

MINUTES

Meeting of Heddington Parish Council

Wednesday 11th March 2026 @ 7:30pm, Charles Willis Hall

1) To receive and approve apologies for absence and confirm the meeting is quorate:

Councillors Present: Cllr. Geoff Dickerson, Cllr. Mark Cawley, Cllr. Nick Tyler, Cllr. Lynne Sargeant, Cllr. Phil Brown, Cllr. Charlie Brown, Emma Marsh (Clerk)

Apologies: Cllr. Sally Wilkinson, Cllr. Rob Robinson. Cllr. Nick Tyler proposed to accept apologies, seconded by Cllr. Lynne Sargeant. Accepted unanimously.

Members of Public: 2

Meeting is quorate.

2) To receive declarations of interest for items on the agenda below, including Disclosable Pecuniary Interests that members may have in agenda items that accord with the requirements of the Parish Council's Code of Conduct and to consider any prior requests from members for dispensation that accord with the Localism Act 2011 Section 33(b-e). (NB this does not preclude any later declarations)

None given

3) To receive comments from members of the public – no decisions will be made on issues raised, items requiring decisions will be added to the agenda for the next meeting

The council has received an email from a member of the public requesting the villager responsible for repairing the bench by the bus stop be named. Councillors agreed that it is unwise and against national guidance to name individual residents unless they have agreed to this. The resident has been thanked in the previous meeting, and the clerk has written to thank the resident.

4) To confirm and sign the Minutes of the Parish Council Meetings held on Wednesday 14th January 2026 circulated to members prior to the meeting.

Cllr. Nick Tyler proposed to accept the minutes of the last meeting, seconded by Cllr. Charlie Brown. Agreed unanimously. The minutes were duly signed by the Chairman.

5) To discuss vacancy in Heddington Ward at Heddington Parish Council

The vacancy has been advertised as per Wiltshire Council procedures. No responses were received so vacancy can be filled by co-option. It was suggested that previous applicants be contacted and clerk to advertise vacancy on notice boards, website and Facebook. New applicants must have a Heddington connection.

Clerk

Item 14 was brought forward

14) To discuss flooding of road at "Wick Corner"

Resident of "Wick Corner" John Thompson, has produced a report concerning the flooding of road outside "Wick Corner". This was circulated with the agenda.

John reported that Wiltshire Council representative has met with him at the location, but nothing has been done since. Cllr. Mark Cawley has seen a Wiltshire Council drain vac/jetter at the location earlier this week and the ditch water did seem to be running murkier than usual which suggested something had happened. John reported that no one seems to know where the drains run and which ditches they run into. He would like a drain survey carrying out to investigate this. Cllr. Nick Tyler

suggested he needs to contact Rebecca Chivers at Wiltshire Council Highways department about this. Cllr. Nick Tyler will also send Johns report to the Parish Steward next time they are in the village.

Nick

6) Planning Applications

- a) **PL/2025/03284** – All Oaks Farm, Heddington, SN11 OPF. Erection of agricultural wooden cabin for residential use and wooden storage unit – Retrospective
No update from Planning Officer
- b) **PL/2026/01055** - 3 Hillside Close, Heddington, Calne, SN11 OPZ. Holm Oak tree - removal of dead/dying sections
Already approved under 5-day notice.

7) Finance & Accounts

- a) Treasurers Account
 - i) Invoices Received
 - Jan – Countrywide £234.05
 - Octopus Energy £36.40
 - Grist £8.40
 - Hills Waste £24.78
 - Wiltshire Council £103.65
 - Bank Charges £4.25
 - Amps Electrical £140.30
 - Feb – Wages £516.94
 - Octopus Energy £33.52
 - Window Cleaner £15.00
 - Grist £8.40
 - Hills Waste £24.78
 - Bank Charges £4.25
- b) Amenity Land Account
 - i) Credits Received
 - Jan – Interest £5.10
 - Feb - Interest £4.52
- c) Balance Of Accounts
 - Second Poors House - £500.00
 - Heddington Charities - £8,594.56
 - Treasurers Account – Heddington Parish Council £21,355.16
 - Treasurers Account – Land Fund £10,011.41

All accepted.

