

## HARVINGTON PARISH COUNCIL.

### Draft Minutes of the Ordinary Parish Council meeting held in Harvington Village Hall on Wednesday 11 February 2026 at 7.45pm

**Present:** Cllrs. Mr Salter; Mr Jones; Ms Smith; Mrs Ball; Mrs Allison; Mr Baugh, Mr Powell, Mr Colebrook and District Cllr. Mr Reeves.

**In attendance:** Mrs J White (Clerk); and 3 Parishioners

**60. Apologies:** Cllr. Mr Barker; County Cllr. Mrs Bell; Police; Neighbourhood Watch Officer.

**61. Interests/Dispensations:** None declared.

**62. Reports:**

County Cllr. Satinder Bell:

- 1). On the county council front, some of the budget priorities in relation to finding future savings, have been discussed and passed unanimously.
- 2). Financial challenges remain as they are and capital projects are relying on future EFS money.
- 3). WCC ranked GREEN overall rating for road maintenance. New Department for Transport figures show Worcestershire is among the top-performing highway authorities in England. Full report here: <https://www.gov.uk/government/news/how-well-is-your-council-fixing-your-roads>
- 4). Motion was put forward to review outdated planning laws and regulations. There is further communication being drafted to link in with ministry on planning laws.

Dist. Cllr. Mr Reeves:

- Unitary consultation is now open, seeking opinions on the divide across Worcestershire. Residents are urged to go online and share their thoughts.
- Business breakfast taking place on 26.3.26, registration on Wychavon District Council's site.
- The SWDP is under consultation, which ends on 17.2.26. The Councillor will be meeting with the District Council on 12.2.26 regarding the neighbourhood plan.
- The Riverside Shopping centre project is nearing completion, bringing it into public ownership.
- Plans to create a communication group between the police, councillors and residents are underway.
- No update yet with PSPO plans, plans are awaiting executive approval.
- What else is happening in Evesham? There are plans on the table, to be shared in the future. Nat West will be leaving the town, and communication ongoing regarding the future of the roundhouse. It is hoped that residents will see Evesham town growing and developing for the future.
- In Harvington, planning enforcement cases continue, no further progress to note to date.

No police report presented.

No Neighbourhood Watch Co-ordinator report presented.

**Public Question Time:** Meeting suspended at 19:56, reconvened at 20:10. Notes appended to these minutes.

**63. Minutes:** Proposed by Cllr. Baugh, seconded by Cllr. Jones and **resolved** by all those present that the Minutes of the Parish Council Meeting, held on the 14th January 2026, be adopted. Duly signed by the Chair.

**64. Clerk report:**

- a) Maintenance of lane, off Leys Road: continued to report concerns to Rooftop.
- b) Overhanging branch, Jubilee Orchard: followed up with landowner.
- c) Jubilee Orchard fallen trees: in pond area, reported again to contractors to remedy.
- d) Precept request: submitted in January 2026, to the District Council, as per budget (v5.1).
- e) Potential hazard, ducks crossing: Highways confirmation that two signs will be installed, one on an existing post, one near Crest Hill in the coming weeks.

