

Minutes of a meeting of Clawson, Hose & Harby Parish Council held at Long Clawson Village Hall on Monday 14<sup>th</sup> April 2025 at 7.00 p.m.

**Present:** Councillors Nicola Draper (Chair), Nigel Hodges, Jonathan Neale, Matthew Simpson, Jo Towle & Jacob Wilkinson.

**In attendance:** Borough Councillor Chris Evans, 4 members of the public and the Parish Clerk.

**Apologies:** Cllr Mike Foulds, County Councillor Bryan Lovegrove.

25/001 **QUESTIONS AND COMMENTS FROM THE FLOOR (LIMITED TO 15 MINUTES).**  
A resident reported illegal vehicular activity on East End and subsequent disruption.

25/002 **TO RECEIVE APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE.**  
To approve and accept apologies from Cllr Foulds.  
To note the apologies from County Cllr Lovegrove.

25/003 **DISCLOSURES OF INTERESTS, DISCLOSABLE PECUNIARY INTERESTS, PERSONAL INTERESTS OR PERSONAL INTERESTS THAT MAY LEAD TO BIAS, BY PARISH COUNCILLORS TO ITEMS ON THE AGENDA.**  
None.

25/004 **BOROUGH & COUNTY COUNCIL REPORTS.**  
Cllr Lovegrove sent the following report:

***Section 19 Flood Investigations***

*The County Council have produced this statement to clarify the current situation regarding formal (section 19) flood investigations. From the Leicestershire Local Flood Risk Management Strategy: 'Section 19 of the Flood and Water Management Act 2010 requires the County Council as LLFA to complete formal flood investigations. The Leicestershire Formal Flood Investigations Policy details the criteria which may lead to a formal flood investigation. The LLFA must publish the results of its investigation and notify any relevant RMAs. Between 2014 and 2022, the LLFA published 35 formal flood investigations, all of which are available to view on the County Council's website'. Since June 2023, Leicestershire has been impacted by multiple and significant flood events which have met our criteria for a formal flood investigation. Our sympathies continue to be with those affected by this flooding. These investigations are all in the process of being written and will be published in due course.*

***Graeme Wardle, Leicestershire County Council's services head of member – Don't lose your chance to vote.***

*“From roads and transport, local health and social care to school places and waste disposal, the county council makes decisions on local services that affect everyone in Leicestershire. “We all use or may need to use these services in the future – that’s why it’s so important to use your vote on the 1 May to elect your local representative. “Please don’t assume you’re registered to vote. People miss out on the chance to vote by thinking they’re registered - we’re urging people not to lose out by using their vote.”*

### **Unitary plans for Leicestershire**

*The Government wants to move away from ‘two tier’ local government and asked councils to work up ideas for unitary local government which would lead to devolution from Government. The Government asked councils to submit initial proposals by 21 March and more detailed plans by November. A more wide-ranging consultation is set to take place over the summer, enabling residents, staff, partners and businesses to comment on a more detailed plan. This will be shared with the Government, and with district, city and Rutland councils. A bid to create one council for Leicestershire, saving £30m a year, has been submitted to the Government. Two alternative plans have also been put forward. The city council is proposing to significantly extend the boundary around Leicester, while the districts and Rutland are proposing to create two unitary councils only delivering around 50% of the planned savings.*

25/005      **TO APPROVE AND SIGN THE MINUTES OF PREVIOUS PARISH COUNCIL MEETING.**

Resolved:    The minutes of the previous meeting were approved and signed.

25/006      **TO RECEIVE THE CLERK’S REPORT INCLUDING MATTERS ARISING FROM THE PREVIOUS MINUTES.**

The Clerk reported on matters not included on the agenda:

**Allotments** – full details can be found on our website at [Allotments – Clawson, Hose & Harby Parish Council](#).

**All sites** - The allotment tenancy agreement due 1<sup>st</sup> September 2025, will be updated to include a penalty clause for plots left in an unlettable condition, as well as a ban on the use of tyres for sheeting, due to environmental concerns. Council is also asked to consider implementing a rent increase from September 2025, to take effect for the 2025–2026 allotment season.

**HARBY - The Hunt, Boyer's Orchard LE14 4BA** – Two maintenance issues have been reported, Cllr Neale will visit site, assess and carry out if possible.

**HOSE - Canal Lane LE14 4JF** - Work continues at the top of the site and we are hopeful that this will be completed before the end of the month.

