLCC Annual membership £439

ALC 2 x induction for new councillors £90

Info Sol old website channelling traffic (final year) £14.99

Amazon padlocks and chains (from BKV prize budget) £67.30

Litter sign Battlefield print £125.28 inc

St Marys Churchyard Maintenance £487.50

Shropshire Council Hagg Corner Allotment Fee £35

Rialtas Annual Accountancy Software £252

Amazon mini greenhouse – plant stand £16.49 inc

Lightwire Clock Tower Cherry Picker Hire – Neighbourhood Fund £654.00 inc

Lightwire Street Light Repairs **(last 2.5yrs)**

Old School Close £193.20

Church St £374.40

Cranmore Dive £374.40

Arley View Close £374.40

Cockshutt Lane £128.40

Hazelwells Road £374.40

Abberley View, Church St £193.20

Netherton Lane Primary School £247.20

Sycamore/Hazelwells Alleyway £193.20

Netherton park Homes £374.40

Co-Op High St adjacent £223.20

Vicarage Lane £436.80

Blything Court £99.60

Blything Court £338.40

Whitley gardens £422.40

Hawthorn Drive £374.40

Power: Local Government Act 1972, s.111 and s.150 (administration and payment of accounts).

For consideration but awaiting invoice or works before payment:

Replacement defibrillator pads tbc

16. Exclusion of the 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.

There were no items to discuss.

Power: Public Bodies (Admission to Meetings) Act 1960, s.1(2).

Signed:

dated:
