

Minutes of a meeting of Wellington Heath Parish Council held on Monday 27th July 2026 in the Memorial Hall commencing at 7.30pm.

Present - Cllrs G. Kirk (in the Chair) C. Christie, J. Jones and S. Harries.

Agenda item 1 – The Minutes of the meeting held on 18th May 2026 were taken as read, confirmed and signed by the Chairman.

Agenda item 2 – There were no apologies for inability to attend the meeting.

Agenda item 3 – There were no declarations of interest received in items on the Agenda.

Agenda item 4 – County Cllr Liz Harvey was unable to attend as it had been reported in the local paper that she was on sick leave for several weeks. There were no members of the public in attendance.

Agenda item 5 – Open Session –

Road Safety – Cllr Harries reported that the road safety work in Staplow was not likely to take place until mid-September. He had checked with Hereford Council whether road safety during work in is required. It was also necessary for the Parish Council to get the funds in hand from Ledbury Town Council in readiness for when work started. Cllr Harries also agreed to check with Cllr Timothy Lott whether there was any of his suggested work outstanding.

Agenda item 6 –

[6.1 Bio Diversity Grant.

Herefordshire Council has funding to offer grants for local biodiversity projects. We propose to apply for a grant for The Pleck. To do so we need to carry out a baseline ecological survey which cannot be funded by the grant. WHPC was asked to fund this work to be done by a professional ecology company. WHPC approved the expenditure.

Cllr Christie will take responsibility for commissioning the company and submitting the application.

6.2 Community woodland.

The prospect of planting a community woodland was discussed. The Woodland Trust will provide up to 400 trees to the Parish Council if a suitable site can be found. Several options were discussed but this project can only proceed if a local landowner is prepared to offer land for the woodland. There are several qualifying requirements the main one being that the landowner must sign a legal agreement to make the land publicly accessible. It was agreed that the first step is to find a landowner and that will need to wait for the completion of the bio-diversity application.

Agenda item 7 – Councillor changes affecting Bank signatories – The Clerk reported on the problems she had encountered when endeavouring to remove the names of two Councillors who had resigned from the Council and acted as cheque signatories, and adding the signatures of the new Chairman and Vice Chairman respectively. This had now been achieved. The Clerk confirmed she had lodged a complaint with the Bank for the considerable delay in proceeding as this had resulted in many unpaid bills.

The Vice Chairman confirmed he had received various paperwork from Cllr R. Barnes role as the Administrator for Dave Cooke, the Parish Council Lengthsman. The Vice Chairman presented a much

more detailed plan regarding presenting to all Councillors how the funds to the Lengthsman had been made up, including various Grants. These new reporting ideas were approved for input from the date of the meeting, with balances remaining available during the current year for outstanding items.

Agenda 7A – The Clerk presented the following items for payment –

The Practice – 3 month Pay roll	£35.00 + £7.20 vat = £43.20.
Gizmo – Printing Newsletter	£267.00.
Information Officer – Data protection	£52.00.
David Darwood @ (chippings) at oak tree	£103.00 + £20.60 = £123.60.
Ledbury Construction	£995 + £199. Vat = £1,194.00.
Wicksteed – Pool Piece inspection	£150.00 + £30.vat = £180.00.
Clerk – May, June & July (three months salary)	£1,06.32.
HMRC - PAYE = 3 months @ £88.60	£265.80.
John the Gardener @ Pool Piece	£672.00.
Dave Cooke – Lengthsman (Inv Nos. 52 & 53)	£630.00.
AED Locator@ Defibrillator	£158.95 + £29.80 vat = £188.75.
All these Accounts were approved for payment and cheques signed accordingly.	

A report was received regarding up to date expenditure and the funding which remained available for work by the Lengthsman on drainage, pool piece, the Plecks.

Agenda item 8 –

Planning – Prior to the meeting the chairman had circulated an up to date report on planning issues. and confirmed that to date he had not received any reply to the Parish Council concerns regarding water run off onto The Common following the recent development and it was considered that French drains should be standard issue in the future on that type of development.

As regards the NDP – the Chairman again stated that at the present time, Hereford Council had not given any guidance on what they were looking for regarding the NDP.

Lengthsman – see previous reports regarding Lengthsman projects.

Memorial Hall – Cllr Jones confirmed she had nothing to report as the new member on the Memorial Hall Committee.

The chairman confirmed he still had heard nothing regarding the Land Registry documents.

Any Other Business – the Vice Chairman commented that some **form of gratitude** should take place to the many local residents who both give their time, free of charge, and offer their help generally in the Parish which is much appreciated by members of the Parish Council. Cllr Harries agreed to look into organizing such an event in the future.

The Farmer's Arms – Discussion took place regarding the Parish Council ability to offer some form of banking to the local group of residents during the attempt by some local residents to re-open The Farmers Arms Public House. The Chairman agreed to discuss the matter with their representative. There being no further business, the Chairman declared the meeting closed at 9.15 pm.

.......... Chairman – Dated.....