
Hollinswood and Randlay Parish Council

Chairman of the Council: Councillor Mrs Sheenagh Unwin

MINUTES of the Annual Parish Meeting held on **Monday 20th April 2026** at Randlay Community Centre.

PRESENT: Councillors S Unwin (Chairman)
Katrina Baker (Clerk)

In Attendance:

Cllr J Johnson
Cllr C Prescott
Cllr H Unwin
Cllr S Snell
Cllr P Cranfield
Cllr P Farrar
Cllr R Tyrrell
Cllr P Krajewski
Cllr S Vaughan-Hodkinson
Cllr Creed
G Johnson
S Fisher
L Seabury
J Olenik
Cllr N Page (TWC Member)
11 Members of the public

F26/183 WELCOME

Councillor S Unwin, Chairman, opened the meeting and thanked everyone for attending. This is a meeting of the residents of the Parish, with representatives of the Parish Council.

F26/184 APOLOGIES

West Mercia Police

F26/185 MINUTES OF THE ANNUAL PARISH MEETING HELD ON 14th APRIL 2025

The Minutes had appeared on the website following the meeting. It was proposed by Councillor Prescott and seconded by Councillor Snell, with 2 abstentions, all were in favour and thus it was

RESOLVED that the Minutes of the APM held on 14th April 2025, be signed by the Chairman as an accurate record of the meeting.

There were no matters arising from the Minutes.

F26/186 CHAIRMAN'S REPORT

The Chairman read her report. A copy had been distributed to all Councillors and it would be circulated to Members of Staff. It will also appear on the website.

CHAIRMAN'S AWARDS

Chairman's Award 2025/26 Presented to Sheryl Hill

The Chairman thanked Sheryl for her work in support of the Parish Council, and in particular Wednesday Wizards. Her attendance at parish council events is always appreciated.

Hollinswood and Randlay Parish Council

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Chairman's Award for Young People Presented to Silhouette Dance

The Chairman thanked a small number of Silhouette Dancers who had kindly come along to the meeting immediately after a training session. All their members are included in the Award, and Megan, as their coach. The young people are always smiling and represent the parish on many occasions throughout the year and particularly at parish council events – this is much appreciated.

A photo opportunity followed. The Awards are engraved and will be on display.

F26/187 FINANCIAL REPORT

The Clerk reported that the year started with a balance of £128,938. We received income totaling £461,000 and total expenditure of £449,000 – the closing bank balances are £140,618.

The Finance & Audit Committee held a series of meetings to bring forward a budget which will enable the Parish Council to achieve its strategy for 2026/27.

Due to rising costs and a reduction over a number of years of reserves available, a budget was agreed at £445,820 – an increase of just over £29,000.

With the use of savings and earmarked reserves, an initial precept of £366,270 was considered. However, members were mindful of the current financial position for residents and agreed the use of an additional £26,000 from general reserves which would result in an increase of no more than 44p per week for a Band A property. The revised precept is £340,270.

F26/188 HOLLINSWOOD & RANDLAY PARISH YOUTH PROVISION PARTNERSHIP

The Clerk presented a report which is available on the Parish Council website. Members were proud of the amount of activities provided for the young people in the parish as well as the variety available.

Members thanked staff and volunteers for their commitment to providing activities for our young people.

F26/189 SNAC @ HARP

John, the SNAC Co-ordinator, had prepared a report regarding the Group and activities that take place at The Pavilion. A copy will appear on the website.

Members thanked John and the volunteers for their commitment to offering much-needed activities for residents of our parish and guests.

F26/190 FUNZONE

A final report had been received which detailed the success of the group which had met at The Pavilion on a Friday for the last two years.

Thanks were extended to Nikki, the Co-Ordinator and other staff and volunteers for providing this much needed and well supported activity in the parish.

F26/191 CRAFT & NATTER

Unfortunately, there was no report at this time. Numbers attending are low. However, the parish council recorded thanks to Councillor Johnson and the members for their continued support and efforts at our events throughout the year.

F26/192 PRIMARY SCHOOL REPORTS

The school reports will appear on the website when they are received.

Hollinswood and Randlay Parish Council

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F26/193

CHIT CHAT CLUB

The Club continues to meet on Wednesday at Hollinswood Neighbourhood Centre – their report will be added to the website.

Members recorded their thanks to the team to organize the events for our senior citizens.