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	<p>f) <u>Blocked drains, Alcester Road/Village Street:</u> reported to Highways 22.01.26.</p> <p>g) <u>WORCESTRSHIRE COUNTY COUNCIL PUBLIC NOTICE:</u> Road Traffic Regulation Act 1984, section 14 (as amended). Notice of a temporary 30mph speed limit on the B4088 Evesham Road, Harvington ("THE HIGHWAY"). Reason for restriction: Water main replacement. There is a likelihood of danger to the public or of serious damage to the road. There is a need to close the highway in the following terms:-</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. The effect of this Notice is that no vehicle shall proceed along that part of B4088 Evesham Road at a speed exceeding 30mph from a point of 50 metres north of its junction with Hawkes Piece for a distance of 413 metres in a south-westerly direction, in both directions.</li> <li>2. No speed limit imposed by this Notice applies to vehicles falling within regulation 3(4) of the Road Traffic Exemptions (Special Forces) (Variation and Amendment) Regulations 2011 when used in accordance with Regulation 3(5) of those regulations.</li> <li>3. This provision shall continue in force for a maximum of 21 days. However, it is anticipated that it will remain force for 15 days (24hrs) commencing on 28 January 2026. Nothing in this Notice shall prevent at any time access for pedestrians to any premises situated on or adjacent to the highway, or to any other premises accessible for pedestrians from and only from the highway.</li> </ol>
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<b>65.</b>	<p><b><u>Cllrs. report:</u></b></p> <p>a) <u>Play Toddler unit fencing: update (Cllrs. Mrs. Allison and Mrs. Ball).</u> Toddler unit is in full use. Unfortunately, the MUGA unit needs repairing, which is being followed up. Quotes are also being sought from 5 fencing companies, taking a triangular area, and going right across to the swings, creating a toddler playground.</p> <p>b) <u>Planters maintenance and condition: summary (Cllr. Powell).</u> Since the assessment took place, there has been more deterioration. Most urgent planters for replacement are: the village green and the Alcester Road; as well the Alcester Road on Village Street side. F&amp;GP Committee have reviewed the report and are in agreement. Contractor has been approached for the cost of replacement planters and for creating a bund on the village green to plant up.</p>
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<b>66.</b>	<b><u>Council Matters:</u></b> the following considered:
66.1	<u>Playing Field Springer equipment:</u> discussion whether to replace this unit with similar unit, now the toddler unit has been installed. To be deferred until fencing has been sourced and agreed.
66.2	<u>Bus Shelter panel replacement, Alcester Road:</u> risk assessment reviewed and formal agreement for the proposed remedial works was proposed by Cllr. Smith, seconded by Cllr. Allison and <b>resolved</b> unanimously by all.
66.3	<u>Disciplinary Policy:</u> reviewed, proposed by Cllr. Powell, seconded by Cllr. Baugh, and <b>resolved</b> unanimously by all to implement the policy.
66.4	<u>Appraisal Policy:</u> reviewed, proposed by Cllr. Allison, seconded by Cllr. Baugh, and <b>resolved</b> unanimously by all to implement the policy.

<b>67.</b>	<b><u>Financial Matters: the following considered:</u></b>
67.1	<b><u>Schedule</u></b> of payments and summary of accounts to 09.02.26 <b>resolved.</b>
67.2	<u>Balances &amp; Reserves Policy:</u> noted the updated figures and allocated changes within reserves. Recommended suggestion to increase the earmarked reserves, to ensure there are funds for the election costs in 2027.
67.3	<u>Welcome to Harvington booklet:</u> to approve provisional 2026 reprinting cost based on draft copy. Funding confirmed as available, but quotes cannot be approved as the printers are working from estimates. Council agreed to defer the matter until the total size of the booklet, and if this will affect the estimates, is known.
67.4	<u>Grant Application, St James' Church:</u> grant request of £120 to support the road closure facilitating the community summer fete, proposed by Cllr. Ball, seconded by Cllr. Allison, and <b>resolved</b> unanimously by all.

