HOLLINGTON PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of Ordinary Meeting

Held on: Monday 12th January 2026 at 7:30 pm

At: The Red Lion Public House, Hollington DE6 3HA

Present: Cllr Chris Ward, Cllr Paul Merkens, Cllr Fiona Jordan, Cllr Malcolm Feltwell, Cllr Mike Critchley

Peter Bambury (Clerk)

County Cllr Steve Bull

There were no public attendees

1. Apologies for Absence

None

2. Declaration of Interests

None

3. Public Speaking

None

4. Approval of previous minutes

The minutes of the Ordinary Meeting of the Parish Council held on 10th November 2025 were approved. Clerk to update website. Action: Clerk

5. Exclusion of the public

No matters on the agenda were identified that would necessitate exclusion of any member of the public that were to join during the course of the meeting.

6. Matters arising from previous meetings

(a) Councillor Ward had not been able to download data from the SIDs over the Christmas period due to a connectivity problem. A different approach will be attempted and when this is successful, a regular periodic regime of data extraction will be implemented. In the meantime, it was agreed that the SID at post no. 1 will be relocated post no. 2 and that at post no. 3 will be relocated to post no. 4.

(b) No progress had been made with regard to the damaged village name signs. To move forward, Cllr Feltwell will make an assessment of each one and report at the next meeting. Cllr Jordan will also obtain the relevant What3Words addresses at each location. Action: Cllr Feltwell, Cllr Jordan

(c) Cllr Ward had purchased 6 bags of grit for the grit bins and will make an assessment of which bins need topping up. Cllr Ward presented an invoice for the purchase which was approved for payment. Action: Clerk

(d) All gratuities had now been delivered and had been gratefully received.

(e) Following the Parish Council's consultation response regarding the planning application for development at Paradise Cottage on Back Lane, improvements had been made to some of the defects that had existed on the road.

7. Biodiversity and Nature Action Planning

Further sightings of barn owls had been made although it was not certain which of the boxes they were using. The boxes are shortly to be cleared out of debris.

The swallow boxes still hadn't been used although this was to be expected for the first two years following installation.

A leaflet drop will be made to houses to share information on hedgehog welfare and to promote the use of hedgehog highways. It was noted that new fences that had recently been installed in the area had made no provision for this and that the situation could be improved with better awareness.

The Clerk to post copies of the leaflets on the website. Action: Clerk

8. Neighbourhood Watch Scheme & Social Group

The NWS Whatsapp Group had now been closed pending the appointment of a new co-ordinator as a replacement to Cllr Jordan. Cllr Jordan will remain in the role until an appointment is made.

In order to avoid the high bank charges that the Social Group was currently facing, the Parish Council had been asked to hold and manage the Social Group's funds. It was proposed by Cllr Ward, seconded by Cllr Jordan and agreed unanimously that this be agreed on the following conditions:

- Social Committee funds would be held in the Parish Council's Lloyds Bank Commercial Instant account in order to ensure adequate ring fencing.

- Requests by the Social Group for payments to be made would be authorised in the same way as those of the Parish Council. That is, payment would need to be approved by at least two councillors and reported at the following Parish Council Meeting. Cllr Merkens to arrange for the current Social Group funds to be released to the Clerk for deposit. Action: Cllr Merkens

9. Chicken Farm

Concerns had been raised regarding continuing odours that were emanating from the chicken farm. The farm had received a visit previously from Environmental Health but this had failed to resolve the issue. Cllr Bull offered to obtain the contact point for a further report to be made if the Clerk would write to him to request this. Action: Clerk

10. Finance

(a) The current Finance Management Report and account balance were noted.

(b) Payments that had been made since the last meeting and which were itemised on the meeting agenda were noted.

(c) Adoption of the Local Government salary award for 2025-26 was agreed. Clerk to advise Libra Business Essentials. Action: Clerk

(d) Expenditure budget levels for 2026-27 were determined and approved.

(e) The approved budget levels determined that a precept of £2730 would be required, which had limited the increase on the previous year to 2.9%. This was approved unanimously. Clerk to submit application to Derbyshire Dales District Council. Action: Clerk

11. Other business

It was agreed that a litter pick would be held before the end of the financial year and a provisional date of 22nd March was set. Cllr Feltwell to make the necessary arrangements. Action: Cllr Feltwell

12. Date of next meeting

To be held at 7:30pm Monday 16th March 2026 at The Red Lion PH, Main Street, Hollington. Clerk to post notice on website. Action: Clerk

The meeting closed at 8.45pm