F26/194

OUTSIDE BODY REPORTS

a) West Mercia Police

No report had been received and no one was available to attend the meeting.

b) Telford & Wrekin Council – Councillor N Page

Councillor Page reported that she had undertaken 7 visits to the parish this month as well as 5 events as Deputy Mayor.

c) Friends of Hollinswood & Randlay Valley – L Seabury

A written report is available on the website.

The Chairman, Harvey Unwin, thanked the staff and volunteers for the work undertaken in the Valley.

d) Shropshire Association of Local Council (Wrekin Area Committee) – Councillor H Unwin

Councillor H Unwin, Chairman of Wrekin Area Committee, read his report and has provided a copy for the website.

F26/195

PARISH MATTERS

a) Matters raised in writing, prior to the meeting.

None

b) Other matters raised:

a) Hedge trimming required along paths to Stirchley Avenue

b) The provision of free poo bags in Randlay Valley is appreciated, although the dog waste and litter bins are not emptied often enough.

c) Thank you

The Chairman thanked everyone for attending..

There being no further business, the Chairman closed the meeting at 7.50pm

SignedDate.....

Chairman's Report for 2025/2026 to the Annual Parish Meeting – 20th April 2026

Another year has quickly passed, and we anticipate better weather ahead. Improved conditions will allow allotment tenants to catch up on planting, though some crops may be delayed. Thank you to those who keep the site tidy and share their produce and expertise with others.

Have you been to Randlay Valley recently? If you haven't, please do take the opportunity to visit. A lot of work has been undertaken by Friends of Hollinswood & Randlay Valley, with help from some local businesses and other organisations and together with our volunteers, I think we have improved the area greatly. Our Parish Council is grateful to the Friends Members who assist us in undertaking the regular maintenance activities, but also the new initiatives and projects that we have included in the Management Plan.

We are very proud to have been able to offer a lasting memorial to our dear friend, Chris Turley. Chris was not only a Parish Councillor here over many years, but also the Chairman of the Friends of Group. The additional walking route, bench and Redwood Tree will ensure that Chris's hard work and love of the Valley will never be forgotten.

Our Landscape Management Team continues to play a vital role in maintaining the Parish, ensuring that communal areas remain tidy and welcoming for all residents. Their dedication extends beyond general upkeep, as they also offer invaluable support to our more vulnerable and older members of the community by assisting with garden tasks. We currently have some availability within the team, so if you know someone who might benefit from help with maintaining their front garden, please encourage them to get in touch with us.

In recent months, the team has welcomed several volunteer helpers, and we are pleased to provide these opportunities to young people who join us for work experience. Notably, our two most recent volunteers have come from Nova Training. Their contributions have been greatly appreciated, and by offering them practical training and experience, we hope we are helping to prepare them for their future careers.

Many of the issues you raise are not the responsibility of the Parish Council, but we do pass on the information to relevant partner organisations, and we work together wherever possible to improve where we live, work or visit. We continue to undertake litter-picking around the Parish and are always grateful to the Street Champions and other volunteers who help to keep the parish tidy. We do share your frustrations when other residents and visitors to our area are responsible for fly-tipping – it has become a serious issue, but we are grateful to TWC and

some of the local landlords and management companies who are working with us to improve the situation. We must remind people that fly-tipping and litter, along with dog fouling, are offences and do carry significant fines.

Our three community buildings offer a venue for a wide range of activities and are used to provide training and health services – please look at our website to find out what is on. I would also like to take this opportunity to thank the many voluntary groups that meet to provide fun and friendship especially Scouts, Guides, Brownies, Chit Chat Club, Age UK, Craft and Natter and many more. We are particularly grateful to everyone who is working with us and supporting our aims with regards to the Youth Provision Partnership. We now have Wednesday Wizards, a monthly disco (during Autumn and Winter), two Youth Hubs and we have been successful in securing a range of outdoor activities through the Urban Games programme.

Our Special Needs Activity Centre is thriving. With thanks to our Team, and some volunteers, we offer a range of activities for all but with a special focus on adults. This has led to us being able to support TWC through the Activity for All Project and provide a series of activities for those 18+ so that they have an opportunity to try new activities across the Borough. There are 13 different sessions available to them from dance and exercise, to basketball, bowls and swimming. This was funded by a lottery grant, but we hope to make it sustainable into the future.

Many of you will be aware of the Community Governance Review which was undertaken by TWC during last year. What an experience this turned out to be. We were very pleased at the outcome of the review (which had taken the majority view of our residents into consideration) and the decision for us to remain as Hollinswood & Randlay Parish, within our existing boundary, was welcomed. Thank you to everyone who took time to respond to the consultation.