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<b>68.</b>	<b><u>Planning.</u></b>
68.1	<p>To note application dealt with by delegated authority: W/25/02234/PIP - Appeal. Site at: Land At (OS 0452 4957) Leys Road, Harvington. <b>Proposal:</b> Planning Appeal: Permission in principle for proposed residential development of up to 9 bungalows. <b>Comments:</b> The appeal statement distorts the fact that neither the location, the land, or the site generally is suitable for development. This land is outside the Neighbourhood Development Plan boundary, separated by open land a distance of about 50 metres from the nearest property. It stands out as a development isolated from the village. Walking from the village centre towards the site is a gradual slope. Its location sits within good agricultural land off a narrow lane, overlooking open countryside, outside the 30mph limit and within the 60mph limit with no suitable pedestrian footway. This is specifically unsuitable for elderly or for persons with mobility requirements, which the bungalows are meant to house.</p> <p>The use of the Orchard land opposite as a pedestrian access to the proposed site is an unsuitable alternative due to the sloping nature of the terrain, accessed via the need to cross the narrow lane within the 60mph limit, in an unlit area that is also not an adopted public footpath needing to walk on an uneven grass/gravel path. This site adds more vehicle congestion to a road already used by lorries accessing a nearby site, loss of best value agricultural land. It undermines the value of the neighbourhood planning process and has the potential to seriously affect the residents in Leys Road. Due to the site's location, residential development on this land would replace the existing semi-rural/agricultural setting with a suburban setting. Such a significant change would be harmful to the unique character of Harvington entrances and heritage as a rural village. The applicants appeal makes comments in some detail about landscape and visual design considerations which the PC believes are reserve matters and should be discounted. However, the PC would comment that it considers that the illustrated footprint, design and layout of the site is too regimental and not in any way complimentary to the character or typical of the design of developments within the village.</p> <p>The appeal statement references a planning application related to "Lorna Doone". The Parish Council (PC) had no grounds to object to the application as it complied with Policy IH1 of The Neighbourhood Plan which supported suitable infill development within the development boundary. The PC objects to the lack of objection, in this specific case, falsely being referenced to support this PiP application for an isolated site outside the development boundary.</p> <p>The appeal statement ignores the recent planning approval for a 55 mixed housing development at the rear of Crest Hill plus 9 houses off the Evesham Rd, (both yet to be built out). The statement also fails to acknowledge the Neighbourhood Plan made in 2025 – (not 2019) where housing needs have been met for the village and no further allocations are required at this time. The developer has not consulted with the PC or understood the housing needs of the village. The location is a prime example of ribbon development. Policy SWDP2 sets out to control speculative development in the open countryside beyond settlement boundaries. This is not within the spirit of the 2017 PIP regulations that aims to speed up small scale developments to meet local village needs.</p> <p>Planning guidance for small sites states that inappropriate development is, by definition, harmful to the open countryside and should not be approved except in very special circumstances (such as exception sites or brownfields sites). No such exception applies to this site. The PC considers that because it is currently in the process of updating its NDP and further, in the light of the pending revised SWDP and the NPPF, that these documents are a material consideration that should be given due weight in dismissing this appeal.</p>
68.2	<p>To note application dealt with by delegated authority: W/25/02430/HP Associated Ref: W/25/00099/HP. Location: Magnolia, Station Road, Harvington. Due to revised information being received, the registration date of this application has been restarted. <b>Proposal:</b> Rear extension replacing single brick garage. Removal of existing roof (flat and pitch) to completely replace above new expanded structure with insulated, dormer loft rooms. Addition of small porch to front elevation. External insulation and render. (Variation of condition 2 of W/25/00099/HP - amendment to dimensions of extension). <b>No further comment.</b></p>

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68.3 **Neighbourhood Plan:** minutes to note (07.01.26). The neighbourhood plan group have been working hard to begin preparing the new neighbourhood plan, whilst awaiting the SWDP to be finalised. The group will be distributing a housing needs survey and have devised a draft project plan. There will be 1-hour public consultation meetings in March 2026, anticipated to be held on a weekday evening and a Sunday. The residents newsletter, previously approved by Council, will be sent out shortly.

**69. Correspondence circulated to members:**

- a) WDC Wychavon Town consultation – 12.1.26
- b) West Mercia Fraud & Scam bulletin – 14.1.26
- c) Perkins Trust award – 14.1.26
- d) NALC Chief Executive's bulletin – 19.1.26
- e) Digital Infrastructure and Connectivity newsletter – 19.1.26
- f) NALC Events newsletter – 21.1.26
- g) NALC Chief Executive's bulletin – 26.1.26
- h) CALC Update – 26.1.26
- i) Neighbourhood Watch update – 26.1.26
- j) AGM Wychavon Parish Games – 28.1.26
- k) West Mercia PCC's Newsletter – 2.2.26
- l) NALC Chief Executive's bulletin – 2.2.26
- m) Evesham volunteer centre newsletter – 4.2.26
- n) Electrical Safety newsletter – 4.2.26
- o) West Mercia Fraud & Scam bulletin – 4.2.26
- p) CALC Health & Wellbeing newsletter – 4.2.26

**70. Pursuant to section 1(2) of the Public Bodies (Admission to Meetings) Act 1960** it is resolved that, because of the confidential nature of the business to be transacted, the public and press leave during the consideration of the following items on this Agenda:

Clerk's contract - probationary period reviewed by Staffing Committee, who were pleased to report the successful completion of the probationary period. Appraisal notes were duly completed and targets set.

