HOLLINGTON PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of Ordinary Meeting

Held on: Monday 14th September 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 Mike Critchley, Cllr Malcolm Feltwell

Peter Bambury (Clerk)

District Cllr Geoff Bond

There were no public attendees

1. Apologies for Absence

County Cllr Steve Bull

2. Declaration of Interests

None

3. Public Speaking

None

4. Approval of previous minutes

The minutes of the Annual Meeting of the Parish Council held on 13th July 2026 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) SIDs

Cllr Ward had written to Derbyshire County Council several times regarding the damaged SID post but had received no reply.

Meanwhile the Clerk had obtained written confirmation from Zurich Municipal that the required work to replace the post would be covered by the Parish Council's insurance policy.

It was suggested that the cost of a new post would probably be in the region of £40 and that if the required labour could be obtained on a volunteer basis, it may not be cost effective to make an insurance claim due the implications for the policy premium.

Cllr Ward will continue to pursue the County Council and if possible also obtain an alternative quotation. Action: Cllr Ward

(b) Village and road name signage

The damaged signs had previously been reported but no response had been received from Derbyshire County Council.

A parishioner had now written to the Parish Council to inform of two of the damaged signs. (Item 8 of the meeting agenda).

Reports submitted to Derbyshire County Council in respect of a damaged footbridge (Item 6(c) below) had also not been responded to.

The following was agreed:

(i) Cllr Jordan would report again to County Cllr Steve Bull to request that he pursues; Action: Cllr Jordan

(ii) District Cllr Geoff Bond would make enquiries to determine if the District Council had any responsibility regarding the footbridge;

(iii) The Clerk would respond to the parishioner advising of the previous action of the Parish Council and to request that he makes an independent submission through the "Report a road fault" feature of the County Council website. Action: Clerk

(c) Damaged local footbridge

See item 6(b) above.

(d) VAT reclaim

The Clerk had submitted an online application to HMRC to claim back VAT payments that the Parish Council had made. This had been done in respect of the financial years 2023-24, 2024-25 and 2025-26.

The claim had been successful and a refund of £1875.99 had now been received.

It was agreed that VAT reclaims would now be done annually as part of the Parish Council's financial management process.

(e) Poultry farm

District Cllr Geoff Bond had reported to DDDC Environmental Health the problem of flies on 3 occasions. Inspections had been carried out following these reports but no evidence of infestation had been found. Cllr Bond agreed to enquire with Environmental Health again.

(f) Litter signage

Three 'No Litter' signs had been installed in the village but it was not clear if these were having any effect.

It was agreed that Cllr Ward would post on the village Whatsapp group a question seeking local opinion on this in order to inform on whether the signs should be kept in place. Action: Cllr Ward

7. Biodiversity and Nature Action Planning

Reports on the achievements and future plans of the Biodiversity Group, and of the locations of its various resources, had been received and was noted.

It was agreed that in its current form this would not be made publicly available.

Cllr Jordan to produce a summary version that could be publicised. Action: Cllr Jordan

8. Correspondence received

See Item 6(b) of these minutes.

9. Litter pick

Agreed that this would be held on Saturday 7th November.

10. Road salt bins

With winter approaching , it was noted that 4 bags of road salt were currently held.

Cllr Ward was authorised to make additional purchases as required.

11. Revised NJC pay scales for Parish Clerks

Agreed that the new pay scales, which provided an increase of 3.3% on current rates, be adopted. Clerk to notify Libra Business Essentials. Action: Clerk

12. Finance

(a) The current Finance Management Report and account balances were noted. The Clerk advised that the current bank balance was now £6209.82 due to the recently received VAT reclaim.

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

It was agreed that future payments that had been made from the Biodiversity budget would be separately itemised.

13. Other business

Authority was given to the Clerk for payment of a recently received invoice for £86.40 from Libra Business Essentials for quarterly payroll services. Action: Clerk

14. Date of next meeting

To be held at 7:30pm Monday 9th November 2026 at The Red Lion PH, Main Street, Hollington. Clerk to post notice on website. Action: Clerk

The meeting closed at 8.20pm