Our Full Council meetings take place on the third Monday of each month; the calendar is available on the website. There is a public session at the start of each meeting, and we really would like to see more people attend. Alternatively, we welcome your views and opinions on our projects and are always pleased to hear when you notice aspects of our parish that need attention. You are our eyes and ears, and we are grateful when you let us know what needs doing. We also hold ‘Meet Your Councillor’ events where you can meet with your councillors to discuss local issues. When possible, we are joined by members of the Police Safer Neighbourhood Team – so pop along and share your thoughts with us. The dates are in our calendars, which are delivered free to every home.

May I take this opportunity to thank our Ward Members and all the Parish Councillors for their help and support throughout the year. I would especially like to thank the Chairmen and Vice Chairmen of our Committees who put in a lot of time considering ways in which we can enhance Hollinswood & Randlay for

everyone to enjoy. I would like to place on record my personal thanks, and the thanks of my fellow Councillors, to the many residents who continue to support members of our communities in many different ways.

Many of you will be aware of our Parish Strategy. The Clerk and Councillors bring forward a range of ideas and objectives and put these together into our strategy document which is used to prepare our budget. As you can imagine, we have experienced significant increases in service and facility provision in recent months, but we continue to monitor our budget and spending closely to ensure that the community receives the best service and support possible from the Parish Council.

Climate Change and Sustainability is a priority for us and we take time, at every meeting, to ensure that this is given due consideration before we make any decisions. I am pleased to be able to confirm that our project continued this year, and we have added air source heat pumps and additional solar panels to our community buildings. All this work has contributed to a significant reduction in our Carbon Footprint. We have also invested in an electric van – this is all very exciting and will be of great benefit lowering our carbon footprint as we continue to work towards Net Zero by 2030.

I am very proud and honoured to have represented all the residents of Hollinswood and Randlay Parish this year. We continue to achieve so much more by working together with local groups and organisations and liaising closely with the residents. Overall, I think we have a Parish to be proud of, and we really hope that you do too. We will be looking to continue our work but also to bring about new projects in the coming months.

Thanks must go to all our staff, Katrina, Stuart, Glyn, Liam, Jackie & John - we wouldn't be able to achieve so much if we didn't have such a dedicated team. We also have several volunteers, too many to mention individually, but they are all very much appreciated and they assist with Wizards, SNAC and FoHRV.

We have a diary of community events planned for 2026/27. Our traditional St George's Day Bingo night (with fish & chip supper) is on Friday, 24th April and our May Fayre will be on 4th May at Randlay Village Green from 1pm. Everyone is welcome. Details of our other events are on the website.

Finally, I would like to thank my husband, family and friends for giving me the support and encouragement to represent the Parish Council as it's Chairman.

CLERK'S REPORT TO ANNUAL PARISH MEETING

20TH APRIL 2026

YOUTH PROVISION PARTNERSHIP

Hollinswood & Randlay Parish Council's Youth Provision Partnership continues to meet throughout the year to bring together our partners who oversee the provisions made for our young people in accordance with the Parish Strategy.

During the year, the young people of our parish have remained a priority and we have used funds available to enhance the facilities available to them, whilst working with Telford & Wrekin Council regarding the two play areas which are included in their Play Strategy.

Wednesday Wizards

Our after school club is thriving and has gone from strength to strength during the year. There are 35 children registered and around 15 attend each week. We often welcome new faces, too. Whilst most of the members are from Hollinswood, children from across the Parish are welcome to attend.

With thanks to Glyn, as our Youth Leader, and Paula and Sheryl, volunteer assistants, lots of activities have been available. We have recently introduced two additional traditional games, chess and dominos, which the children can also play at home.

In line with our Climate Change plans, the children undertook a litter pick and then Paula, as Chairman of the Climate Change Committee, led a project to count recycled plastics – which is part of a Telford & Wrekin initiative. The children were very interested.

Thanks are extended to the Parish Councillors for their continued support and, in particular, the opportunity for the young people to go to the Christmas Pantomime. They also appreciated the new games that have been made available.

During the summer this year, their work outside in the garden area will continue and they will have a visit to the Randlay Allotments to learn more about growing your own vegetables, with an opportunity to meet some of the tenants and hear about the benefits of working outdoors as well as 'grow-your-own'.

