

HALFORD PARISH COUNCIL Minutes

Meeting held on 22nd October 2025 at The Bridge Inn, Halford at 6.30 p.m.
Meeting closed 7.35 p.m.

Present:

Cllrs Luther, Newell and Gale (Chair)

Clerk: Karen Parnell

Ten members of the public were present

Resignation of a parish councillor: Mark Arthur has resigned with immediate effect. SDC will be notified of the vacancy which will be publicised on the noticeboard.

1. Apologies

SDC Cllr Malcolm Littlewood

2. Declaration of Interests Councillors are asked to declare personal interests in any items on the agenda. Councillors are reminded that the code of conduct that took effect from May 2021 provides that should they have a prejudicial interest in any matter under discussion, they should withdraw from the room and not seek to influence a decision about the matter.

None

3. Approval of minutes of meeting held in September 2025

Minutes having been circulated were confirmed as an accurate record of the meeting held in September 2025 and were duly signed by the chairman.

4. Democratic 15 minutes

Speeding on Mill Lane was noted. PC Chairman and resident to liaise on potential solutions.

5. Matters arising and new matters

A) Village Maintenance

Removal of the dog rose and two grasses and levelling off and the cutting to ground level the shrubs along the fence in the playground will be facilitated.

Ivy growing over the bus shelter will also be removed.

A broken footpath sign in the snicket was noted.

B) Information on design of properties at the Development along the Idlicote Road with TAG Properties.

Simon Tate outlined plans for a development of 15 houses all of a similar type. They would be timber framed and energy efficient. Many trees would be planted but established poplars would need to be removed.

Landscaping and transportation of the homes on a weak road were discussed. Sewage was a concern as was electricity provision through a substation and broadband. The design code was explained and the need to preserve the habitat of bats noted.

C) To set the precept for 2026/27

The budget and finance were discussed

Proposed Cllr Gale Seconded Cllr Newell – Agreed at £ 7200.00

6. Planning

Application(s) reference: 25/02063/LDE

Proposed : Certificate of Lawful Existing Use in respect of the occupation of Willows Farm for

a continuous period in excess of 10 years and in breach of the Agricultural Occupancy Condition applied as condition (5) of Outline Planning Permission (ref: 02/00865/OUT)

At : Willow Farm, Fosse Way, Ettington, Stratford-upon-Avon CV37 7PG

For : Mr And Mrs Cunnane

Application(s) reference: 25/02194/TREE

Proposed : T1 cherry - fell

T2 scotts pine - remove lowest limb extending over adjacent brick wall

T3 magnolia - coppice tree removing 3 metres of growth

T4 magnolia - coppice tree removing 3 metres of growth

T5 apple - pollard tree removing 3 metres of growth

T6 apple - pollard tree removing 3 metres of growth

T7 apple - pollard tree removing 3 metres of growth

At : Cobblestones, Mill Lane, Halford, Shipston-on-Stour CV36 5BY

For : Mr Thomas Beeson

7. Payments

Karen Parnell (Salary/Expenses) £ 500.00 Royal British Legion £ 50.00

Bank Charges £ 23.00 Narked Limited (Website) £ 253.00 Japonica Pride

£ 63.00 Kev's Garden Services £ 400.00

Receipts: Precept 50% £ 3600.00

8. District Councillor's Report - Cllr Malcolm Littlewood

1. Planning

1.1 "Have your say in the future of our councils" – Consultation update
Have your say in the future of our councils! Local government reorganisation was conducted as I reported in my August supplementary report. The consensus across all of Warwickshire from those individuals and organisations that completed the questionnaire was for a two Unitary Authorities (UA), North Warwickshire and South Warwickshire, with South Warwickshire consisting of Stratford on Avon District and Warwick District Council geographies. If this is agreed by Central Government, this would mean the abolition of the five District and Borough Councils as well as the Warwickshire County Council. Final submissions from Councils must be submitted by the 28th of November by which time all six councils must provide an unanimously agreed plan.

1.2 Welfare and Support

In Warwickshire Child and Adult Social Care and SEND account for a major part of annual budget.

These services, along with other statutory services will be provided by either a Single UA or the Two UAs. Reports indicate that because the needs of the populations in North and South Warwickshire are significantly different in terms of demand and need, significant savings can be made.

2. SDC Finances & Resources

2.1 At the end of August budgets for project spends in the coming 2026/27 will start to be developed. This will take time for both Officers and members in the

coming months. As an opposition we will be offering proposals that will seek to improve life and increase opportunities for residents in the District, both in the rural Centres and the wider communities. I would be very happy to receive any suggestions for projects from PCs in my Ward that will enhance and protect local communities.

2.2 A Community Grant Fund was put into the budget for 2025/26 but has only just been released and criteria for granting published. In the name of remembrance of VE & VJ days, the fund is available for bids for local assets and spaces.

Meeting closed: 7.35pm

9. Date of next meeting: 7th January 2026 (The Bridge Inn)

Signed: Chairman on 7th January 2026.....