Minutes of the Annual meeting of Hilperton Parish Council, held at Hilperton Village Hall on Tuesday July 21st 2026 at 8.00pm.

Councillors present. Clark, Hayes, House, Jamieson, Linham, Prevett, Robinson, Sawyer, Turner and Uncles.

Clerk and 20+ members of the public (for Barwood Presentation).

Prior to the meeting there was a presentation from Barwood Land in regard to their proposed development and there were questions from members of the public

AGENDA.

26/153. Acceptance of apologies for absence.

Cllr. Linham .

26/154. Declarations of interest.
Cllrs Clark and Turner in respect to Village Hall.

26/155. To receive and sign the minutes of the Council meeting held on 16th June 2026, together with CIL and Play Area Committee minutes of July 8th 2026.
The minutes were approved and signed as an accurate record of the meetings by Cllr Clark as Chairman . Proposed by Cllr Clark and seconded by Cllr Uncles. **All agreed.**

26/156. Chairman's announcements.
Cllr Clark gave a report on a recent Future Energy Landscape project meeting at Staverton which he had attended.

26/157 Report from Wiltshire Councillor.
Cllr Clark reported that Wiltshire Council intends to clean bus shelters but not the brick built ones, twice a year.
Call for sites has gone out for new Local Plan.

26/158. Ian Thorn – Leader of Wiltshire Council
He gave details of the new Local Plan and covered how planning will work in future. He also said he would take questions on other matters. Cllr Bayley spoke on planning sites and considerations. Cllr House asked if Wiltshire Council is going to build new Council houses. They would love to but costs are very high. He gave an update on Multi Storey in Trowbridge.

26/159. Report from Police.
There was a correction from last month's meeting in that the new Inspector is Lou Oakley and not Gemma Rutter. The Clerk would try and invite her to September meeting.
Please look at Trowbridge Rural | Police.uk

26/160. Planning applications
PL/2026/04038 – 104 Church Street – Various tree work. It was agreed that the Parish Council would concur with whatever the Wiltshire Council Tree Officer suggests.

Planning Appeal – APP/HGW/559 – Cllr Clark outlined the history of the Appeal. It was agreed to make NO comment.

26/161. Planning decisions.
PL/2026/00723 – Land off Elizabeth Way (Bellway Homes) – Removal/variation of conditions. Approve with conditions
PL/2024/10898 – Trowbridge RFC – Installation of low energy lighting. Approve with conditions.
PL/2026/02998 – 10 Ashton Rise – Front two storey extension, rear single storey extension, raised roof extension and internal alterations. Withdrawn by applicant

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PL/2026/02653 – 115 Lacock Gardens – Single storey front dining room extension. Approve with conditions

26/162. HAAG.
Celia Beckett reported that some of the public who had attended the earlier Presentation had come from outside the village and as far as Great Hinton. She will keep local Parish Councils informed on developments in Hilperton Parish. Expecting several actual planning applications in near future. There will be implications for highways. A traffic expert would be consulted an report submitted early in application process. Access to developments were discussed especially the one to the north of Devizes Road, It was suggested that an invite be given to Cabinet member for highways to look at the problems.

26/163. Village Hall
The Clerk had received two requests for funding for 2024/25 and 2025/2026.
The Parish Council is being asked to cover part of the costs of running the hall and maintenance of playing field. The 2025/26 figure was £4057.25 and 2025/2026 it was £3601,25. It was proposed by Cllr Hayes and seconded by Cllr House that this be paid from money received from Solar farm. Carried with three abstentions, including Cllr Clark
Cllr.Hayes explained there was lack of seating around the field. It was agreed that the Clerk contact the secretary of the Village Hall committee to get their thoughts.
Discussion arose over extra expense such as rubbish collection, banners, electricity and water used for village Fete which at moment is covered by Village Hall. It was suggested a s.137 grant of £150 be allocated for next year. Proposed by Cllr House and seconded by Cllr Jamieson, Carried with 3 abstentions including Cllr Clark.

26/164. CIL/Play Areas
Cllr Clark mentioned that Standing orders noted that Committees, to be quorate, have to have 3 members and is there anybody who would like to join the Play Area committee which at moment only has 4 members. Unfortunately nobody volunteered!