**Meeting closed at 20:48.**

**Public participation:** Meeting suspended at 19:56, reconvening at 20:10.

- a). Road signs on the crossroads are blocking the views for traffic emerging onto the crossroads. Sign has been moved into a better position by a councillor.
- b). Complaints raised about the outside of the village shop looking untidy and unsightly, with rubbish/litter and brambles; District Cllr. will raise the litter concerns with WDC environmental services.
- c). The Phoenix group recently met with the police, and speeding traffic was raised. The Police Officer in attendance advised the group that speed information is provided to the parish council, who should be addressing the issues. It is important to note that the parish council don't receive data about speeding. Cllr. Powell will contact the PCSO to find out more details.
- d). Concerns raised about parked cars outside school with their engines running; Cllr. Powell to approach school.
- e). Concerns raised about the increase in dog waste appearing on the pavements around the village.
- f). Resident raised matter relating to the proposed 9 dwellings, Evesham Road. The development is continuing and is expected to go to the District Council's planning committee in April 2026. As part of the development, it will hopefully include the placing of a memorial bench and seek to name the road after Steve Burgoine. The two oak trees will hopefully be moved further into the site, and two further oak trees purchased. The District Cllr. confirmed that surnames can be used as road names, subject to planning. The parish council looked forward to receiving the application.

## HARVINGTON PARISH COUNCIL.

### Payments & Expenses.

#### Payments for Authorisation - February 2026

Date	Payee	Details	NET	VAT	TOTAL	Relevant Power/Statutory Provision
20.02.2026	Worcs CALC	Training (Clerk x3, Councillor x1)	140.00	28.00	168.00	LGA 1972, 111
20.02.2026	Worcestershire Couty Council	Streetlighting Q3	474.80	0.00	474.80	LGA 1972, 111
27.02.2026	HMRC	HMRC PAYE and NIC (Feb)*	165.10	0.00	165.10	LGA 1972, 111
27.02.2026	Mrs J White	Clerk salary & expenses (Feb)	1128.31	0.00	1128.31	LGA 1972, 111
02.03.2026	Limebridge Rural Services Ltd	Amenity maintenance	370.00	74.00	444.00	LGA 1972, 111
<b>TOTAL</b>			<b>2278.21</b>	<b>102.00</b>	<b>2380.21</b>	

\* No ER NICs to pay, as they (£122.60) will be offset against HMRC credits held

#### Payments 13.01.26 - 09.02.26:

Reference:	Payee	Details	NET	VAT	TOTAL	Relevant Power/Statutory Provision
P25-116	Limebridge Rural Services Ltd	J O Maintenance (Posts)	885.00	177.00	1062.00	LGA 1972, 111
P25-117	Lloyds	Service charge	4.76	0.00	4.76	LGA 1972, 111
P25-118	Mrs N Holland	Contractor payment	56.55	0.00	56.55	LGA 1972, 111
P25-119/abc	Mr S Skeys	Parish Lengthsman and FA (Nov+Dec)	627.20	0.00	627.20	LGA 1972, 111
P25-120	HMRC	HMRC PAYE and NIC (Jan)	165.10	0.00	165.10	LGA 1972, 111
P25-121	Mrs J White	Clerk salary & expenses (Jan)	1122.91	0.00	1122.91	LGA 1972, 111
P25-122	Orion Cleaning	Bus Shelter cleaning R Baker	50.00	0.00	50.00	LGA 1972, 111
P25-123	Giff Gaff	Mobile Phone payment (Feb)	5.00	1.00	6.00	LGA 1972, 111
<b>TOTAL</b>			<b>2916.52</b>	<b>178.00</b>	<b>3094.52</b>	

#### Amenity Contract:

			NET	VAT	TOTAL	Relevant Power/Statutory Provision
Jan-26		Playing field hedge cutting	150.00	30.00	180.00	LGA 1972, 111
		Orchard hedge cutting and ditch clearance	220.00	44.00	264.00	LGA 1972, 111
<b>TOTAL</b>			<b>370.00</b>	<b>74.00</b>	<b>444.00</b>	

#### Receipts 13.01.26 - 09.02.26:

Reference	Recevee	Details	NET	VAT	TOTAL	Relevant Power/Statutory Provision
R25-29	Worcestershire County Council	P Lengthsman Scheme (Nov, part-Dec)	417.20	0.00	417.20	LGA 1972, 139
<b>TOTAL</b>			<b>417.20</b>	<b>0.00</b>	<b>417.20</b>	

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## Summary of Accounts:

