

BALLINGHAM, BOLSTONE & HENTLAND



Minutes

of the Ballingham Bolstone & Hentland Group Parish Council Annual Parish Council Meeting held on 20th August 2026 Thursday at 7.30 pm in Ballingham Village Hall

Present: Councillors: Martin Soble (Chair), Andrew McKersie (Vice Chair), Henry Rudge, Val Lilwall, Peter Pember, Pat Fitzpatrick, Sherwood Keogh, Claire Geddes, Nat Thomas and Susan Partridge

In attendance: Clerk and
Five members of the public

1. Apologies were received from:

Ward Councillor: David Davies

Councillor: Philip Watkins

2. To receive declarations of interest and written dispensation requests.

Councillor Fitzpatrick Geddes disclosed a non-pecuniary interest in item 7, no action required as non-pecuniary.

3. To agree and sign Minutes of Parish Council Meeting on 16th July 2026.

It was **RESOLVED** to adopt the above Minutes as a true record, and they were duly signed by the Chair.

4. Public Session:

4.1 To receive brief verbal report from the Ward Councillor:

The Ward Councillor had provided a written report prior to the meeting.

4.2 To receive views of residents on parish matters.

A member of the public asked about a grant that Councillor Davies had mentioned at a previous meeting and wanted to know if it could be applied for in relation to the pond in Ballingham. The grant was offered to local organisations and as the Parish Council had not adopted the pond, it was unable to allocate Parish Council funds towards its maintenance. Councillor Soble confirmed that he had recently checked the drainage/pipe into the pond and it was not blocked but needed some silt removed at the outflow; a fairly simple job that local residents could undertake before the pond refills. Two further members of the public spoke in relation to item 8 and Councillors agreed to bring this item forward. One provided a local perspective which was noted, whilst the landowner confirmed the numerous steps taken to minimise noise after the curfew and explained the difficulties involved in 'policing' other surrounding campsites. It was **RESOLVED** to ask Clerk to contact the Parish Council adjacent to the local campsites.

5. Lengthsman and Footpaths:

5.1 To receive an update from the Lengthsman.

The Clerk had spoken to the Lengthsman and updated the Councillors accordingly. She confirmed the Lengthsman was up to date.

5.2 To receive an update from Footpaths Officer.

Councillor McKersie updated the Councillors, he reported that he had been to HN4 and ascertained that the path there was eroded and potentially hazardous. It was agreed that Councillor Rudge would inspect and report back at next meeting. Councillor McKersie further updated Councillor on HN19. BH1 was reported to be difficult to pass, close to the old railway, and Councillor McKersie undertook to visit the location.

5.3 To consider any further maintenance work for the Lengthsman.

Nothing for the Lengthsman at present.

6. Finance:

- 6.1** Bank balance noted at £4,049.95. This was checked and confirmed by Councillor Lilwall prior to the meeting.
- 6.2** The Reserve Account balance was 14,303.36. This was checked and confirmed by Councillor Lilwall prior to the meeting.
- 6.3 Arrangements for BACs payments to the following:**
 - 6.3.1 Eyelid Productions £70.00 (no VAT) - To update website (WCAG) 2.2 AA for compliance.
 - 6.3.2 Will Clift 0263 - £80.00 (plus VAT)
- 6.4 To note payments made to:**
 - 6.4.1 BOSH - £30.00
 - 6.4.2 Clerk Salary
 - 6.4.3 Bank charges - £4.25
 - 6.4.4 HMRC – Nat Insurance £37.95 (no VAT)
 - 6.4.5 Paul Russell (Trading as Parish and Town Auditing Services) £165.00 (no VAT)
 - 6.4.6 Terry Griffiths TGC3938 - £358.00 (plus VAT)
 - 6.4.7 Terry Griffiths TGC3953 - £513.70 (plus VAT)
 - 6.4.8 Will Clift Inv0249 - £160.00 (plus VAT).
 - 6.4.9 Traffic Technology (SID purchase) - £2303.00 (plus VAT)
 - 6.4.10 PIP Hereford (laminated maps) - £24.90 (plus VAT)
- 6.5 To note payments received from:**
 - 6.5.1 Bank interest savings – £6.54

7. To consider Planning Applications:

- 7.1 P261934/F - Land south of the B4521 St Owens Cross Herefordshire.**

Dog exercise area with ancillary development, including relocated vehicular access.

The Parish Council Support this application with the following comments:

Ballingham Bolstone and Hentland Parish Council supports this application but would want to make sure, that the visual amenity of the local area is considered in relation to fencing etc.
- 7.2 P262119/K - Tarrystone House Hoarwithy Hereford Herefordshire HR2 6QQ**

Fell/ dismantle trees T1 - T10 due to their position on the edge of a bank. They are leaning over utility lines and the road below. There also is potential to destabilise the bank. They would be regarded as having relatively low amenity value. T1 - T6 are medium sized ash trees. T7 - Elm. T8 - Small group of sycamore from same stool. T9-10 Tall ash posing a significant risk as stated above.

The Parish Council Object to the application with the following comments:

Ballingham Bolstone and Hentland Group Object to this application with the following comments.:

 - 1. The trees are protected as part of the conservation area.
 - 2. There is no necessity to carry out the work.
 - 3. Removing the trees will impair the visual amenity
 - 4. We have serious concerns with stability of the bank as a result of tress already removed particularly with recent landslides in the area.
- 7.3 P262086/K - New Harp Inn Hoarwithy Hereford Herefordshire HR2 6QH**

Large tree which is over the height of the building and leaning to be pollarded to the height of the building - the tree is in the gardens of the pub and less than 5 m from the building. Re-pollard Cypress to an estimated height of 5m to previous pruning points.

The Parish Council Supports this application.

8. To consider a noise complaint received from resident in relation to campsite.

See item 4.2

9. To receive update on SID Grant and consider purchase.

This item was deferred until the next meeting.

10. To receive update on SID Data.

Councillor Thomas updated the Councillors with the results of the SID Data and confirmed he will be furnishing them with a breakdown in the near future.

11. To consider participation in annual Town and Parish Council Survey from West Mercia.

It was RESOLVED that Clerk would complete the survey.

12. To receive update on Policy Review.

Councillor McKersie updated the Councillor and confirmed that there would be a further update at the next meeting.

13. To receive update on Hoarwithy Village Road Safety Project.

Councillor McKersie updated the Councillor and confirmed he is waiting for Herefordshire Council to carry out some works.

14. To raise matters for next agenda - no discussion.

14.1 To receive an update on the Budget.

14.2 To consider additional PROW funding (if available)

14.3 To receive update on SID Grant and consider purchase.

14.4 To receive update on Policy Review.

14.5 To receive update on Hoarwithy Village Road Safety Project

14.6 To consider Clerk appraisal.

14.7 To receive update and consider Footpath at HN4

15. Date of next meeting.

17th September 2026

Meeting Ended – 21.20

Signed

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Chair

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Date