**LONG CLAWSON - Waltham Lane LE14 4NG, East End LE14 4NG, Hickling Lane LE14 4NW, Broughton Lane LE14 4NB and Melton Road LE14 4NR** – Plot 4 on Hickling Lane is heavily overgrown and would require substantial clearance

work and financial input to make it usable again. It was agreed that, in the absence of a specific request for this plot, the associated costs cannot be justified at this time and the plot will remain unused for the foreseeable future.

The toddler multiplay at Hose should be installed week commencing 14/04/2025.

Leicestershire County Council (LCC) is in the process of adding all parish streetlights to their "Report It" system. However, due to our parish having the largest number of assets in the county, this process is taking longer than anticipated. In the interim, any issues with streetlights should be reported to the Parish Council, and the Clerk will forward them to LCC directly.

A formal dispute has been initiated with WaterPlus regarding the charges for the Hose allotments. The invoices total £581.12 for the 2022-23 and 2023-24 financial years (paid on 20/05/24) and £372.79 for 2024-25. These charges are for a single allotment tap on an underused site, and the costs appear to be excessive.

Melton Borough Council (MBC) has declined to pay the annual grounds recharge invoice at the start of the financial year, citing missed cuts as the reason. The Clerk confirmed that one cut was missed, but it was reported and resolved within the same week. Leicestershire County Council (LCC) typically provides funding at the beginning of the fiscal year to prevent the financial burden of such work from falling on parish councils. Given this, the Clerk has sought clarification on whether MBC intends to pay the invoice or if they plan to undertake the mowing of their areas themselves going forward. MBC has responded by offering quarterly payments. However, members of the Council have insisted that full payment is required, or the mowing services will be withdrawn. The Clerk will contact MBC to advise.

The 2024-2025 audit is complete, and the Internal Audit is scheduled for 30/04/2025. All documents will be signed at the May meeting before being forwarded to the External Auditor.

25/007 **TO RECEIVE THE PLAY AREA SAFETY CHECK REPORTS.**

Play area safety checks were received and noted.

25/008 **TO RECEIVE REPORTS FROM COUNCILLORS (FOR INFORMATION ONLY).**

**a) To receive a report on the Vale Parishes Group (Cllr Wilkinson).**

None.

**b) Other Councillors reports.**

None.

25/009 **TO MAKE OBSERVATIONS AND AGREE ANY ACTION ON THE FOLLOWING PLANNING APPLICATIONS:**

- a) **To consider any planning applications received after this agenda was published.**  
None.
- b) **Update APP/Y2430/C/24/3343530 Residential dwelling at Shortcroft Field, Long Clawson, Melton Mowbray, Leicestershire LE14 4NG.**  
The Clerk confirmed that the Decision Date is not yet decided.
- In lieu of the appeal decision delay, members decided that action was required to stop illegal vehicular access over the Village Green.
- Resolved: That the Clerk will write to the landowner of Shortcroft giving 60 days' notice that the Parish Council intend to install a barrier to stop illegal vehicular access over the Village Green.
- Resolved: That the Clerk will contact the contractor for costs and lead time required.
- c) **25/00238/FULHH 8 Chapel Lane, Hose LE14 4JE**  
***First floor addition and 2 storey extension.***
- Resolved: To object to this application citing (1) NP Policy H7(b) Housing Design (2) The gable end of the uplifted property will rise in height from c3.5M to c.7.9M at a distance of less than 3M from the adjoining property (6 Chapel Lane) causing significant loss of light.
- d) **24/01196/VAC Buildings adjacent to The Hall, Hall Lane, Long Clawson.**  
***Variation of condition 2 (plans) of planning permission 19/00709 to reduce the size of 4 of permitted dwellings.***
- Resolved: Not to comment.
- e) **Pre-application; Field 9677 off Stathern Lane, Harby.**  
***Residential development proposal – response to Parish Council comments, relates minute reference 24/156e.***
- Resolved: Noted.
- 25/010 **BUSINESS.**
- a) **To receive information from Leicestershire County Council regarding the Parish Council's request for a formal flood investigation under Section 19 of the Flood and Water Management Act 2010 (Appendix A).**
- Resolved: To note this information.
- b) **To discuss the Harby New Village Hall proposal and agree action.**
- Resolved: That members will meet on Teams for an informal discussion to finalise the process for the disposal of parish land to be formally discussed at the next full council meeting.
- c) **To consider arranging a parish visit from an LCC officer to advise on hedging.**
- Resolved: To ask Keith Neill-Smith, the Tree Warden for Hose, to contact LCC to arrange an advisory visit.

- d) **To approve the addition of Waltham Lane allotment hedging maintenance to the grounds contract at a cost of £100 per annum.**

The Clerk confirmed that this work, if approved, will be carried out following bird nesting season.

