

SALEWAY PARISH COUNCIL
Clerk Rachel Jefferies
MINUTES OF MEETING HELD WEDNESDAY 19th November 2025,
7.30pm Held at Himbleton Village Hall, Himbleton, WR9 7LE

Council Members Present: Cllr Andy Knight (Chair) Cllr Richard Tesh (Vice Chair) Cllr Pat Clamp, Cllr James Rowley, Cllr Laura Jarvis-Fernell.

In Attendance: District Cllr Margaret Rowley and one member of the public.

1. Apologies for Absence: Cllr Scott Small. County Cllr Seb James
The Chair welcomed all present.

2. Declarations of Interest: None.

3. Minutes of the meeting held on 17th September 2025 were approved and signed by the Chair. – Approved and reflected as a true representation.

4. Public questions or statements: None raised.

5. Councillors Reports

5.1 District Councillors / County Councillors Report –

Cllr Margaret Rowley will follow up for an update regarding the 22 dwelling application at Harrows Lane, ref. W/23/01343/OUT.

An email was received from the school about ongoing parking issues when the Cricket Club car park is flooded. The school is concerned this may happen again.

Cllr Tesh asked Cllr Rowley if she knew who is responsible for dealing with fly tipping, she agreed to forward the contact on.

5.2 Councillors' Report –

5.2.1 Cllr Tesh noted that the website needs updating with new details.

Photographs of Councillors should be sent to the Clerk for upload to the website.

5.2.2 Flooding at Hadzor roundabout was raised, Cllr S James to be asked for an update.

5.2.3 Issues with parking outside the school continue, Cllr M Rowley will arrange for traffic wardens to attend during school pick up times.

5.3 Clerk's Report – No report

6. SALEWAY MATTERS FOR DISCUSSION OR DECISION

6.1 Playground – It was agreed in principle to carry out phase 2 during this financial year.

The Clerk will follow up and contact those involved to check funding and ensure previous lapses are avoided.

Cllr Tesh suggested allocating the remaining 106 money towards this project.

6.2 Annual Parish Meeting (May 2026) – The agreed date for the meeting is 20th May 2026. The Clerk will create a poster and circulate it to all Councillors. Everyone is asked to contact local groups and the Bowbrook magazine to make them aware of the meeting and help share the poster details.

6.3 Councillor Vacancy (Oddingley) – The Clerk will place an advert in the Bowbrook magazine.

6.4 Himbleton Hall Wi-Fi – The Parish will consider funding the Wi-Fi at a monthly cost of £25–£30.

The Clerk will obtain installation cost details.

6.5 Himbleton to Worcester Cross Milestone – The Clerk will contact Ted to request a quote from his contact, if available.

6.6 Consideration for Lengthsman's pay increase for 2026 to £22.00 per hour – Approved

6.7 Internal Audit - Approved to use Jill Lungley as our internal auditor for our financial year 25/26. It was noted she will be retiring next year and the clerk will source another internal auditor for the financial year 26/27.

6.8 Draft 2026/27 Budget and Discussion about 2026/27 Precept –

The Clerk will prepare the budget for the January meeting, using comparisons with last year and including different percentage increase options. A five year plan will also be created to ring fence money for future savings.

6.9 New VAS Insurance – New VAS installed – Cllr A Knight asked Barrie at Highways to provide the full cost so that the equipment can be insured for the correct amount.

6.10 Remembrance Shields 2026 – A request has been made for the Parish Council to obtain remembrance shields for next year. The Clerk will source prices.

6.11 Environment Agency Property Survey – Himbleton – The agency attended the Parish, as they have allocated funds, and assessed the required work. As the total cost exceeds the available budget the most likely solution is that properties at the greatest risk will be prioritised. Further updates will follow once more information is available.

7. Matters arising since previous council meeting.

- **7.1 Lengthsman Report** - Missing signs 30mph/national speed limit have been reported at Middle Lane (Shernal Green). WCC say they should be installed within 3 weeks.
- Damaged 30 mph/national speed limit sign in Hadzor Lane (Hadzor) reported. WCC say it should be repaired in 3 weeks.
- Height restriction sign for railway bridge that has partly lost its fixing in Hay Lane (Shernal Green) has been reported. WCC say it should be repaired in 3 weeks.

- Two blocked gullies in Goosehill Lane (Himbleton) have been reported. WCC Highways say they has been inspected and will be cleared 3 weeks.
- One blocked gully in Hadzor Lane (Hadzor) has been reported.
- Grit salt box request for Neight Hill (Himbleton). No response from WCC Highways.
- Three gullies at Phepson have been reported blocked. WCC have inspected these and they will be cleared within 3 weeks.
- A broken drain in Trench Lane reported December last year has been added to WCC maintenance schedule to be investigated with CCTV and jetted. No timeframe was provided.

8. To discuss any crime related issues

8.1 Policing Priorities – Cllr Seb James had previously circulated a reminder for everyone to sign up to Neighbourhood matters.

The agreed priorities were lamping and speeding. The clerk will inform the police of these priorities.

9. Finance:

9.1 To receive schedule of payments and receipts for November 2025. – Approved

Expenditure

HMRC / PAYE	R Jefferies PAYE Sept 25	£89.40
Rachel Jefferies	Clerk Salary - Sept 25	£358.23
J Moore	Lengthsman Oct 25	£320.00
WDC	Bin emptying contract	£116.84
Rachel Jefferies	Expenses	£89.70

Income

WCC	Lengthsman reclaim Oct 25	£320.00
Rachel Jefferies	Overpayment	£0.27

9.2 To approve bank reconciliation up to 12th November 2025. – Approved

10. Live Planning applications

10.1 Oddingley

W/25/01707/LB	Dunhampstead Manor Cottage Lane Dunhampstead Oddingley Droitwich Spa WR9 7JX	Works to insulate roof and dormer windows, and replacement of window frames	Pending Decision
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No comment

10.2 Himbleton

<u>W/25/00828/FUL</u>	Himbleton Views Neight Hill Himbleton Droitwich Spa WR9 7LE	Erection of 3no. dwellings, new access and landscaping following the grant of Permission in Principle (Ref. W/23/02419/PIP)	Pending Decision
<u>W/25/02008/CAN</u>	The Russetts Church Lane Himbleton Droitwich Spa WR9 7LG	Undertake tree works as detailed on the application form and any other accompanying information.	Decision - Other

No comment

10.3 Other Live Applications -

Cllr Tesh reported that the Pear Tree SEN school application was withdrawn today (19/11/25).

Regarding the Hadzor development, it was noted that the Droitwich development committee was established in 1952 to support a town of 50,000 residents. The proposal was included in the SWDP, but significant errors were highlighted.

The response confirmed that no decisions would be made until the final report is published. Highways indicated they are addressing issues around traffic lights and the junction by the former Nevilles store, meaning any potential developer would need to provide a solution.

Severn Trent has stated that the sewerage system is already at full capacity. It is believed that the entire process is fundamentally flawed.

11. An opportunity for Councillors to request an item of information to be considered for the next agenda. –

11.1 A request was made to look into potential council tax banding information.

12. Confirm next Parish Council Meeting date - 21st January 2026.

Meeting ended 21.14pm.