Cllr. Mark Cawley reported that Countrywide has notified him of a 5% (roughly £10 per cut) increase in charges from April. Cllr. Geoff Dickerson proposed accepting increase, seconded by Cllr. Lynne Sargeant. Agreed unanimously.

8) Review and discuss future maintenance and expenditure of Heddington Recreation Ground and to discuss new Five-Year Maintenance Plan.

Cllr. Geoff Dickerson reported that Lappset were the original installer and they have now closed their operations in the UK. Cllr. Geoff Dickerson was finally referred to a company in Melksham who have previously completed work in the recreation ground. They would be happy to visit the site to give recommendations and quotes.

Cllr. Lynne Sargeant volunteered to be the lead contact for this. As a point of interest Cllr. Lynne Sargeant had found an old quote from 2019. £625 to clear and install new soil under roundabout and install new mats. Cllr. Nick Tyler is also happy to be involved in this project.

Lynne

9) To discuss car park lighting and bollard replacement quote

Cllr. Rob Robinson had previously circulated a quote from WEC (£3,600 + VAT) to replace all bollards, electrics and install new control panel. Cllr. Geoff Dickerson has asked Cllr. Rob Robinson to get 3 quotes for like for like comparison.

Cllr. Geoff Dickerson also suggested once installed adding protection in front of the bollards to prevent them being knocked by cars. Cllr. Mark Cawley suggested we should investigate solar powered replacements. These would have to work in the winter when sunlight levels were low. Cllr. Rob Robinson to continue investigating options.

Rob

10) To discuss use of additional funding due to boundary changes

No additional funding needs have been identified in Stockley.

11) Report on Village Spring Clean which will take place on Saturday 11th April

Idverde to supply and deliver equipment to Cllr. Geoff Dickerson and collect rubbish after event. Cllrs. Lynne Sargeant and Phil Brown will be coordinators for Heddington and Stockley respectively. Clerk to advertise event in The Villages magazine, website and Facebook.

Clerk

12) To discuss the proposed closure of recycling facilities at Lower Compton

Cllr. Mark Cawley reported that he has attended the public meeting held by Calne Area Board to discuss the closure. The main outcomes were:

- Compton Bassett site will remain open on a year-by-year extension
- Compton Bassett won't close until new site opens
- New site will possibly be at Wootton Bassett run by Wiltshire Council
- New food curb side collections will begin in 2027
- All residents to receive a survey in March 2026
- Household collections will move to 3 weekly, food collections fortnightly, and recycling fortnightly
- New flexible plastics collections will be in 2027

13) To discuss the creation of a Neighbourhood Plan for Heddington Parish Council or inclusion of Heddington Parish Council within the Calne Community Neighbourhood Plan (as a whole) and Stockley Wards current inclusion in the Calne Community Neighbourhood Plan

Clerk reported that Stockley is currently included in the Calne Community Neighbourhood Plan. We have been asked if we would like this to continue. Cllr. Mark Cawley proposed not creating a new plan for Heddington and Stockley to be removed from Calne Plan, seconded by Cllr. Lynne Sargeant. Agreed unanimously.

14) As above

15) Roads, Footpaths & Hedges

a) Parish Steward Update

Parish steward is still on pothole duties across the county. Cllr. Nick Tyler reported that the road across the top of the hill is bad currently and is collapsing in places. He will report to Steve Leonard at Wiltshire Council.

16) Parish Matters

a) Phone Box Repainting

Cllrs. Phil Brown and Charlie Brown have investigated this. They propose cutting the hedge back around the box and giving it a clean. This may highlight how much work will be needed on the paintwork.

17) Parish Council Admin

- a) Link Councillor Updates – No updates
- b) Clerks Report – The bin at Stockley is overflowing again. Clerk has contacted Grist Environmental and they are due to empty on 12th March. If not emptied then, clerk to chase.

Clerk

18) To note agenda items for the next Parish Council Meeting

Next meeting is the Annual Meeting of the Parish Council followed by Parish Council Meeting.
Election of new Councillor to Heddington Ward.

Meeting closed at 8.16pm

END OF MINUTES

Future Meeting Dates: 13th May 2026
 8th July 2026
 9th September 2026
 11th November 2026