Resolved: To add Waltham Lane allotment hedging to the grounds contract at a cost of £100 per annum.

**It was agreed to move the confidential session covering minute references 25/010 e) and f) to follow 25/013.**

#### 25/011 **FINANCE.**

- a) **To approve and sign the monthly bank reconciliation.**

To approve and sign the monthly bank reconciliation – attached.

- b) **To approve and sign the schedule of payments.**

Resolved: To approve and sign the schedule of payments – attached.

- c) **To receive the summary of receipts & payments.**

The summary of Receipts & Payments was noted.

- d) **To receive the forecast to year end.**

The forecast to year end was noted.

#### 25/012 **CORRESPONDENCE.**

- a) **Correspondence received after this agenda was published.**

- i) **Email on behalf of the Harby Village Hall Committee (HVHC) requesting permission to use The Leys in Harby for a Picnic in the Park celebration on Monday 5th May.**

This request was granted. The Clerk will contact HVHC to confirm.

- b) **Email from a resident regarding their Right of Way over land to the rear of the Leys playing field, Harby.**

Noted.

- c) **Email from a resident on parish council value for money in Harby.**

The response from the Clerk was noted.

- d) **Email from a resident regarding the monkey wall and toddler multi-play on the Green, Hose.**

The response of the Clerk was noted. The resident has been referred to the Hose Green Trustees.

25/013 The next Parish Council meeting will take place on Monday 19<sup>th</sup> May 2025 at 7.30 p.m. at Valley Christian Centre, Harby.

This meeting will be preceded by the **Annual Parish meeting** which will start at 7.00 p.m.

The Clerk left the meeting.

**The meeting may move to confidential session in accordance with the Public Bodies (Admission to Meetings) Act 1960 in view of the nature of the business to be transacted for the following items:**

25/010 e) **To approve the Clerk's 12-month review.**

Resolved: To approve the Clerk's 12-month review.

25/010 f) **To approve the Clerk's updated job description.**

Resolved: To approve the Clerk's updated job description.

There being no further business the meeting closed at 8.10 p.m.

.....  
Chair – Clawson, Hose & Harby Parish Council      Date

## Appendix A

### Minute reference 25/010a

**To receive information from Leicestershire County Council regarding the Parish Council's request for a formal flood investigation under Section 19 of the Flood and Water Management Act 2010.**

Following the recent reoccurrence of flooding in Long Clawson, the Parish Council resolved at its February 2025 meeting to request that LCC, as Lead Local Flood Authority, uses its discretion to conduct a Formal Flood Investigation under Section 19 of the Flood and Water Management Act 2010 and in accordance with the Leicestershire Formal Flood Investigations Policy (Published 21 February 2024).

The Parish Council are specifically concerned about flooding impacting the operation of Long Clawson Medical Practice and the potential loss of the Crown & Plough public house as an asset to the community. The publication of a formal investigation will serve to inform the community of the background to the recurring events and provide recommendations on practical steps that can be taken to reduce flooding.

Within its investigation, the Parish Council requests that the investigation covers (i) the state of the Long Clawson Culvert (see attached Location Map), (ii) whether it is capable of handling the peak flow during a flash flood event and (iii) recommendations on measures, whether within the village or in the water catchment area, to reduce future risk.

Section 19 of the Flood and Water Management Act 2010 requires the County Council as the Lead Local Flood Authority (LLFA) to complete formal flood investigations. The Leicestershire Formal Flood Investigations Policy details the criteria which may lead to a formal flood investigation. The LLFA must publish the results of its investigation and notify any relevant RMAs.

The County Council will not be conducting a formal flood investigation for the flooding which occurred on 6th January 2025 to Long Clawson. This is because it has not triggered the criteria as specified in the formal flood investigations policy. The flooding in Long Clawson is an issue that the County Council is aware of and has been actively working with the community and responsible Risk Management Authorities for many years.

A key concern of the community is linked to the culvert which runs through the village, and it has many riparian owners. All landowners have been made aware of riparian responsibilities and proactive steps have been taken by some as a result of this engagement which remains ongoing.

The County Council obtained £10k of local levy (local flood funding administered by the Environment Agency) in 2018 to develop a small fluvial model to better understand the flooding in Long Clawson. The model identified that a small number of properties are at risk from flooding and further culvert blockage scenarios of the model reaffirmed this.

That does not however mean that properties in the wider area are not at risk and those identified to be at risk should look to take action to be prepared for flooding.

Details on how individuals can check their flood risk can be found at: <https://www.gov.uk/check-long-term-flood-risk>.

