

The Parish Council of Hockley Heath

Minutes of the ordinary Hockley Heath Parish Council Meeting held on **Thursday 16 July 2026** at the Pavilion, Hockley Heath Recreation Ground, Old Warwick Road, Solihull, B94 6HH.

Present: Cllr McDougall (Chair), Cllr Quinton, Cllr Palmer, Cllr Batchelor

Clerk: Clare Wood

Public Attendees: 3 members of the public were present

54/26 Apologies and Acceptance of Apologies

54/26.1 Apologies were received from MP Saqib Bhatti, Cllr Jones, Cllr Tomlinson and Cllr Whitehouse.

55/26 Declarations of Interest

55/26.1 Cllr Quinton declared she is treasurer of the Hockley Heath Social Club on a voluntary basis.

56/26 Public Open Forum

56/26.1 Representation was received from a member of the public seeking the Council's support in progressing initial work to explore the potential for a conservation area and the identification of heritage sites within Hockley Heath. The Council noted the request and agreed to support further work and progress on this matter.

57/26 Minutes of the ordinary Hockley Heath Parish Council meeting held on Thursday 18 June 2026

57/26.1 It was noted that Cllr Quinton did not propose Item 37/26.

57/26.2 Subject to the amendment, it was resolved that the minutes were an accurate record; the minutes were duly signed by Cllr McDougall.

Proposed: Cllr Batchelor, Seconded: Cllr Palmer

58/26 Planning Applications

58/26.1 **PL/2026/01046/PPOL – Land North of Kineton Lane, Hockley Heath, Solihull** - Outline planning permission (all matters reserved except for site accesses) for employment development (Use Classes E(g)(iii), B2 and B8) with ancillary offices and associated earthworks, infrastructure, open space, landscaping and drainage.

Action: Clerk to submit the Parish Councils' objection to the proposal based on:

- 1) Solihull Local Plan non-allocation;**
- 2) A3400 strategic road junction; and**
- 3) M42 capacity constraints.**

59/26 Planning Application Decisions

59/26.1 The Council received and reviewed the report showing decisions made on applications where the Parish Council is a statutory consultee.

60/26 Football Association Grant for Pitch Related Works at the Recreation Ground

60/26.1 The Council discussed the recent Football Association report following an inspection of the park with a representative from Hockley Heath Football Club (HHFC). It was noted that HHFC were eligible to apply for funding, either independently, jointly with the Parish Council or via an application submitted by the Parish Council as landowner.

60/26.2 The Parish Council approved that HHFC may apply to the Football Association to receive a grant delivered over a six-year, staged funding programme, for pitch-related improvements at the Recreation Ground.

60/26.3 HHFC will liaise with the Clerk to establish a Service Level Agreement.

Proposed: Cllr Quinton, Seconded: Cllr Palmer

61/26 Football Use 2026/2027

61/26.1 The Clerk provided the Council with the pitch plan for HHFC for the forthcoming season. The pitch plan and six pitches were approved for hire by HHFC.

