
Hollinswood and Randlay Parish Council

Chairman of the Council: Councillor Mrs Sheenagh Unwin

MINUTES of the monthly meeting held on **Monday 19th January 2026** at **Hollinswood Neighbourhood Centre** at **7.30pm**.

PRESENT: Councillors

S Unwin (Chairman)	H Unwin
C Prescott	R Tyrrell
S Snell	P Farrar
P Cranfield	J Johnson
S Vaughan-Hodkinson	J Creed
P Krajewski	

In Attendance:

K Baker (Clerk)
S Fisher
L Seabury
Cllr N Page – TWC
David Tooley – Press
1 Member of the public

F26/133

WELCOME

The Chairman welcomed everyone to the meeting and thanked them for attending. A warm welcome was extended to Mr Steve Knott, a resident in Randlay and a former Parish Councillor.

PUBLIC SESSION

Mr Knott thanked the Parish Council for a Christmas Hamper which he had received after his name was successful raffle, along with a Hollinswood resident.

The Clerk explained that two hampers had been donated to the Parish Council and the raffle took place in December.

WEST MERCIA POLICE

Apologies had been received as no one was available to attend the meeting. PC Baggott has returned to The Nedge SNT and it is pleasing to have regular meetings and contact with the team. There is to be a parish walkabout tomorrow – these prove to be very useful.

F26/134

APOLOGIES & APPROVAL

Cllr Salifu Health

It was proposed by Councillor Creed, seconded by Councillor Snell, all were in favour and thus it was

RESOLVED that these apologies be accepted.

Glyn Johnson

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Request for Leave of Absence

Councillor Salifu had requested three months leave-of-absence. It was proposed by Councillor S Unwin, seconded by Councillor Snell, all were in favour and thus it was

RESOLVED that Councillor Salifu is granted three months leave-of-absence. Members send their best wishes.

F26/135

DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST OR DISPENSATIONS, regarding matters on the Agenda

Councillor	Interests
Cranfield	FoHRV
Creed	FoTTP, SBPC,
Farrar	Randlay Allotments, Wizards, TW Climate Change Working Groups
Johnson	HPS, TWC. FoHRV, HR Committee, Wizards
Krajewski	HPS, Hollinswood PPG, Randlay Colts
Prescott	Randlay Primary School, TWC, FoHRV
Salifu	SBPC, Chosen Generation, Randlay Primary School, Randlay Colts
Snell	RTITB, FoHRV
Tyrrell	
Unwin H	FoHRV, Randlay Primary School, FoTTP
Unwin S	FoHRV, Randlay Primary School, TWC
Vaughan-Hodkinson	SBPC

Members were reminded that a form is available for anyone wishing to request a dispensation to be allowed to speak on any matter on which they have declared an interest.

Members, resident in Hollinswood & Randlay Parish, have a dispensation to take part in the budget discussions and precept decision.

F26/136

MINUTES OF THE MEETING HELD ON 15th DECEMBER 2025

It was proposed by Councillor H Unwin and seconded by Councillor Prescott that the Minutes of the meeting held on 15th December 2025 be signed as a true record, all were in favour and thus it was

RESOLVED that the Chairman signs the Minutes as a true record.

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MATTERS ARISING, for information

Trolley Park

The question will be asked, and action taken, as to how an area can be 'named' in this way?

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F26/138 ASSET & PROPERTY COMMITTEE

Councillor H Unwin, Chairman, presented the Minutes of the meeting held on 5th January 2026, for information. This meeting had taken place on zoom (due to the weather conditions) and no recommendations were included.

F26/139 CLIMATE CHANGE COMMITTEE

Councillor P Farrar, Chairman, informed members of two initiatives that the Parish Council will be supporting and promoting. The first – to reduce the use of plastic and undertake a plastic count in March and a plastic-free event in July. We will be encouraging local residents and businesses to ‘get involved’.

