

**Minutes of the meeting of Sandymoor Parish Council
held 22nd January 2026 at Hazlehurst, Acton's Wood Lane**

Part A

Present

Cllr S Mahon, Chair, T Willett, Vice-Chair, M Graves, C Lowe, B Schon and J Secker.
Arthur Neil, Clerk, Louise Irvine, RFO

Two members of the public

1/1/26 Apologies for absence

Apologies were received from Cllrs S Hurst and P Wright

2/1/26 Declarations of Interest

Cllr Lowe declared an interest in any matters relating to the Academy. The Clerk declared an interest in any matters relating to Northwich Town Council.

3/1/26 Minutes of the meeting held on 18th December 2025

These were approved as a correct record and signed by the Chair.

4/1/26 Community Engagement.

The Clerk referred members to an email received from a member of the public which was being dealt with by Borough Councillors and the PCSO.

5/1/26 PCSO report.

The PCSO had been unable to attend

6/1/26 Clerk's Report

The Council received the Clerk's written report and noted progress with HBC re the Art Trail and Village Green.

7/1/26 Policy Reviews

The Council approved the proposed update to the Procurement Policy and agreed that in the event of any conflicts of policy the Financial Regulations would be the overriding policy

Signed.....Chair 26th February 2026

8/1/26 Working Group updates

No Working Groups had met since the last meeting.

9/1/26 Borough Council Report including Highways issues

None of the Borough Councillors was present

10/1/26 Planning Applications

There were no planning applications but members were reminded that they had had notification re the Lymm Neighbourhood plan and how to comment if they so desired

11/1/26 Accounts for payment

The following payments were approved

| Name | Description | Ex VAT | VAT | Total |
|------------------------|---------------------------------------|----------------|-------------|----------------|
| Staff | Salaries | 1470.67 | 0.00 | 1470.67 |
| HMRC | Employer Tax & NI Payments | 371.95 | 0.00 | 371.95 |
| Cheshire Pensions | Employer Pension Payment | 150.15 | 0.00 | 150.15 |
| A L Neil | Expenses | 18.00 | 0.00 | 18.00 |
| L A Irvine | Expenses | 0.00 | 0.00 | 0.00 |
| Microsoft | Office 365 Package | 24.99 | 5.00 | 29.99 |
| Age Concern Mid Mersey | Grant Application (Dec 2025 Minutes) | 250.00 | 0.00 | 250.00 |
| Cambridge BS | Transfer to Sink Fund Savings Account | 3436.82 | 0.00 | 3436.82 |
| | Totals | 5722.58 | 5.00 | 5727.58 |

Signed Chair 26th February 2026

12/1/26 Finance Report

The RFO gave the following report on the financial position of the council:

Current Account:

Precept: £6,860.11

Excess POS Dividends (In Current A/C): £14,281.33

Sink Fund Dividends & Rent (In Current A/C): £3,436.82

Total: £24,578.26

Savings Accounts:

General Reserves in Co-op Savings Account: £52,190.40

POS Money in Charity Account: £55,532.26

Sink Fund Money in Cambridge Account: £42,387.16

Precept Money in Unity Account: £20,282.87

Precept Money in Hinkley & Rugby Account: £20,204.06

Current Account Income & Outgoings: (15th December 2025 - 19th January 2026):

Expenditure: £6,942.70

Transfers from Current to Savings: £0.00

Income: £3,000.00

Transfers from Savings to Current: £0.00

Investments: POS Dowry¹ Latest Valuation: £709,606.66

Dividend Received for Quarter (31st Oct 2025) £7,949.78

Sink Fund² Latest Valuation: £38,991.21

Dividend Received for Quarter (31st Oct 2025) £436.82

¹POS Dowry is an investment with CCLA (Church Charities & Local Authorities) investment company from which a dividend is received on a quarterly basis.

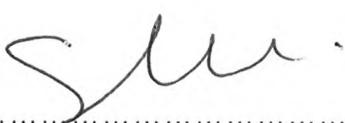
²Sink fund is a separate investment with CCLA using monies from Sandymoor Parish Council and Sandymoor Ormiston Academy building up a fund to replace the playing field facilities when needed.

The RFO updated the council on the third quarter of the current year's budget. Although there were a few small overspends the position was satisfactory.

13/1/26 Tenders for internal audit

The Council agreed not to seek tenders for the internal audit service this year

14/1/26 In accordance with the Local Government Act it was resolved to conduct the rest of the meeting in Part B

Signed Chair 26th February 2026

PART B

15/1/26 Public Open Space Report

There was still concern regarding the adoption of sewers and roads in the Morris development and delays with both Barratt David Wilson Homes and Bloor. The Chair and Clerk would be seeking a discussion with the Council's solicitor the following week and would be asking Halton BC if they could expedite and of the proceedings.

16/1/26 Art Trail

The Chair and Clerk had had a constructive meeting with Halton BC and looked forward to further meetings and consultations.

The meeting concluded at 8 p.m.

Next Meeting Thursday 26th February 2026

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to be "S. M.", written over a dotted line.

SignedChair 26th February 2026

Clerk's Report January 2026

ASB

We have had one or two residents express concern about Anti Social Behaviour around the shops which have been passed on the Police.

Academy

The Chair and I met at the Academy on 16th January to discuss sports facilities usage and pricing. The Chair also raised issues regarding site security after seeing children climbing over gates, feeling this was a safety issue as well as a security matter. The possibility of providing a paddle ball facility was also raised.

Youth Engagement

The Chair and I raised the issue with the Academy as we felt it would be helpful to have the views of students on facilities in Sandymoor and what might be provided at Sandymoor South when that is developed.

There is currently no permanent member of staff attached to the issue and we will be discussing further with the school when there is.

ITT

The ITT for our current open space was has been issued to five local providers all of whom had indicated that they were interested in tendering. Closing date is 11th February. Whilst preparing I discovered the 'model' policy we had adopted was a little out of date. An amended version is on the agenda this month.

Amenities

The Chair and I will be meeting HBC on 21st January to discuss various proposals for the art trail etc.

Arthur Neil

Clerk, 19th January 2026