

Down Hatherley Parish Council
Draft minutes
OF MEETING HELD AT 7.00PM ON 16TH SEPTEMBER 2026
IN THE DOWN HATHERLEY VILLAGE HALL

<https://downhatherley-pc.gov.uk>

1.	Welcome by Chair of Council
2.	Attendance recorded as Parish Councillors Dave Evans, Lesley Rooney, Martin Cole, June Watt and 8 Members of the public
3.	Parish Councillor apologies which have been received recorded from Cllr Rick Minter Council noted the legal process regarding apologies from Parish Councillors to be APPROVED where a dispensation request has been made prior to the meeting and the Council agree the reasons for the dispensation request are appropriate to LGA 1972 s85
4.	Council noted reports from County Councillor and Borough Councillor not received
5.	Minutes of previous meeting held on 30 th July 2026 agreed for accuracy
6.	Council invited Declaration of Interest for matters on the agenda – none
7.	Members of the Public were invited to speak to the Council - Hedges are now encroaching onto the lane – report to highways and seek advice on legal regulations including landowners responsibilities on hedgerows encroaching. - Ownership of community patch – Cllr Watt
8.	Council received update on noticeboards and village information boards - GeViews preferred option. - Clerk to contact local contractor for removing/installation - Clerk to go ahead - Village information boards – cfwd – Cllr Rooney
9.	Council considered request for a community defibrillator and considered ownership, management and ongoing costs - Request for Defibrillator at Ash Lane and residents have applied for a free BHF one - Request for PC to pay annual maintenance costs – Council discussed ongoing costs and responsibilities, monthly checks, confirmation that location available to the public. Council agreed in principle - Council to consider if the residents association own the defibrillator how they would pay the ongoing costs - Request PC to purchase a Defibrillator if free one not available upto £2k To be discussed at next meeting - Council to consider a further one at the other end of the village, noting there is already one at DHM Hotel and the Norton Garden Centre - Budget discussions to consider financial implications- next meeting
10.	Council received update on using a planning consultant. 2 have been approached by the Clerk and responses sent to Councillors for their consideration Practical steps regarding timescales and scale of applications

	• Consideration to use on “appeal applications” • Funding implications and unpredictability of need • Generic review of the Parish eg roads to be used on multiple applications with a review cycle • Budget discussions to consider financial implications -next meeting
11.	Council consider potential homelessness within the parish. • The matter has now been resolved • Steps were taken to support and signpost to different agencies
12.	Council considered updates regarding Brook Lane • 25/00199/CONDIS – no update at present time • Brook Lane bridleway- • Any other matters- • Bollards residents are reporting a positive outcome following the installation of the bollards Confirmation that emergency services are issued with the code when needed GPS is now showing Brook Lane as a dead-end
13.	Council considered highway/PROW issues • Village gateways- A walk will be done with PRow officers to review • Costing for a maintenance of footpaths will be obtained by Cllr Watt- Power to maintain confirmed as s43 under Highways Act 1980 (power to but no legal obligation or duty). Cil monies to be considered as a funding source • A38 TRO - ongoing • A38 VAS-ongoing • Speed watch group updates- noted
14.	Council received report from Bretts Charity – Cllr Evans
15.	Council noted no reports from Ash Lane Residents Association were available
16.	Council noted there were no reports from Councillors attending meetings on behalf of the Parish Council
17.	Council received update of Community Governance Review- boundary amendments and increase to 7 Councillors as per the draft recommendations to be considered by the Borough on December 8 th 2026 noted
18.	Council considered outstanding planning matters • Planning committee meeting attended by Cllr Minter
19.	2nd Public session • Weight limit enforcement issues raised including request for signage to be confirmed is still insitu, putting more signs up or moving the identified zone to the Frogfurlong Lane. Refer to Highways
20.	Council moved into confidential business and agreed employment matters and increased to salary scale point 29.
21.	Date of next meeting confirmed as 18th November 2026-budget Council confirmed it wishes clerk to book the village hall for 27/28 meetings Council expressed its thanks to Phillip Drew for volunteer litter picking in the village
22.	Close of meeting 20.31