F26/140 FINANCE & GOVERNANCE

a) Finance & Audit Committee Meeting – Recommendations

Councillor H Unwin, Chairman, presented the recommendations from the meeting held on 24th November

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|---|---------|---------|
| i) £200 grant to AGE UK (Hollinswood Day Centre) | Prop HU | Sec SS |
| ii) £325 grant to Freestyle Martial Arts (RCC) | Prop HU | Sec JC |
| iii) Adoption of the update risk management policy & plan and | | |
| iv) Adoption of the updated policies, as listed | Prop HU | Sec SVH |
| v) Provision of a re-chargeable buffer for RCC | Prop HU | Sec SS |

All were in favour of the recommendations and thus it was

RESOLVED that the two grants, policies and provision of a re-chargeable buffer be agreed.

b) Minutes of the meeting held on 12th January 2026

Councillor H Unwin presented the minutes of the meeting of the Finance & Audit Committee held on 12th January, which had been circulated to all members, for information. Following previous discussions, a copy of the draft budget had been included with the minutes and members had had an opportunity to ask questions and offer alternatives for consideration.

c) Consideration of the 2026/27 Budget and Precept

Councillor H Unwin presented the recommendation from the Committee with details of the draft budget which was based on the parish council strategy which had been unanimously agreed by Full Council following the councillors strategy days. A detailed budget had been prepared taking into consideration all the administration costs and those relating to the parish assets and projects.

In presenting the recommendation, it was confirmed that the initial budget resulted in a precept increase of 39%. However, with the use of savings and earmarked reserves and with the deferral of some projects, the recommended budget is now £445,820 (an increase of £29,300). The total of general reserves has decreased over the past few years as they have been used to ensure that the Parish Council has not raised its precept more than necessary. The level of general reserves is now much lower. The proposal

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includes for £26,000 to be used from the general reserves which will reduce the precept to £340,270. Whilst this results in an increase of 18.6%, this equates to a weekly increase of 44p per week for a Band A property and no more than 66p per week for a Band D property. We are also aware that around 90% of the properties in Hollinswood & Randlay are below Band D.

Councillor Unwin invited comments and questions from members. Some members had asked a number of questions since the recommendation and replies had been provided to all members.

Cllr Krajewski was unhappy in that more funding should have been included for The Muddy project. He believed that Hollinswood is seen as the poor relation to Randlay and wanted more funding to be included for older children and teenagers in Hollinswood. A discussion continued regarding the £10,000 already included for The Muddy, of which £2000 is allocated to identify issues with the drainage on the land, which needs to be resolved in the first instance. The Chairman reiterated that the Muddy remains a priority for the parish council and that other funding will be sourced for this project.

A request for £1000 to be transferred from Randlay Valley to The Muddy budget will be considered in the new financial year.

Cllr Tyrrell questioned the funding allocated to the primary schools in the Parish. There had been some confusion and Cllr Tyrrell confirmed that he did no longer object to the £2000 allocated for the schools to support extra-curricular activities (which were not the responsibility of TWC).

Councillor Unwin asked if there were alternative budget proposals – there were none.

Councillor H Unwin, as chairman of the Finance & Audit Committee, thanked the staff and members for their input into the process and recommended that the budget for Hollinswood & Randlay Parish for 2026/27 be set at £445,820 and to ask TWC for a precept of £340,270 to be collected through the Council Tax. This was seconded by Councillor Cranfield and at the vote, 9 members were in favour and 2 members voted against the recommendation and thus it was

RESOLVED that Hollinswood & Randlay Parish Council would set a budget of £445,820 and request a precept of £340,270.

d) Financial Reports

The bank reconciliation had been circulated to all Members for the period ending 31st December 2026. This included a full list of income and expenditure for the period. The VAT for December was £2913.54 and had been reclaimed and received into the bank.

Governance

e) Accidents or Near Misses

There have been none reported.

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f) Gifts & Hospitality

Members were reminded of the need to declare any gifts or hospitality offered or received.