Harvington Parish Council 2025-26	Budget 2025/26	Receipts/ Payments	Variance	% spent	Notes
<b>Receipts</b>					
Precept inc WDC Grant	45222.00	45222.00	0.00		
WCC Amenity	1500.00	1494.99	5.01		
VAT - Recoverable (and received)	5000.00	5303.00	-303.00		
Wayleave payment	43.00	46.52	-3.52		
WCC - Lengthsman February 25.	0.00	201.60	-201.60		
WCC - Lengthsman 2025-26	2466.44	2262.40	206.04		£4.44 left on portal for 25-26. (Excludes £201.60 spent PL Feb 25, see line above).
Transferred from reserves	0.00	21695.00	-21695.00		Includes funds for recruitment budget.
CIL Funds from reserves	0.00	26635.38	-26635.38		
Returned funds (correction)	0.00	100.00	-100.00		
Returned funds (solicitors)	0.00	1800.00	-1800.00		
<b>Total</b>	<b>54233.44</b>	<b>104760.89</b>	<b>-48627.45</b>		<b>Funds remaining from 2024-25 £7286.25</b>
<b>Payments</b>					
Staff costs inc HMRC and NI	23880.00	16597.23	7282.77	70%	
Clerical Expenses	500.00	365.82	134.18	73%	
Admin Expenses	550.00	460.65	89.35	84%	£300 transferred from recruitment budget, £50 transferred from recruitment budget
Recruitment Budget	1050.00	414.50	635.50	39%	£1500 transferred in from reserves; £350 transferred out to admin expenses; £100 transferred out to training
Training	400.00	175.00	225.00	44%	£100 transferred from recruitment budget
Subscriptions	1200.00	1108.73	91.27	92%	
PC Insurance	1192.00	1191.77	0.23	100%	£32 transferred from Subscriptions
Audit Fees	560.00	559.80	0.20	100%	£240 transferred out to Amenity contract JO
Grant/Donation.	2500.00	1893.99	606.01	76%	VE Day;Breed Kit;Citizens Advice; Guides & Rangers, School Prize, Remembrance Wreath
Website	300.00	243.00	57.00	81%	
Village Newsletter	2300.00	900.00	1400.00	39%	
Amenity Contract main. PF	2400.00	1534.00	866.00	64%	£500 transferred out to planters
Play Insp: + Asset Maint PF	2800.00	2354.00	446.00	84%	£2000 transferred from maintenance assets
Amenity Contract Maintenance JO	1840.00	1835.00	5.00	100%	£240 transferred in from Audit fees, £150 transferred from Xmas Tree, £500 transferred from Annual Inspect.LeaseJO
Ann. Inspect+ Assets JO,Lease	2000.00	1382.89	617.11	69%	£500 transferred to Amenity contract JO
Planters	3000.00	2936.00	64.00	98%	£500 transferred from PF
Street Lighting	3000.00	949.60	2050.40	32%	
Litter/Dog bins x 9	750.00	661.59	88.41	88%	
Xmas Tree	850.00	820.00	30.00	96%	£150 transferred out to Amenity contract JO
Defibrillators	3595.00	3476.11	118.89	97%	Transferred from reserves £2895.
Maintenance assets	613.00	250.00	363.00	41%	Offset by £100 for correction of bank transfer. £387 transferred from Main.Assets to SWARCO
Amenity Contract+ Trees	8000.00	5355.00	2645.00	67%	
Parish Lengthsman (PC)	1300.00	571.20	728.80	44%	
VAT - Recoverable	5000.00	10087.64	-5087.64	202%	
V&S Swarco Contract	3387.00	3387.00	0.00	100%	£387 transferred from Maintenance of assets
Contingency	3089.00	249.35	2839.65	8%	£3089 added from 24/25. Transfer
Repayment to N+L PC	500.00	500.00	0.00	100%	
Planning Solicitors	1500.00	1500.00	0.00	100%	
CIL funding/transfer from reserves	16620.18	22960.34	-6340.16	138%	
Transfer to reserves	0.00	23811.29	-23811.29	-100%	£1800 solicitors fee refund transferred to reserves
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>89185.53</b>	<b>111079.90</b>	<b>-11914.37</b>		

Treasurers Account: 01.04.25 9961.23  
Income received 104760.89  
Minus payments 111079.90  
Treasurers A/C Total 09.02.26 3642.22

Business savings A/C 39217.35  
Total In A/C 42859.57