Wizards are having a stall at the May Fayre and this will raise additional funds for a summer activity. We also intend to organise a Sponsored Walk.

As their Leader, Glyn has continued to attend training and information events and he is booked to attend a Funetic Assistance session, which also brings about equipment, training and resources which will be very useful. This has been funded by a lottery grant as part of the Activity For All project that we have been supporting through SNAC@HARP.

Wednesday Night Youth Hub

With thanks to additional funding from the Police & Crime Commissioner and Telford & Wrekin Council Pride Funding we have engaged the services of 4 All Foundation to provide a free-to-attend youth

night. This also takes place on a Wednesday and offers an opportunity for the older Wizards to move over to this activity, or even attend both. The leaders offer a range of activities, both indoor and outdoor. The numbers attending, at Hollinswood Neighbourhood Centre, are growing and the Hub is proving to be popular.

Funzone

Please see attached report from Funzone.

Friday Night Youth Hub

As the funding, provided for The Nedge Ward, has come to an end, Funzone ceased to be available for a Friday night event at The Pavilion.

We are now working with the Sports Coaches (Love Play Active) to continue the club, based on the wishes of the young people. This is very new, having only had two sessions so far. The Parish Council is employing Love Play Active to provide the two-hour sessions at the Pavilion. The young people have already met to agree their 'rules' and to identify their wish list of activities. It is intended to have a guest attend once per month to share information and offer guidance under the heading of Life Skills. Cookery will also be available. Tom & Henry (Youth Leaders) have undertaken their Food Hygiene Level Two Training. The young people are considering what they would like their club to be called and will also be running their own tuck shop and fund-raising to enhance their Hub. There were a number of new faces attending the first sessions – it is useful that LPA are also leading the HHAH clubs so have encouraged other local young people to join them.

The Hub will continue in the holidays, as we have been successful in gaining funding through HHAH, for the holiday sessions.

This is another partnership providing activities for our young people and has been made possible with financial support from Safer Stronger Communities.

The YPP will consider the future of the activity later in the year.

HHAH

Holiday Clubs are provided, with funding from HHAH, at Randlay Community Centre – offering a range of fun, games and activities.

Downmead and Dallamoor Play Areas

Whilst these areas are owned and managed by Telford & Wrekin Council, we do work with them to offer the best possible facilities for our local families. Members may recall that both areas were enhanced as part of the Playbuilder Funding a few years ago and the equipment was chosen by the young people. The areas are limited due to their size and location and have a specific age range and it is acknowledged that there is less for the older children. However, we are situated relatively close to Telford Town Park and would hope that the older children can attend that area and enjoy the activities on offer. The inclusion of the roundabout (suitable for wheelchairs) was appreciated and we have noticed that more Southwood Hub visitors are using the area, which is lovely to see.

The Parish has provided two benches outside of the play area, which have been appreciated by the parents and carers.

The Parish Council installed the two football posts (kindly funded by TWC) into the grassed area between the play area and the youth shelter. The young people enjoy an opportunity to play closer to home. Nets have been provided for the Spring and Summer and we have agreed to mark the grass with outside lines only for the school holiday periods – Easter, May and Summer and October.

Daddlebrook

In the meantime, the Parish Council included this area its strategy to continue to work towards bringing The Muddy (Daddlebrook Green Space) back into use. Additional funding remains essential for this to happen, but we do have plans in place. Thanks are extended to Friends of Hollinswood & Randlay Valley who attended a volunteer morning to open up a path within the trees to the bottom of Daddlebrook, offering a short, but enjoyable, route for everyone to enjoy (including dog walkers). The Daddlebrook Working Group with Councillors Krajewski, Cranfield and Farrar will continue to meet with the staff on plans for this area in our Parish. We have received a quotation for the drainage work from a local contractor and discussions will continue. In the meantime, work will continue to improve the sensory garden, walk and planters and to offer areas suitable for badminton and cricket.

Nova Training

Over the past few years we have built up a strong relationship with Nova Training in Wellington. With Katrina & Liam both attending their training offices to support young people, and the parish council offering a work experience place with the LMT, there have been many benefits for both organisations. Our current young person is working hard as part of FoHRV and is already working on his own with maintenance of the Pavilion Football Field and garden maintenance. It is very rewarding to be able to help young people in this way.

Nova has become part of our community and often have stalls at our events as well as offering working parties for one-off tasks in the Randlay Valley.