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CHAIRMAN'S COMMUNICATIONS

The Chairman will meet representatives of the Ramblers at the end of January to discuss the promotion of the Ramblers Walks in Randlay Valley.

Chairman's Charity

Following recent fund raising, the total is now £2980.57 – for the Lingen Davies Sunflower Appeal.

There will be a bingo night at Hollinswood Neighbourhood Centre on 12th February 2026 at 6pm. Tickets are available at £3.00.

F26/142

CORRESPONDENCE

All general correspondence received has been forwarded to Members, for information, throughout the month. There had been no requests for items to be added to the agenda.

a) Information from SALC

Members are encouraged to read the regular updates which include important information and legal updates.

F26/143

PLANNING

a) Reports

None

b) New Applications for consideration

None

c) Other Planning Matters

None

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CLERK'S REPORT

Work has continued to support all residents within the Parish. This has included fly-tipping, trollies, litter, leaf-clearance, snow and ice, bus shelters and much more.

The Parish Council is very grateful to the street champions and snow wardens – their help throughout the parish has been much appreciated.

It has been noted that some of the recycled benches have become loose, during the periods of wet weather – the installation and fixing of benches will be investigated further in the Spring – for the time-being they are closely monitored for safety.

We are very grateful to Seymour Manufacturing International (SMI) on Stafford Park. They have kindly donated funds for the purchase of two remembrance benches. One has been installed in Stafford Park and the second in Randlay near to the Rain Garden and Remembrance Bus Shelter. Plaques are to be fitted to each bench.

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COUNCILLORS REPORT

The parish 'Meet Your Councillors' event took place on Saturday morning – thanks were extended to the parish councillors who were able to attend at both Hollinswood & Randlay. They were joined by one of the Nedge Ward Members, Councillor Page. It was an opportunity to meet and speak with local residents about local matters. Members commented that there had been a lot of positive comments about the work of the parish council and information was shared about areas of concern. These included:

- verge damage in Downmead
- position of future benches – closer to existing footpaths
- collection of branches, following the recent storm
- dog fouling on The Muddy
- untidy gardens, Dodmoor Grange

F26/145

MATTERS FROM TELFORD & WREKIN COUNCIL

Councillor Page reported on her work in the Parish since the last meeting. The Pride in Our Community Funding for 2025/26 has now been allocated and Councillor Page listed the projects that she has been able to support in The Nedge Ward.

Other ward work has included pavements, fly-tipping, dog fouling, HMOs and everyday casework.

F26/146

FRIENDS OF HOLLINSWOOD & RANDLAY VALLEY

A written report had been circulated by the Environmental Officer. Special thanks are extended to Oakley Maintenance and volunteers who had help to clear fallen trees and branches to ensure that the routes in the Valley were clear and safe.

A date for the AGM will be agreed in the near future.

The Christmas events were a great success – details of events for 2026 will be available after the AGM.

It is good that Shropshire Wildlife are returning to the Valley with events taking place in the February half-term holiday.

F26/147

PARISH MATTERS

The following matters will be actioned or reported as necessary

- Fence in Deercote
- Parking on pavements
- Litter bins – reactive maintenance instead of pro-active schedule
- Flooding outside of HNC to be investigated, part of the Depave project.
- Clearing snow and ice outside of Randlay Store – who's responsibility as car park and community building were cleared by idverde.

All matters will be reported to the relevant organisations for action or undertaken by the Parish Landscape Maintenance Team.

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MEETING SCHEDULE

26th January 2026

7pm

Youth Provision Partnership

On Zoom

16th February 2026

7.30pm

Full Council

RCC

Apologies were received from Councillor Krajewski

There being no further business, the Chairman closed the meeting at 8.40pm, thanking members for their important contributions to the meeting.

SignedDate.....

These Minutes will remain DRAFT (E & O A) until confirmation at Full Council on 16th February 2026.