26/165. Proposal to set up Finance Committee
Cllr Clark outlined the reasoning for setting up committee to help the Clerk with financial matters. The following were willing to be on the Committee, Cllr Clark (ex officio), House, Hayes, Bailey and Turner.

26/166. Parish Steward.
Please let Cllr Clark know if there are any jobs required for September as he would not normally come in August..

26/167. Allotments/Community Orchard.
Cllr House gave an update on plots being tidied. A few plot holders had given up their plots and he had now run out of new applicants. He will get a water meter reading as it is likely to be high due to hot weather.

26/168. 20mph Speed limit.
Cllr Clark explained that Wiltshire Council has changed it's policy on 20mph speed limits in rural areas. He had gone back to Wiltshire Council to see if Horse Road, Marsh Road and Hill street can now be covered as well as southern end of village. Metro counts are now at no cost to Parish Council.

26/169. 'Clerk's report.'
The Clerk reported that the bank balance in the Lloyds Community account was £11,288.50. Lloyds Instant access account is £231,835.24 (interest was £100.37). This now included the old instant access account which is now closed. CCLA is £126,601.94 (interest was £406) and Redwood Bank is £133,371.57 (interest of £324).

With regard to other banks, he has investigated Hampshire Trust Bank (HTB) instant access account who currently give 3.91%. It was proposed by Cllr Clark and seconded by Cllr Jamieson that Hilperton Parish Council open an instant access account with HTB with initial £5,000. Signatories will be Cllrs Clark, House, Turner, Hayes and Clerk. Any two to sign. All agreed.
Cllr Uncles explained that he was again applying to Lloyds for internet banking.

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Cllr Hayes spoke with regard to support for the Clerk. Hopefully the new accounting system would give better reporting.
The Clerk went through the AGAR paperwork including explaining the internal auditors report which pointed out several areas that needed improvement. Cllr Clark signed the appropriate forms. The Sir William Roger Brown Charity was brought up and the Clerk explained that any money remaining after it is closed has to go to a suitable charity. He will file the last few years accounts. It was proposed by Cllr Clark and seconded by Cllr Bayley that action is started to close the charity. All agreed with one abstention.

26/170. Approval of invoices for payment.
Payments made since last meeting
E. Clark (Chairmans allowance after May meeting) £47.30
Village Hall (minute 25/137) £3753.50
Payments for this meeting
Idverde (inc Bedding plants (10972608) £689.70 inc £114.95 VAT
Cloudy IT (July) invoice 12235 £83.81 including £13.97 VAT
Scribe (June) invoice (Allotments) 18981 £39.60 including £6.60. VAT
Scribe (June) invoice (Accounts) 18921 £39.60 including £6.60. VAT
Clerk's salary (June) £499.43
HMRC £156.11
Water2Business £4.54
SLCC Training (half cost) £40.25
Open Spaces Annual Subscription £45.00
War Memorial costs £64.83.
Proposed by Cllr Uncles and seconded by Cllr Jamieson. All agreed with one abstention, Cllr Clark.

26/171. Trowbridge Rugby FC
Change of Hilperton Parish Council Trustee from Cllr Clark to Cllr Bayley.

26/172. Website
Correspondence had been received from Revision 4, regarding web site revamp. Cllr Uncles said he would liaise with David Huggins as the administrator. The cost will be £4500. Proposed by Cllr Uncles and seconded by Cllr House. All agreed. This cost will be also be met by CIL money.

26/173. Meetings for councillors to consider attending.
Trowbridge Area Board – October 22nd 2026
WALC Environmental – Thursday July 23rd 12-1 (by Zoom)
WALC Councillor Training – September 3rd
October 6th Accounts training

26/174. Correspondence received.
Best Kept village stating we did not go through to next round.
Lime Down. Statutory letter.

26/175. Items for future meetings.
Bleed kits

26/176. Items for notice board or publication.
Allotment vacancies, also on social media.

26/177. Date, time, and venue for the next parish council meeting.
Tuesday September 15th **starting at 7.45pm** at Hilperton Village Hall, Whaddon Lane.

Meeting closed at 21.52

Signed …… Dated 15th September 2026.

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