The County Council's website provides further details about how communities and individual homeowners can take action to be prepared against future flooding <https://www.leicestershire.gov.uk/environment-and-planning/flooding-and-drainage/prepare-for-flooding>.

Currently the Government criteria for securing adequate national flood grant towards flood alleviation is heavily weighted on the number of properties at risk from flooding i.e. the more properties at risk, the higher likelihood of greater levels of funding potentially being secured. In Long Clawson, although the community pub and doctors' surgery are affected frequently, the overall numbers of properties identified to be at risk would unfortunately not be sufficient enough to unlock and secure adequate enough funding to design and deliver a flood scheme.

The flooding of 6th January has been recorded as the worst event in recent history for Leicestershire as over 1000 properties are believed to have been internally impacted across Leicestershire, Leicester City and Rutland. As part of the clean-up from a flooding event, the County Council attends sites to cleanse its highway assets, predominantly gullies, of any flood debris and silt.

Following the 6th of January 2025 flooding event, the County Council is to receive additional funding to carry out wider cleansing of highway assets across the County, including in some locations, highway culverts. As such the highway sections of the culvert in Long Clawson, that are the responsibility of the County Council, are scheduled to be cleansed next financial year (2025/26). The Council will also take the opportunity to survey the condition of the culvert as part of this scheduled cleansing work. In order to reach and complete the cleansing and surveying of the highway sections of the Long Clawson culvert the County Council will need to access private riparian sections of the culvert. Where possible, the County Council will also look to cleanse those private sections of the culvert and while doing so, survey and record location, condition and ownership information. Subject to approval of relevant permits and legal orders (such as those for dealing with parked cars), the County Council is currently working towards commencing the above cleansing and surveying week commencing 9th June. This work can take up to a week to be completed.

The County Council remains committed to support the community in building local resilience and working with responsible bodies to maintain the culvert through the village.

Should you need further information please do not hesitate to contact us by emailing [flooding@leics.gov.uk](mailto:flooding@leics.gov.uk).



# Clawson, Hose & Harby Parish Council

Prepared by: S Massey  
*Name and Role (Clerk/RFO etc)*

Date: 31/03/2025

Approved by: \_\_\_\_\_  
*Name and Role (RFO/Chair of Finance etc)*

Date: \_\_\_\_\_

<b>A</b>	<b>Bank Reconciliation at 31/03/2025</b>		
	Cash in Hand 01/04/2024		57,174.15
	<b>ADD</b> Receipts 01/04/2024 - 31/03/2025		151,051.60
	<b>SUBTRACT</b> Payments 01/04/2024 - 31/03/2025		208,225.75
			144,888.52
	<b>Cash in Hand 31/03/2025</b> (per Cash Book)		<b>63,337.23</b>
<b>B</b>	Cash in hand per Bank Statements		
	Petty Cash 31/03/2025	0.00	
	TSB Instant 31/03/2025	0.00	
	Unity Trust Bank 101 31/03/2025	32,388.82	
	TSB Extra 31/03/2025	0.00	
	Unity Trust Bank 091 31/03/2025	30,948.41	
			<b>63,337.23</b>
	Less unrepresented payments		
			63,337.23
	Plus unrepresented receipts		
	<b>Adjusted Bank Balance</b>		<b>63,337.23</b>
	<b>A = B Checks out OK</b>		

Clawson, Hose & Harby Parish Council  
PAYMENTS LIST

This report includes one or more cost centres that have been marked as confidential. This means that only the totals are shown without any further detail.

Voucher Code	Date	Minute	Bank	Cheque No	Description	Supplier	VAT Type	Net	VAT	Total
Staff costs	14/04/2025 - 14/04/2025				Confidential			2,593.57		2,593.57
4 Cemetery	14/04/2025		Unity Trust Bank 091		Water charges	Waterplus	Z	7.25		7.25
5 General admin	14/04/2025		Unity Trust Bank 091		Clerk expenses	Stephanie Massey	Z	63.70		63.70
6 Grounds maint.	14/04/2025		Unity Trust Bank 091		Grounds maintenance	J Wells Contracting	Z	1,312.80		1,312.80
7 Office & IT	14/04/2025		Unity Trust Bank 091		Cloudy IT fees	Cloudy IT	S	98.40	19.68	118.08
8 General admin	14/04/2025		Unity Trust Bank 091		Phoneline+	Spectrum Telecommunicati	S	13.25	2.65	15.90
9 Banking	30/04/2025		Unity Trust Bank 091		Bank charges	Unity 091	Z	6.00		6.00
Total								4,094.97	22.33	4,117.30