

# MINUTES OF HANKERTON PARISH COUNCIL MEETING 1 SEP 25

## MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF HANKERTON PARISH COUNCIL

Held on Monday 1 September 2025 at 7.30 pm in the North Aisle, Hankerton Church

Present: Parish Cllrs Dai Davies (Chair), Jonathan Allmark, Denis DeSouza and Kate Nurden; M R Bromley Gardner (Clerk); Wilts Cllr Elizabeth Threlfall; and 6 members of the public.

1. Apologies. Cllrs Jacqui Erskine-Crum, Malcolm Gerald. Absent: Richard Barrow.
2. Public Questions.
  - A question about ownership of the pond by the Amenity Area (see Item 10).
3. Declarations Of Interest. None.
4. Urgent Matters at Chair's Discretion. None.
5. Minutes of Last Meeting. The Minutes of the last meeting held on 7 Jul 25 had been circulated in advance. They were approved and signed.
  - The new slab for the bus-stop had not yet been actioned. Jonathan Allmark had offered to provide and fit the slab. **Action: Jonathan Allmark**
6. Finance. The balances were: main a/c £329, deposit a/c £6850. The following payment was authorised:
  - 2025/7, £420, to Durnford Landscapes, for verge cutting.
7. Community Benefit. The PC agreed Dai Davies' proposal that the PC should write to Sir Richard Needham to ask that Hankerton should receive some Community Benefit from his BESS sites. Dai Davies and Clerk to speak further about the letter.  
**Action: Dai Davies, Clerk**
8. Flooding Update. The Clerk summarised a recent email reply from WWLT to the Chair and his own report on the visit of Danny Everett (DE) from Wilts Council. Wilts Cllr Threlfall then reported on a very recent meeting she had had with DE:
  - DE and Richard Williams (who had carried out the laser survey of the Chapel Lane western ditch) would visit Chapel Lane and inform householders of the results of the laser survey, and about what work was needed.
  - They would also visit John Hunt's land south of Cloatley Road and brief him on what was needed on his land.
9. Bus Stop - Update. Our Local Highways Engineer had visited (with Wilts Cllr Threlfall) and was content with the proposal. With luck this would mean that the proposal will probably be passed at the next LHFIC. Jonathan Allmark would proceed with his offer to provide extra paving.  
**Action: Jonathan Allmark**
10. Amenity Area.
  - The PC decision, at the last meeting, to engage a contractor to dig out the willow trees and roots from the 'pond' was cancelled since the PC did not own the pond.

Chair

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- Kate Nurden briefed the PC on her work looking for grants, from Wilts Council and from the War Memorials Trust. She finished by thanking un-named residents for their help on this; the Chairman echoed her thanks.
- The PC decided to wait for further news on the grants before thinking further on the choice of trees.

11. Insurance – Bus Shelter. The PC considered the deliberate under-insurance of the bus shelter dating from 2008 and decided to increase the insured value to £6000.

**Action: Clerk**

12. Insurance – Defib Kiosk. The PC considered the insurance of the defib kiosk in light of a delivery charge of £550 plus additional (but undefined) costs for removal of the old one following catastrophic damage and for an electrician to reconnect the supply and decided to increase the insured value to £4200.

**Action: Clerk**

13. 'Assertion 10'. The Clerk briefed the meeting on the coming 'Assertion 10' in the AGAR paperwork. He was working on a minimalist IT policy and commented that the most difficult point for Hankerton was likely to be the use by Cllrs of private email accounts.

14. BKV – LK Award. The result of the 'Lawrence Kitching Award' of this year's CPRE Best Kept Village saw Hankerton a close 4<sup>th</sup> (out of 6)..

15. Footpaths Update. On FP HANK 1 Denis DeSouza said he believed that Stephen Leonard (SL) of Wilts Council had visited the bridge and done some work there and that the landowner had agreed to put up signage. On footpaths in cultivated fields SL had sent an emailed copy of a handout to be passed to landowners about their responsibilities to keep footpaths open. The Clerk questioned how it was intended to pass these on since face-to-face was always much the best way to communicate with landowners but that he for one kept no coloured ink in his printer; this was left inconclusive.

16. Planning. Nothing to report.

17. Cllrs Observations and Items for Next Meeting.

- The BKV winner's standard would move to this year's winners on 8 Sep.
- The bus shelter needed attention –subsidence? – for next agenda.
- Flag – for next agenda – buying a new flag, and re-consideration of the policy to fly it following recent national events around the flying of flags.

17. Next Meetings. 3 Nov.

The meeting closed at 8.43pm.

Chair