

Minutes of the meeting of Sandymoor Parish Council, held 22nd May 2025 at Hazlehurst, Acton's Wood Lane 7.20 p.m.

Present

Cllr S Mahon, Chair, T Willett, Vice Chair, M Graves, S Hurst, C Lowe, B Schon and J Secker

Arthur Neil, Clerk, Louise Irvine, RFO

Borough Councillors Connolly and Davidson

Five members of the public

6/5/25 Apologies for absence

Apologies were received from Cllr Wright,

7/5/25 Declarations of Interest

Declarations were received from Cllrs Hurst and Lowe re any items relating to the Sandymoor Academy.

8/5/25 Election of Chair for municipal year 2025-2026

Cllr Steve Mahon was nominated by Cllr J Secker and seconded by Cllr M Graves

There being no other nominations Cllr Steve Mahon was elected Chair for the municipal year 2025-2026

9/5/25 Election of Vice-Chair for municipal year 2025-2026

Cllr Tom Willett was nominated by Cllr S Mahon and seconded by Cllr S Hurst

There being no other nominations Cllr Willett was elected Vice Chair for the municipal year 2025-2026

10/5/25 To note Report for 2024-2025 given to Annual Parish Meeting

Members noted and received the Annual Report presented by the Chair at the Annual Parish Meeting.

11/5/25 Minutes of the meeting held on 25th April 2025

The minutes of the April meeting were approved as a correct record and signed by the Chair.

12/5/25 Community Engagement.

No questions had been submitted in advance to the Clerk.

Two Police Officers were in attendance who informed members the Council could borrow a hand -held speed gun from the Police.

There was also a discussion re parking at the Community Hall now that the Livv Housing development was complete. This would be the subject of more discussion.

13/5/25 Clerk's Report

The Clerk's written report was received and actions noted.

Signed  Chair 26th June 2025

14/5/25 Borough Council Report including Highways issues

Cllrs Connolly and Davidson reported on their recent activities and current committee memberships.

Work on the Expressway was on schedule and expected to be finished in October. Wharford Lane drainage works were to be completed by the end of May.

15/5/25 Planning Applications

There were none to consider

16/5/25 Accounts for payment

The following accounts were approved for payment

Name	Description	Ex VAT	VAT	Total
Staff	Salaries	1418.68		1418.68
HMRC	Employer Tax & NI Payments	358.75		358.75
Cheshire Pensions	Employer Pension Payment	469.19		469.19
A L Neil	Expenses	11.70		11.70
Microsoft	Office 365 Basic	4.90	0.98	5.88
Microsoft	Office 365 Standard	20.60	4.12	24.72
Business Waste.co.uk	Bin Emptying Invoice: P1685247	171.60	34.32	205.92
JDH Business Service	Internal Audit Fee	345.00	69.00	414.00
Shires	Annual Invoice: SHI-2781	554.00	110.80	664.80
RBLI	Tommy & Women in War Silhouette	291.66	58.34	350.00
Weaver Vale Garden Centre	Bark for Planters	30.00	6.00	36.00
Marbury Hall Nursery	Plants for Planters	255.91	48.80	304.71
	Totals	3931.99	332.36	4264.35

17/5/25 Finance Report

The RFO provided the following financial report.

Current Account: £96,649.28

Of which: Excess POS Dividends (Held in Bank): £14,138.13

Sink Fund Dividends & Rent (Held in Bank): £5,927.76

Precept: £76,583.39

Signed

Chair 26th June 2025

Savings Accounts:

General Reserves in Co-op Savings Account: £51,849.25
POS Money in Charity Account: £35,006.84
Sink Fund Money in Cambridge Account: £31,530.00
Precept Money in Unity Account: £20,000.00

Expenditure (25th Feb – 24th Mar 2025): £23,190.96
Income (25th Feb – 24th Mar 2025): £15,635.67

POS Dowry1 Latest Valuation: £708,251.04
Dividend Received for Quarter (30th Apr 2025): £8,221.31
Sink Fund2 Latest Valuation: £38,916.72
Dividend Received for Quarter (30th Apr 2025): £451.73

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

2 Sink 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

18/5/25 Proposal to open a new instant access account

It was agreed to open a new 45 day access account

20/5/25 In accordance with the Local Government Act it was resolved to conduct the rest of the meeting in Part B

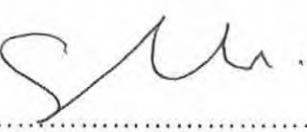
PART B

21/5/25 Public Open Space Report

In addition to the written report previously circulated the Clerk said some progress was being made with Morris Homes and he and the Chair would be having an update meeting with the Council's solicitors the following Wednesday.

The meeting ended at 8.40

Signed Chair 26th June 2025



Clerk's Report May 2025

Polytunnel Project

The Chair and I have met with staff from the Academy and Hazlehurst and agreed the following points.

1. The Clerk to assist Halton Housing find a competitive quote for the polytunnel base
2. Develop a plan for activities
3. Agree timings – school term ends shortly
4. Develop commitment from residents and students
5. Engage with wider community at a later date
6. Consider other activities for students outside the polytunnel eg in the garden or talking to residents

I have also asked for reassurances re safeguarding given the various potential combinations

students and residents

residents and members of the public

students and members of the public

I have been assured that DBS checked staff will be present

Duck Feeder

As previously reported the Borough Council are installing one as an experiment at Victoria Park in Widnes and are waiting to see if the provision is beneficial. There is no apparent willingness to give permission to use the Godstow site. We could approach a developer re using another site but may risk losing some goodwill. It may be better to wait for the Borough to reach a conclusion on Victoria Park

SID

The Police confirmed that they did not believe the SID was correctly operating. Halton BC have now been to correct it.

The latest data has been circulated separately.

School

I had an enquiry from a resident re the provision of a primary school and have given them the current – and likely long term - position

Complaints

Have had numerous complaints re Otterburn Street, parking issues etc and have passed to the appropriate people.

War Memorial

The silhouette figurines have arrived and CLM will be installing by the planter on Wharf Lane

Planters

A number of the volunteers met at Marbury Nurseries to purchase replacement plants and compost. All planters have now been refreshed.

Sarah Pochin MP

Sarah Pochin has apologised for not being able to make the May meeting but has offered – subject to business in the House – come to the June meeting.

Arthur Neil

Clerk

May 2025