

BALLINGHAM, BOLSTONE & HENTLAND



Minutes

of the Ballingham Bolstone & Hentland Group Parish Council Parish Council Meeting held on 17th September 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 and Philip Watkins.

In attendance: Clerk: Nicky Mackenzie
Ward Councillor: David Davies
Lengthsman: Terry Griffiths

- 1. Apologies were received from:**
Councillors: Nat Thomas, Henry Rudge and Susan Partridge.
- 2. To receive declarations of interest and written dispensation requests.**
None were received.
- 3. To agree and sign Minutes of Parish Council Meeting on 20th August 2026.**
It was RESOLVED to adopt the above Minutes, with one minor amendment, 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 and was available to answer questions throughout the meeting. Councillors requested updates on parking enforcement in Hoarwithy and repairs to Hentland Church road, he confirmed he will investigate and report back.
 - 4.2 To receive views of residents on parish matters:**
No members of the public were present.
- 5. Lengthsman and Footpaths:**
 - 5.1 To receive an update from the Lengthsman.**
The Lengthsman updated the Councillors and confirmed that he had completed his Spring/Summer schedule or works. Clerk will prepare the Autumn/Winter schedule ahead of the next meeting. Councillor Soble expressed the gratitude of the Council for the works he has done.
 - 5.2 To receive an update from Footpaths Officer.**
Councillor McKersie updated the Councillors and confirmed his response to an email from a local resident regarding overgrown footpaths in Hoarwithy. He has carried out some remedial repairs and will report back at the next meeting. He confirmed that he had resolved an issue with the cost of gates to be used in the grant application and works could continue.
 - 5.3 To consider any further maintenance work for the Lengthsman.**
Clerk to prepare the Lengthsman's Autumn/Winter schedule in conjunction with the budget.
 - 5.4 To consider additional PROW Grant Application.**
It was RESOLVED to apply for a further grant to cover additional works agreed.
 - 5.5 To consider amended PROW application with replacement gates.**
See item 5.2

5.6 To consider which works to carry out for reduced Drainage Grant.

It was RESOLVED to complete all Maintenance and Capital Grant works, as per original Grant Application and make up additional funds required from Council budget, approximately £1,000

5.7 To consider Purchase of updated OS Maps.

Councillor Pember offered to produce the new maps. It was RESOLVED to ask Clerk to purchase A3 Laminating pouches.

20.20 Councillor Keogh left the meeting.

6. Finance:

6.1 Bank balance noted at £7,301.94. This was checked and confirmed by Councillor Lilwall prior to the meeting.

6.2 The Reserve Account balance was £11,308.54. This was checked and confirmed by Councillor Lilwall prior to the meeting.

6.3 Arrangements for BACs payments to the following:

6.3.1 Terry Griffiths TGC3977 - £513.70 (plus VAT)

6.3.2 Terry Griffiths TGC4015 - £503.00 (plus VAT)

6.3.3 Terry Griffiths TGC4016 - £72.83 (plus VAT)

6.3.4 Terry Griffiths TGC4017 - £72.83 (plus VAT)

6.3.5 Terry Griffiths TGC4023 - £358.00 (plus VAT)

6.3.6 Terry Griffiths TGC4024 - £513.70 (plus VAT)

6.3.7 Terry Griffiths TGC4039 - £1065.00 (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 Will Clift 0263 - £80.00 (plus VAT)

6.4.6 Hirst Signs – Footpath signs PROW Grant - £104.20 (plus VAT)

6.5 To note payments received from:

6.5.1 Bank interest savings – £5.18

6.5.2 West Mercia Police – SID Grant - £2,000 (no VAT)

6.5.3 PROW Grant Re PO 11258314 Part 1 – £1,210.66 (no VAT)

7. To consider Planning Applications:

7.1 P262041/FH - The Salmons Hoarwithy Hereford Herefordshire HR2 6QR

External alterations to the outbuilding, including new cement tile roofing, grey aluminium openings, selective infill, four folding doors, renewed rainwater goods and associated works.

It was RESOLVED to Support this application with the following comments: The Parish Council supports the application in principle, subject to due consideration being given to the proposed external finishes, including the roof, to ensure that they are in keeping with the character and appearance of the existing property.

7.2 P261760/FH - Church View Ballingham Hereford Herefordshire HR2 6NH

Remove existing conservatory. New single storey garden room extension.

It was RESOLVED to Support this application.

7.3 P/ 261974 - Tresseck Barn, Tresseck Farm, Hoarwithy, Hereford, Herefordshire HR2 6QJ

Variation of condition 6 of planning permission 220814 (Proposed siting of a mobile catering unit and temporary stretch tent structure for the duration of our opening season, 1st March to 31st October) - to allow external lighting to be used. It was RESOLVED to Object to this application with the following comments: The Parish Council objects to this application. Concern has been raised that the low-level, motion-controlled and timed lighting originally agreed should be adequate for the site. The Council is also concerned about the potential impact of additional lighting on the local environment and wildlife, particularly given the importance of protecting dark skies. Further information is required, including details of the proposed lighting scheme, to allow the potential impact to be properly assessed.

8. Clerk's Report.

- 8.1 Payroll – Pension Regulators Declaration completed, compliant.
- 8.2 Wildfire Training carried out on line, emails forwarded to Councillors with relevant information.
- 8.3 Emails forwarded re Annual Study Tour, etc.
- 8.4 External Audit, final questions answered.
- 8.5 Joined PSGA, Ordinance Survey Maps etc.

9. To consider participation in Local Nature Recovery Strategy.

Councillors considered participating in the strategy and decided it was not suitable.

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

Councillor McKersie updated the Councillors. It was RESOLVED to purchase a SID with data recording capabilities. It was RESOLVED to commit an additional budget of £1,000. It was agreed to ask Clerk to email Ward Councillor and request support with the additional funding from his grant allowance. Clerk to action.

11. To receive update on Policy Review.

Councillor McKersie updated the Councillors, and it was agreed to split the policies between Councillors who will take ownership and work in conjunction with the Clerk. It was RESOLVED to adopt a three-year review cycle for policies, unless there is a change in legislation or other circumstances requiring an earlier review.

12. To consider Emergency Plan.

It was agreed that an informal discussion meeting would be held and Councillor McKersie would report back at a future meeting.

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

Councillor McKersie confirmed that most actions had been completed. The remaining works were awaiting completion by Herefordshire Council. Ward Councillor Davies agreed to investigate and report back.

14. To receive update and consider Footpath at HN4.

It was agreed to put together a Working Group and report back at next meeting.

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

- 15.1 To consider Budget Review.
- 15.2 To consider additional PROW funding (if available)
- 15.3 To receive update on Planning Enforcement in Hoarwithy.
- 15.4 To consider Signage for Hentland Church.
- 15.5 To agree Autumn/Winter schedule for Lengthsman
- 15.6 To receive update re Hoarwithy Road Safety plan.

16. Date of next meeting.

15th October 2026

Meeting Ended – 21.34

17. To pass a resolution to exclude the public and press concerning a confidential employment matter.

To consider recent Clerk's Appraisal and NJC pay award increase.

Councillors considered the Clerk's Review.

Signed

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Chair

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Date