Barnardos

Following the initial success of the scheme which takes place at Randlay Community Centre, additional resources have been made available for this to continue. This provision is appreciated by many local families, and some are sign-posted to it by other professionals and the benefits for them are extensive.

Pavilion Football Field

Whilst the Parish Council and Staff suffered immense pressure during the winter period following unauthorised use which caused significant damage to the field, it is pleasing to know that the field is now fully operational and being used regularly by a number of local football teams. The grant made available to us by Football Foundation has been used to improve and enhance the condition and is addressing some of the issues around drainage and third-party damage. The facility is well maintained by our LMT and the income from the hire of the field assists with additional maintenance. We have had funding offered by local businesses and this will be used to provide perches for spectators. The

goal posts will be removed in May 2026, and the pitch removed from official use. This will enable the maintenance companies unhindered access for the next steps of remedial and improvement works. The field is an open site, so it will remain available for unofficial training and informal games.

Scouts & Guides

Our community buildings remain the home of 1st Randlay Scouts, which offer three weekly sessions for Scouts, Cubs, Beavers and Squirrels at the Pavilion. Randlay Guides, Rainbows and Brownies also meet weekly at Randlay Community Centre. The Parish Council is pleased to be able to offer subsidised room hire to support them.

SNAC@HARP

The Youth Provision Partnership is also keen to support the work of our Co-ordinator and the weekly sessions held at The Pavilion. These are available for all ages, however, it is noted that there is a higher need for provision for teenagers and young adults. There will be a separate report from the SNAC Co-Ordinator.

Games Days

The 2025 Games days were very successful, although the mini-event at Downemead, Hollinswood was hindered by the weather. We are grateful to TW Safer Stronger Communities for their financial contribution to these events which enable a wide range of fun and games to be available. In 2026, we are, once again, hosting the mini-event at Downemead with the main event, incorporating Table Football Plus, at Randlay Village Green.

Urban Games

The YPP is pleased to have been able to persuade TWC to hold some Urban Games activities in our Parish. The use of both Randlay and Hollinswood for these activities, enable our local young people to join and enjoy the free holiday events.

Katrina Baker

20th April 2026

Friends of Hollinswood and Randlay Valley
Chairman: - Harvey Unwin
Hollinswood Neighbourhood Centre, Downemead, Hollinswood
Telford TF3 2EW 01952 567961

Annual Report – Randlay Valley – 20th April 2026

Chairman's Message

it seems that 2025/26 has flown by so quickly and lots has happened regarding Randlay Valley. The Parish Council has the responsibility for the maintenance and upkeep of the Valley and we are very grateful to the members of the Friends of Group (Friends of Hollinswood & Randlay Valley – FoHRV) for their unwavering support for our aims.

Randlay Valley sits between Hollinswood & Randlay, to the NE of Telford Town Park. There is over 100 acres of woodland, wet woodland and meadow and has been established since 1600. Over 80 plant species have been recorded across the site. Bluebells and other woodland flowers carpet the woods in Spring and the mature trees support a wide range of bird life. It is part of a green network linking central Telford to Nedge Hill and the wider countryside and contains a variety of habitats ranging from semi-natural woodland, grassland, fen and a brook.

RSPB identified over 140 different plant, fungi and animal species in the Local Nature Reserve, which was designated in 2023. One of their botanists, Kat Edwards-White, undertook the survey and commented "This is probably the best woodland site I've surveyed so far". TWC made the site easier for people to access through their Pride in Our Open Spaces programme. As part of the process of identification and designation, a Management Plan was prepared and this is the document which we use to identify the short, medium and long term plans for the Valley.

As well as the official work required, it is important that the Valley is accessible and welcoming to our local residents, as well as to visitors. We work hard to ensure that this is the case.

Chris Turley Memorial

Following the sad loss of our previous Chairman, Chris Turley, the Parish Council, with the support of our Ward Members, was keen to ensure that there was a lasting legacy and we worked with colleagues and his family to create a new trail through the Valley, we installed a bench (kindly made one of our volunteers with wood donated by Severn Gorge Countryside Trust) and planted a Redwood Tree.

Volunteer Mornings – 2025/2026

Our monthly volunteer mornings throughout 2025/26 have been very successful, with a local college coming into the Valley to help us with the work schedule.

We have completed a lot of work on the Chris Turley Memorial area. This has included lifting branches to gain access, removing brambles and tree branches, and clearing trees to open up the

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space for the bench and tree. We have also been scraping and leaf blowing throughout the Valley to prevent encroaching vegetation on the paths leading from Hollinswood to the Randlay.

