

10/2026

HAMPTON BISHOP PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of a Parish Council meeting held on Wednesday 29th July 2026 at 19.00 in the Village Hall

Present

Councillors: Steve Hunt (Chair), Alistair McHarg, Gillian Omar and Jamie Rogers.

In attendance: Lynda Wilcox – Parish Clerk. 20 local residents. Two West Mercia Police Officers.

1. **Apologies for absence** were received from Julia Pearson and Leigh Stevens.
2. **Declarations of interest & written requests for dispensation ...** There were none.

3. Open Session:

West Mercia Police ... Officers gave a brief account of parish matters, including:

Three Officers cover the Hampton Bishop area together with additional Officers who may be called out.

Speeding traffic had been identified as a key area of concern, both on the B4224 and the loop round around the village.

It was noted that the speed limit on the loop road was 60 mph, despite previous efforts by the parish council to get it reduced. The sad loss of a pet cat was reported, and it was suggested that three signs (Children and Animals) could be purchased and placed at appropriate points around the loop road, to encourage drivers to slow down. Residents could also put 'Slow Down' notices on their wheely bins.

- 3.1 An update from the Chair and action on current matters included:
 - 3.1.1 Lugg Flats proposed development Planning Appeal ... Kirkwells would be submitting a response to the Planning Inspectorate on behalf of the Parish Council by the deadline of 12th August. The Chair and Clerk had held a meeting with Herefordshire Council's Planning Officer, who indicated that the planning authority would robustly defend its decision to refuse the application. A Planning Inquiry would take place on 10th November and Kirkwells would be representing the parish council.
 - 3.1.2 Parish Orchard ... There was a need to balance the views of different residents as to the use of this valued parish asset. Fete car parking would continue to be required around the edge of the orchard, but seed planting and other measures contained in the 5-year Enhancement Plan were still relevant. It was **RESOLVED** that Jamie Rogers would identify remedial and report it to the Clerk for action.
 - 3.1.3 Village Triangle adjacent to Church ... As a safety measure, the dead thorn on the Village Triangle adjacent to the Church would be removed and the area made safe.

- 3.2 A brief verbal report from Herefordshire Ward Councillor, Graham Biggs, was not possible as he was not in attendance.

- 3.3 Views of local residents on parish matters included:

- 3.3.1 Continued concern about large vehicles attempting to access Court Farm via the loop road in the village rather than off the A438 Ledbury Road.
There were suggestions that, in addition to continually reminding their delivery/collection companies about the new postcode for access to Court Farm, the owners could possibly provide additional road signage for further clarification. The Chair and Jamies Rogers would liaise with Court Farm.
- 3.3.2 Early morning smells from the bio digester were also causing concern. It was noted that this was a matter for Environmental Health Officers at Herefordshire Council who could be contacted out of hours if the smell was causing health problems.
- 3.3.3 It was noted that there was now a defibrillator at Camperdown.

4. Minutes of previous meeting held on 27th May 2026.

The minutes were agreed as a true record and signed by the Chair.

5. Measures to reduce impact of crop spraying on neighbouring homes

Following discussion on the need for local residents to have advance warning of crop spraying times by local farmers, it was RESOLVED that Jamie Rogers would liaise with local farmers.

6. Speed reduction on all parish roads.

- 6.1 It was noted that Road Safety was the top priority for West Mercia Police between July and September ... The matter had been discussed in Item 3, above.
- 6.2 SIDs ... Site meeting ... The Chair had been investigating the problem with the one SID by the Bunch of Carrots and would be attending an imminent site meeting to enable both SIDs to work effectively and capture relevant data.
- 6.3 Gateways ... It was noted that two gateways were on order and scheduled for erection during August.
- 6.4 Community Speed Watch (CSW) ... West Mercia Police had given the go-ahead for a local CSW team to operate from the pavement outside 'Step Aside'.

7. Footpaths:

- 7.1 Members considered the Footpaths Officer's report for July 2026 and commended his very detailed account of all rights of way within the parish.
- 7.2 It was noted that walkers were concerned about the presence of cattle on HB4.

- 7.3 It was reported that the Three Choirs walk had now been merged within the Wye Valley Walk and therefore Herefordshire Council was finally able to erect a new bridge on HB1.

8. Planning:

- 8.1 Application 240422: Land East of Hereford - Appeal lodged against refusal of planning permission by Herefordshire Council. The matter was covered under Item 3 above.
- 8.2 It was RESOLVED to support the following two applications for determination by Herefordshire Council:
- 8.2.1 Application 261976 – Dufosse Kennels Cottage. Works to Trees in a Conservation Area: To side prune the inside of the conifer tree line between the driveway and the roadside. To prune back the maple up to 2 metres from the house as is now touching and the building is listed.
- 8.2.2 Application P262010/PDV - Notice of Intention to Install Fixed Line Broadband Apparatus (wooden pole 9m high) at grid reference HR1 4LD (near The Haven) on the B4224

9. Finance ... The Bank balance was noted as £100,997.25

- 9.1 Consideration of payments ... It was RESOLVED to make the following payments:

- 9.1.1 Parish Contractor – July.
- 9.1.2 Clerk's salary – July.
- 9.1.3 HMRC – July.

- 9.2 Payments made by the Clerk under delegated powers:

It was RESOLVED to endorse payments 9.2.1 – 9.2.7.

- 9.2.1 John Finch Computers ... Annual fee for Office 365 ... £66.24.
- 9.2.2 Parish Contractor – June ... £136.00.
- 9.2.3 Parish Contractor support – June ... £136.00.
- 9.2.4 HMRC – June ... £156.80.
- 9.2.5 Clerk's salary – June.
- 9.2.6 R.J. & J.R. Barrell – grass-cutting around village hall ... March-May ... £792.00.
- 9.2.7 Malcolm Scobie ... mole catching around village hall ... £44.00.

- 9.3 Church Repairs: Parish council support

It was noted that the Chair had provided the Church with bird deterrent mesh.

- 9.4 Noted ... Finance Working Group to meet during August to discuss:

- 9.4.1 Online banking ... Opening a Unity Trust Bank account
- 9.4.2 Investment of reserves.
- 9.4.3 Draft budget 2027/8

10. Date of next meeting ... Wednesday 2nd September.