

HENBURY PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of the Parish Council meeting held on Wednesday 12th November 2025, 7.30 pm at St Thomas Church Hall.

Part 1 Public and Press present

Present

Councillor Mike Wood MW (Chair)
Councillor David Nuttall DN (Vice Chair)
Councillor Simon Browne SB
Councillor Janet Bailey JB
Cllr Lesley Smetham LS (Cheshire East)
Sue Loxham-Clerk SL

No members of the public were present.

Public Forum

25/93 Apologies for absence

Cllr Jane Beeken unable to attend due to a medical issue

25/94 Declarations of Interest

Cllr SB is a member of the Millennium Green Committee

25/95 Minutes of last meeting

Resolved that the minutes of the Parish council meeting held on 1st October 2025 be approved and signed as a true and accurate record. (Proposed Cllr DN & seconded by Cllr JB)

25/96 PCSO/Beat Managers Report

No report was received prior to the meeting

25/97 Cheshire East (CE)

Cllr LS reported on the following

- CE planning has started the process to renew the Local plan.
Henbury is named in the Call for Sites section, namely land between the Bellway development, Whirley School, Church Lane and Chelford Rd has been included. This had been proposed previously and was rejected as there should be a gap between Henbury and other areas.
The land behind Henbury Rise has also been put forward
- CEC has been served with a "Notice of Best Value" by the government

25/98 Status Update on Major Development.

Cllr MW meeting with Jones/Redrow regarding the A537 road works was disappointing. There will be no provision for Henbury residents to get through the road closure. This will impact those receiving food deliveries, home help services or in a medical emergency. Cllr Nick Mannion focussed on maintaining the bus routes. Work starts Easter Monday but there appears to be no fines in place if the work over runs.

The full road closure will be on top of 14 weeks of temporary closures linked to the same work. United Utilities also have a planned road closure on the route from Birtles Bends to Macclesfield and the Flora development will have temporary road closure outside the site on A537 in January.

It was noted that the Cock Inn and surrounding car parks are up for sale.

25/99 Highways & Road Safety

Cllr MW reported that Andrew Hall (AH) Flora development has asked for the 30mph speed restriction to be temporarily moved so that it starts at the Henbury gates and not just passed Church Lane, as at present. This would be welcome, especially as there have been 2 accidents in the last month on A357 close to Henbury.

25/100 Flood Risk

Cllr DN said that there has been no flooding at substation and the surrounding area, despite the heavy rain. The drain appears to be working.

Cllr LS had no further updates. There is still no action by either Mr Mitchell or Bellway to rectify the flooding issue.

25/101 Utility suppliers

Cllr MW updated on the situation

- Electricity supply – Scottish Power have undertaken some tree work around Henbury so reducing the chance of any outage due to falling branches.
- Water Supply – UU plans to start the necessary water valve replacement work in January. By the end of November Cllr MW will receive confirmation when the work will begin.

25/102 Footpaths

It was agreed to use some CIL monies to improve the footpaths from the back of Henbury Rise to the kissing gate and from the gate around Roe Cottage towards Anderton Lane. Cllrs MW & DN would walk the paths and circulate pictures of the areas in need of improvement.

25/103 CIL money usage

See above

25/104 Lower Church Hall car park

It was agreed to cease further grounds maintenance on the site. The council would reconsider once the Church has arranged for the safe removal of asbestos.

25/105 Millennium Green Trust

Cllr SB reported that the Bonfire had been very successful with ~600 people attending. The music and extra lighting were well received. He wanted to acknowledge the commitment and hard work involved to make it such a success. The Trustees put in over 120 volunteer hours and other members of the community, including the Scouts, put in another ~100 hours.

He also reported that Volunteers from AZ helping with the maintenance of the Green may become a regular annual day.

A Summer Event may be held.

The Council agreed to increase the grant to the Millennium Green from £1500 to £1800 (it has not increased for several years). Cllr SB did not participate in the conversion.

Item 25/109 was discussed at this point as Cllr JB had to leave.

Cllr JB left at 9pm.

25/106 Village Housekeeping

- Environmental projects: Cllr SB reported he has been able to secure AZ volunteers to help with the hedge planting, which means more hedging plants will be needed. Mersey Forest project is happy to support this additional work, and the council will support the additional funding. The gap caused by the accident near the church car park will be planted too.
- Christmas tree: Cllr DN reported that it will arrive on 27th November and be erected in the first week of December
- Road surface: Cllr DN expressed concern regarding the state of the road surface at the top of Church Lane junctions of Pepper St and Dark Ln

25/107 Accounts

Balance of CIL account = £20,485.31

Payments received = none

Balance of Main account = £61,908.25 (bank @ 15:43 04/11/25)

Total Bank charges from 1/4 to 31/10 = £14.85

26/09/2025	DT Village Greens	£220.00
30/09/2025	Bank charges	£2.45
02/10/2025	STE Waste bin quarterly	£81.90
07/10/2025	TCS Management	£64.80
09/10/2025	SL Remembrance wreath	£50.00
13/10/2025	Millennium Green Grant	£1,500.00
16/10/2025	HMRC September	£65.40
16/10/2025	SL Salary September	£287.80
17/10/2025	Xmas tree + postage stamp	£85.87
20/10/2025	DN mileage Xmas tree order	£20.25
28/10/2025	DT Village Greens	£220.00
31/10/2025	Bank charges	£2.10
04/11/2025	DT Village Greens & leaf collection	£110.00

Resolved the above payments be approved and signed for as a true and accurate record.

25/108 Proposed Budget & Precept

Although the budget had been circulated prior to the meeting it was not discussed in detail as Cllr MW had raised concerns with CE regarding Henbury's 2026/27 Taxbase. Despite being told that the number of houses in Henbury remain the same, the Taxbase had fallen by 61 points i.e. in 25/26= 438.4 to 376.83 in 26/27. No decision could be taken until this is resolved. The budget will be discussed at the next meeting.

25/109 Planning Applications

13 Residents' objections to 25/3563/FUL to the Clerk were noted.

25/110 Clerk's Report / Parish Council Housekeeping

To note the dates for next year's meeting 2026

- Wednesday 14th January at 7.30pm

- Wednesday 18th March at 7.30pm
- Wednesday 20th May at 7.00pm (+ Annual Village meeting)
- Wednesday 15th July at 7.30pm
- Wednesday 9th September at 7.30pm
- Wednesday 11th November at 7.30pm

The next meeting will be on Wednesday 14th January 2026 @7.30pm

Meeting closed at 9.23pm