In addition, we have removed trees that were blocking public pathways. Some of the larger trees were beyond the capacity of the Friends Of group, and we would like to extend a big thank you to the Oakley Landscapes and Councillors for kindly giving their free time to support us.

We have also been working on the entrance to the Valley near to the steps from the Randlay Valley Car Park. This has included thinning the vegetation to improve hedge habitats and creating scalloped patches around the perimeter to form a wavy-shaped woodland edge. Around the Valley, you may have noticed wood piles—these provide valuable habitats for wildlife.

We are also very grateful to Nova Training and some local companies who have offer their time and resources to undertake maintenance work within the Valley.

Weekend/Evening Volunteer Days- 2025/2026

Our second year of holding evening and weekend volunteer events has also been very successful. We have cleared trees and tidied up those already removed from pathways, which were blocking access following the strong winds earlier this year.

We have continued thinning vegetation to improve habitats and created woodland edges. Deadwood piles can be seen throughout the area to support wildlife. The Friends Of group also took part in the Great British Spring Clean, collecting many bags of rubbish to improve the area for our local residents and visitors.

We also had a weekend event where we supported the Muddy Working Group to open a walkway through the woods— members of the Friends of Hollinswood & Randlay Valley enjoyed this project and we hope that local people, children and dog-walkers will use the route and enjoy the quietness of the wooded area.

Events

It's been another eventful year, packed with numerous activities—some drew large crowds, while others were quieter.

Shropshire Wildlife Trust (SWT) once again hosted a variety of events in the valley this past year, including den building, fire lighting, treasure hunts, tracking, and wild walking—all of which were well attended. We're grateful to SWT for their ongoing involvement.

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Our Easter events were particularly successful. We began with a craft session that attracted over 40 adults and children, followed by our newest activity - an Easter Egg Hunt. Although poor weather forced a change of location, around 50 participants braved the wind and rain to search for plastic eggs in the forest school area, which were exchanged for chocolate treats. Special thanks to Asda and Harvey for donating the eggs, and to Glyn and Liam for hiding them—even if a couple did go missing! Eggs not children!

The Halloween event at The Pavilion on 30th October was a great success. Activities included crafts, a guided walk through the valley, a spooky walk augmented with animatronics, smoke, lights, music and scary animation. Scooby Doo episodes, campfire marshmallows, and refreshments like hot dogs, teas, coffees, cakes, and biscuits. Special thanks to John for the fantastic Halloween decorations.

Our annual winter walk took place on Monday, 29th December. Despite the cold and muddy conditions, attendance sparked with enthusiasm from all who ventured out. The dogs appeared to enjoy the fresh air and exercise. Refreshments were eagerly welcomed once everyone returned to The Pavilion.

We recently held our second Easter Egg Hunt, which was a bit different this year as we introduced a £1.00 booking fee. The eggs were kindly donated by Asda, Tesco, and our Chairman, Harvey Unwin, to whom we extend our gratitude for their generosity. Around 48 children participated, and thanks to sunny and warm weather, we hid the eggs in the meadow and took everyone on a delightful walk before the hunt began.

Working with Partners

The Parish Council remains committed to supporting Randlay Valley, as included in its Parish Strategy. However, it is recognised that time and resources is limited. FoHRV hold some fund-raising events and also received funds from Twincl – this all helps to enhance the valley for everyone to enjoy.

We are very grateful to Telford & Wrekin Council, their Green Spaces Team offer information and guidance for completion of our tasks and as a Member of Telford Green Spaces Partnership, we also receive training and information with tips and ideas readily available.

Our walkabouts with TW Officers are very useful and will take place a couple of times per year, so that we can benefit from their knowledge and experience. We are also fortunate to be able to work with Smallwoods, SGCT, the Arboricultural Officers and the Ecology Officers, who's help we find invaluable.

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New projects that are in the pipeline include the provision and installation of bird boxes, owl boxes, insect houses, new areas for tree-planting, relocating and spreading the bluebells and enhancing the wildflower meadows. It is our intention to involve local children, scouts, Wizards and other groups – we hope they find it as exciting as we do to see the development of this local facility in the heart of our Parish.

Additional planting, including bulbs, has also been scheduled.