The Parish Council of Hockley Heath

- 61/26.2 As in previous years, the Parish Council approved that net grounds maintenance costs be passed to Hockley Heath Football Club (HHFC) for the maintenance of the Recreation Ground for football-related activities.
- 61/26.2 The Council approved the hire fees for the adult pitch, to be shared by Birmingham Bohemians and Dynamos.
- 62/26**
Hockley Heath Neighbourhood Plan
- 62/26.1 Cllr Quinton provided an update on the most recent meeting held on Monday 13 July 2026. A new member had joined the Steering Group and a member of the KDBH Forum had also been in attendance to offer advice and support.
- 62/26.2 Draft chapters had been written for environment, the introduction and education. Andrew (KDBH) had kindly offered to review the paragraphs and provide feedback.
- 62/26.3 It was agreed that the Clerk would insert the draft chapters into one document and circulate to the group for review and in preparation for discussion at the next meeting.
- 62/26.4 The Clerk to contact planning consultants to establish costs in relation to a future draft plan being reviewed.
- 62/26.5 Members were asked to provide their availability in weeks commencing 10 August and 24 August for the next meeting to be held.
- 63/26**
Soakaway Quotes
- 63/26.1 Councillors were provided with three quotations for installation of a soakaway near the MUGA to help alleviate flooding over wetter periods. Councillors approved the quotation from Parkway Ground Maintenance Limited in the sum of £1,350.
- Proposed: Cllr Quinton, Seconded: Cllr Palmer**
- Action:** Clerk to progress the works with the contractor.
- 64/26**
Terms and Conditions of Hire (for casual and regular hire)
- 64/26.1 The Parish Council approved the additional paragraphs to be inserted into the hire agreements relating to non-payment of hire fees after the contracted 30-day invoice period, and the advertising of events prior to receipt of the hire fee and formal confirmation of the booking by the Parish Council.
- Proposed: Cllr Quinton, Seconded: Cllr Palmer**
- 65/26**
Environment Committee Meeting
- 65/26.1 The Council noted the recent Environment Committee Meeting:
Planter Watering - Councillors noted the quality and timing of the watering of the planters on Stratford Road by the Grounds Maintenance Contractors.
- 65/26.2 School Road traffic concerns – Councillors noted traffic concerns on School Road following the recent approval of the planning application for development on land to the south of School Road for up to 99 dwellings.
- 65/26.3 The Council did not wish to consider pursuing a 20mph speed limit through the village at this time.
- 66/26**
Pavilion Lettings Report
- 66/26.1 The lettings report on the operation of the Pavilion during June 2026 was received and reviewed by the Parish Council.
- 67/26**
Correspondence
- 67/26.1 **Laurel hedge concern** — A member of the public whose property boundary adjoins the Parish Council's car park entrance raised concern about the height of the laurel hedge. The Clerk advised that the hedge will be cut back outside bird nesting season (from October onwards) in line with the Council's adopted Tree and Hedge Policy.
- 67/26.2 **Proposed development East of Park View** — The land agent contacted the Parish Council to discuss the proposal. They declined an invitation to attend the July meeting and indicated they would consult with residents prior to any formal application being submitted
- 67/26.3 **Newsletter delivery issue** — The Newsletter distributor reported that a resident had been unwilling to allow access for delivery, although a neighbouring property

The Parish Council of Hockley Heath

permitted access. The resident later left a voicemail with the Parish Council, but despite repeated call-backs, contact could not be made.

67/26.4 **Repair Café arrangements** — A date is to be agreed for the next Parish Council Repair Café, expected to take place in September 2026.

67/26.5 **Drop-In Café enquiry** — A resident made enquiries regarding the volunteer-led Drop-In Café and was asked to contact the Parish Council via its official channels (email or phone).

68/26 Monthly Finance Report

68/26.1 In line with the Statement of Internal Control for Finance for the Parish Council, Councillors were provided with financial reports on the accounts to June 2026.

69/26 First Quarter Financial Records Check

69/26.1 This item was deferred and will be considered at the next meeting.

Action: Item to be placed on September 2026 Agenda

70/26 Payment Arrangements for August 2026

70/26.1 The Parish Council does not meet in August. It was resolved that the Clerk would process all invoices, and the payments would be authorised online by two Councillors at the end of August 2026.

Proposed: Cllr Batchelor, Seconded: Cllr Palmer

71/26 Finance

71/26.1 The following payments were agreed and approved. It was agreed that Councillors Quinton and McDougall would authorise the payments through the online banking system:

Main Account	Net	VAT	Total
Fairways July 2026 grounds maintenance	£1,831.25	£366.25	£2,197.50
Octopus Energy gas and electricity 25/05/2026 – 24/06/2026 (DD)	£123.59	£6.18	£129.77
Lloyds Bank (Unity Trust commercial multi-pay card statement) – includes Pavilion supplies, mobile phone monthly fee, monthly card fee (DD)	£45.80	£8.56	£54.36
BT Broadband 01/07/2026 – 31/07/2026 (DD)	£38.94	£7.79	£46.73
Waterplus Statement 07/06/2026 – 07/07/2026 (DD)	£42.32	£0.00	£42.32
J. Campbell cleaning for July 2026	£350.00	£0.00	£350.00
J. Collins security gates for July 2026 (SO)	£600.00	£0.00	£600.00
Clerk Expenses July 2026	£27.38	£2.06	£29.44
Solihull MBC (Christmas Lights 2026 invoice)	£3,469.00	£693.80	£4,162.80
Information Commissioners Office annual subscription fee (DD)	£47.00	£0.00	£47.00
King George VI Bowling Club Grant	£500.00	£0.00	£500.00
Parish Council Websites 35% Deposit	£262.15	£0.00	£314.58
KTW Tree Services (tree survey report)	£525.00	£105.00	£630.00

* Please note that additional payments may be authorised on the evening following councillors' decisions

The following invoices were received after publication of the July Agenda:

Hollywood Home Improvements (fix storage door in hall and display signage in children's play area)	£110.00	£0.00	£110.00
KD – Newsletter Delivery	£60.00	£0.00	£60.00

The following Pavilion hall casual hirer refundable deposit was returned:

JD – Pavilion hall hire - Saturday 4 July 2026	£150.00
--	---------

The following regular hall user deposit to be returned:

Speakeasy Therapy Ltd (Wednesday 13:30 to 15:30)	£75.00
--	--------

The following July 2026 payments were confidential to the Parish Council and not published in the agenda or minutes:

The Parish Council of Hockley Heath

Clerks Salary July 2026 (SO)
HMRC July 2026 payments via Warwickshire CAVA
July 2026 NEST pension employer and employee

The bank charges apply monthly:

Unity Trust debit card (administered by Lloyds Bank) – as above	£3.00
Unity Trust current account monthly service charge	£7.00

All payments approved.

Proposed: Cllr Palmer, Seconded: Cllr Batchelor

72/26 Councillor's Reports

- 72/26.1 The Councillor who attended the Inspectorate Appeal hearing (Planning Reference: PL/2025/01366/PPOL, Appeal Reference: AP/2026/00007/REF) in relation to Land West of Stratford Road provided an update. The decision had not been made by the Inspectorate at the time of the meeting.
- 72/26.2 The Council had collected the flags and flagpole keys, the list of dates for flying the flags to be circulated to the Council by the Clerk.

73/26 Clerk's Report

- 73/26.1 Adult goal posts are being refinished in time for the start of the next football season at a cost of £215.00.
- 73/26.2 Quarterly Highways Meeting – the Next quarterly Highways meeting with Solihull Council is scheduled for Wednesday 22 July at 10.00am. Cllr Batchelor will join the online meeting.
- 73/26.3 The Clerk updated the Council on a few initial teething problems and missed watering sessions by the Grounds Maintenance Contractors after the issue had been highlighted. Following liaison with the contractor, the Clerk received the watering schedule for the remainder of July and August.
- 73/26.4 The Clerk provided an update on ongoing communication with Highways regarding the blocked drain at the entrance to the Recreation Ground car park and the overgrown hedgerow adjacent to the woodland boundary on the Old Warwick Road. Highways have confirmed that the drain will be cleaned and jetted. Confirmation of the timetable for cutting back the vegetation on the Old Warwick Road is still awaited.
- 73/26.5 The Council were updated regarding an unpaid invoice for hire of the Recreation Ground week commencing Monday 27 July. The clerk would put an immediate stop on hire of the Pavilion and/or Recreation Ground if the hirer failed to pay invoices within the contracted period stated on the invoices.

51/26 Date of Next Meeting

- 51/26.1 The next meeting of the Parish Council is scheduled for Thursday 17 September 2026 at 7.00pm; there is no Parish Council meeting held in August.

Meeting Closed at 21:00pm