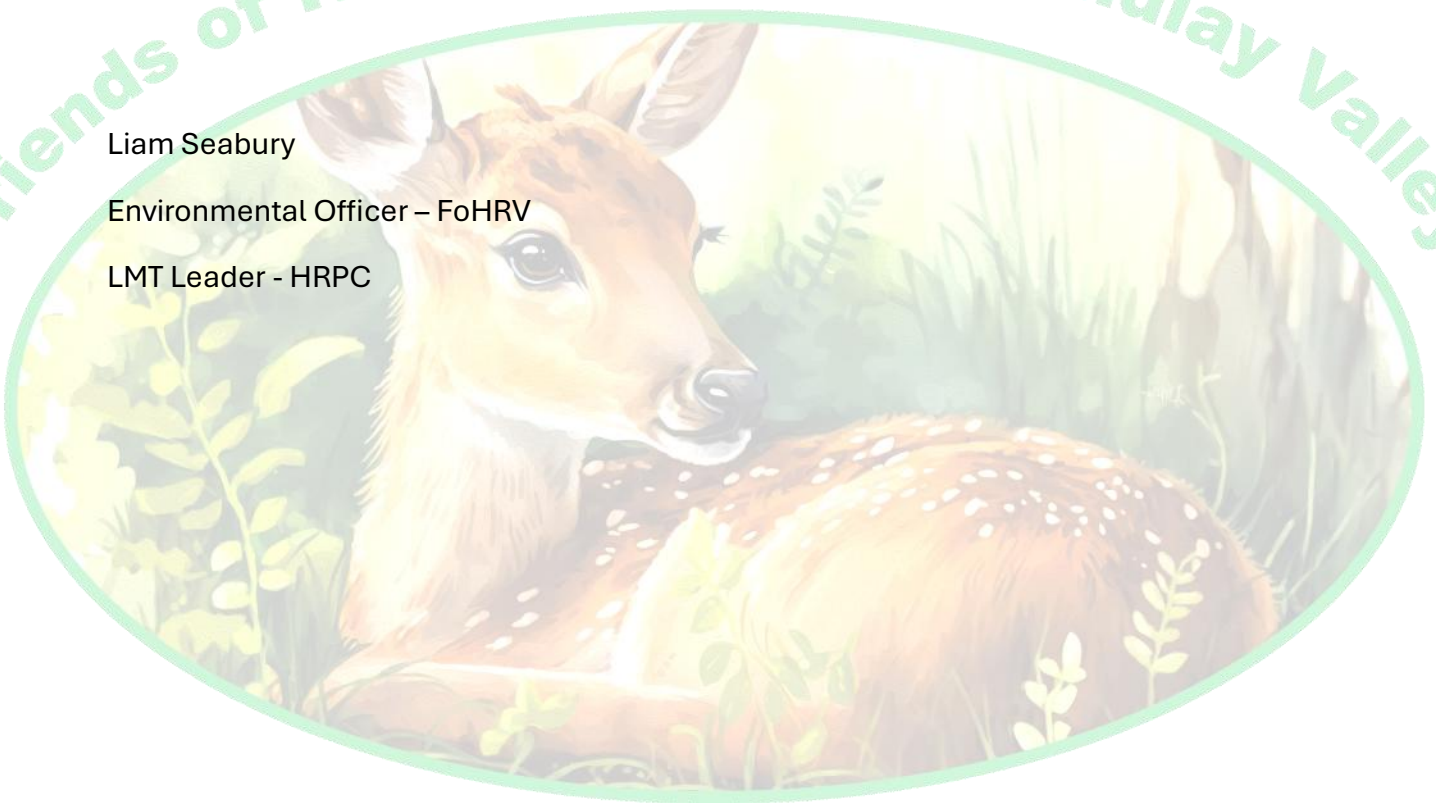
We welcome new Members – please take a look at our website and contact us for more information.

In conclusion, we would like to thank all members of FoHRV, the Committee and local residents for the support they offer in a range of ways.

Liam Seabury

Environmental Officer – FoHRV

LMT Leader - HRPC



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Final FunZone Report.

Hollinswood April 2026.

The Million Hours funding Stirchley and Brookside Parish Council received in 2024 has now come to an end. Unfortunately, this means that the Friday evening FunZone sessions at Hollinswood have now concluded.

We have had a fantastic two years working with the young people of Hollinswood and Randlay. By engaging closely with them, we were able to shape and deliver activities that reflected their interests and suited everyone involved.

Attendance.

Since the project began, the FunZone sessions have seen strong engagement from local young people. We have worked with over 80 young people, many of whom had never previously attended a youth club. Weekly attendance typically ranged from 20 to 30 young people, whose enthusiasm and energy greatly contributed to the success of the sessions.

Staff.

The sessions were organised and delivered by FunZone, with support from partner organisations that provided specialist sports coaches. With over 20 years' experience in delivering youth activities, FunZone staff are committed to creating safe and welcoming spaces where young people can socialise and try new activities.

The sports coaches played a vital role in the success of the sessions, helping young people to develop their skills across a wide range of sports, including:

- Football
- Cricket
- Dodgeball
- Tennis
- Pickleball
- Archery
- Table Tennis

Activities.

Throughout the project, we introduced a range of activities based on the interests and requests of the young people. The most popular and frequently requested activity was Zorb Ball football.

Photos and videos from the sessions can be found on our social media pages (Facebook and TikTok) via

[Funzone Stirchley and Brookside Parish Council | Facebook](#)

Here are a few photos of our sessions



Young Peoples testimonials.

“FunZone has been great fun. Always good activities to do and new skills to learn”

“I have loved the Friday sessions. We always get to speak to someone about what we want for the next week”

“Good activities and good food”

“Friendly staff who listen to us”

“I have been here from the start and have really enjoyed it. Different activities each week for us to try”

S.N.A.C.

Community Disability Support Group

Short Report April 2026

Overview

S.N.A.C. is a small, community-based disability support group operating mainly on **Wednesdays and Thursdays**. And on a **Tuesdays** over Half terms and Holidays. The group provides a safe, friendly, and inclusive environment for adults with a range of disabilities, focusing on social connection, confidence building, and meaningful weekly engagement.

Attendance

- Average daily attendance: **10–15 clients plus Carers**
- Consistent participation across both days (or 3 over Holiday periods)
- Clients include individuals with physical, learning, and neurodiverse disabilities

Activities and Support Provided

S.N.A.C. offers a varied programme of activities that encourage creativity, social interaction, sensory engagement, and physical participation. Recent and regular activities include:

- **Clay modelling** and hands-on creative sessions
- **Arts and crafts**, supporting self-expression and fine-motor skills
- **Pool and table tennis**, promoting coordination and friendly competition
- **Boccia bowls**, offering accessible physical activity for all ability levels
- **Darts**, encouraging focus, coordination, and friendly social play
- **Cooking sessions**, helping clients build practical life skills and confidence
- **Sport interaction days**, encouraging teamwork, movement, and physical wellbeing
- **Use of the sensory room**, providing a calming, therapeutic space

The sensory room is also now being used by a **private group**, who will be making a **donation to S.N.A.C.** for its use. These contributions could help cover the cost of consumables and materials used by our group, supporting sustainability and reducing financial pressure.

All activities are adapted to individual needs, allowing clients to participate at their own pace.

Supporting the Group Through Loss

During this recent period, S.N.A.C. has also faced the difficult experience of losing one of our much-loved clients. The passing of a group member is always an emotional time, and the team has worked sensitively to:

- Support clients who were affected or grieving
- Maintain a calm, reassuring environment
- Honour the individual's memory in a respectful and appropriate way

This experience highlighted the strong sense of community within S.N.A.C., where clients and staff support one another during challenging moments.

Community Work Experience Partnership

S.N.A.C. continues to host a successful **community work-experience placement** for a student from **Derwen College**, held every Thursday. This partnership has now been running for **two years** and has been a great success for both the student and the group. This has been the second student we have had in this time with talk of a third on the way in September.

Key achievements include:

- The student gaining valuable real-world experience in a supportive environment
- Strengthening links between S.N.A.C. and Derwen College
- The college recognising the value of the placement and inviting staff to attend relevant training sessions
- The opportunity to **enrol Glyn** onto this training, as the skills gained will be useful in his role at the parish youth club

This collaboration has become a positive and long-standing part of S.N.A.C.'s weekly routine and demonstrates the group's commitment to wider community involvement.

Community Impact

S.N.A.C. continues to play a valuable role in the local community by:

- Reducing social isolation
- Providing routine and structure
- Offering reassurance and respite for families and carers
- Creating a welcoming space where individuals feel understood, valued, and included

Strengths

- Strong sense of community and belonging
- Consistent attendance and engagement
- Flexible, person-centred activity planning
- Supportive environment that encourages independence
- Compassionate response during emotionally difficult times
- Successful long-term partnership with Derwen College
- Additional income support through sensory-room donations