



MOLLINGTON PARISH COUNCIL

16th July 2026

Commenced: 7.30 pm

Terminated: 8.50 pm

Present: Councillor Brassington (Deputy Chair in the Chair)
Councillors Coulter, Crowe and Jones

1. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Apologies for absence were received from Councillors Wells and Plunkett. Councillor Eardley, the Ward Councillor, also submitted his apologies (Official Duties).

2. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

There were no declarations of interest from Members of the Parish Council.

3. MINUTES

The Minutes of the proceedings of the Meeting of the Parish Council held on 21st May 2026 were approved as a correct record and signed by the Deputy Chair.

With regard to Minute 18, the Members asked that the posts be ordered and installed, as soon as possible.

4. PUBLIC FORUM

There were no members of the public in attendance.

5. POLICE REPORT

There were no reports from the Police.

6. FINANCE AND BUDGET 2026-2027

The Parish Council considered a report of the Clerk and Responsible Financial Officer on the following matters:-

(i) Transactions

RESOLVED

That the transactions detailed below, be approved:-

Payer/Payee	Details	Receipts	Payments
Dawn Coulter	Reimbursement for planter		£45.00
Dawn Coulter	Reimbursement for plants		£70.50
Dawn Coulter	Reimbursement for plants		£46.94
Juliet Plunkett	Reimbursement for plants		£18.00
John McDonald	Gardener		£85.00
HMRC Cumbernauld	May PAYE		£95.40
Lengthsman	May Salary		£126.93
M Clough	May Salary		£254.46
Unity Trust Bank	Monthly service charge		£7.00

HugoFox	Email INV-28316		£2.99
Active Leisure Events	Marshalling	£250.00	
PWLB	Repayment of Loan		£1,117.35
HMRC	June PAYE		£95.40
M Clough	June Salary		£254.46
Lengthsman	June Salary		£126.93
Unity Trust Bank	Monthly service charge		£7.00
John McDonald	Gardener		£85.00

(ii) Approval of Payments

RESOLVED

That the following payments detailed below, be approved:-

Payer	Details	£
Lengthsman	July Salary	Approx. £125.00
M Clough	July Salary	Approx. £255.00
HMRC	July PAYE	Approx. £80.00
Lengthsman	August Salary	Approx. £125.00
M Clough	August Salary	Approx. £255.00
HMRC	August PAYE	Approx. £80.00
		£7.00
Unity Trust	Service charge for July and August	£7.00
		£2.99
HugoFox	Emails for July and August	£2.99
Simon Eardley	Proportionate reimbursement for room hire	£16.20

(iii) Budget Expenditure to 8th July 2026

RESOLVED

That the following Budget Head expenditure to 8th July 2026, be approved:-

Budget Head	Total	Budget Allocated	£ Difference
Staff Costs	£1,430.37	£6,250.00	£4,819.63
Monthly Payments to Clerk for Home Office	£0.00	£120.00	£120.00
Payroll	£36.00	£120.00	£84.00
Internal Auditor	£143.35	£150.00	£6.65
Administrative Costs	£0.00	£100.00	£100.00
Room Hire	£0.00	£150.00	£150.00
Insurance	£300.00	£375.00	£75.00
Subscriptions	£215.20	£300.00	£84.80
Information Commissioner	£0.00	£50.00	£50.00
Audit Fees	£0.00	£150.00	£150.00
St Oswald's School Field Licence	£0.00	£375.00	£375.00
Website	£8.97	£300.00	£291.03
Training	£0.00	£120.00	£120.00
Community Projects	£180.44	£3,600.00	£3,419.56
Gardener	£255.00	£1,000.00	£745.00
Remembrance Wreath	£0.00	£100.00	£100.00
Unity Trust Service Charges	£21.00	£80.00	£59.00
Repayment of PWLB Loan	£1,117.35	£2,235.00	£1,117.65
RINGFENCED CIL	£0.00	£2,478.68	£2,478.68

Excluding Ringfenced CIL	£3,707.68	£15,575.00	£11,867.32
Including Ringfenced CIL	£3,707.68	£18,053.68	£14,346.00

(iv) Explanation of Variances

There were no variances to report to the meeting.

(v) Bank Reconciliation to 8th July 2026

RESOLVED

That the following Bank Reconciliation as at 8th July 2026, be approved:-

<u>Bank Reconciliation 8th July 2026</u>	
MOLLINGTON PARISH COUNCIL	
Financial year ending 31 March 2027	
Prepared by: Muna Clough, Parish Clerk & RFO	
Balance per bank statement as at 30 th June 2026	£
Current Account (07572433)	£31,605.51
Less: any unrepresented payments	£85.00
Add: any unbanked cash	£0.00
Net bank balances as at 8th July 2026	£31,520.51
The net balances reconcile to the Cash Book (receipts and payments account) for the year, as follows	
<u>CASH BOOK</u>	
Opening Balance at 1st April 2026	£17,629.87
Add: Receipts in the year	£17,598.32
Less: Payments in the year	£3,707.68
Closing balance per cash book [receipts and payments book] must equal net bank balances above	£31,520.51

(vi) Bank Statements

RESOLVED

That the following bank statements, as circulated with the report, be received:-

- **31st May 2026**
- **30th June 2026**

7. HYNET PROJECT

Councillors Crowe and Jones updated the Parish Council on the latest HyNet works. Pipe work was to be installed, and more works vehicles were expected in the village. Members considered the speed of the vehicles to be a concern.

The next consultation meeting would be held on 22nd July.

The Parish Council also discussed the Peak Cluster project. Councillor Jones reported that arrangements were being made for surveys, a route change was being considered and a government grant, towards the project, had been awarded. The next consultation meeting was 20th July 2026.

Councillor Jones also briefly referred to the Northern Powerhouse Rail and Mersey Tidal Power Projects.

RESOLVED

That the report be noted.

8. WARD COUNCILLOR'S BRIEFING

In Councillor Eardley's absence, Councillor Crowe read a report circulated earlier that day, which included:-

- Peak Cluster – Public Information Evening. This would take place on 20th July 2026, at 7.30pm at the Five Villages Hall.
- The next HyNet CO2 pipeline public information event would take place at the Five Villages Hall on 22nd July, 4pm to 7pm.
- Chester Marathon – the future impact on Mollington.
- Planning matters:
 - Land next to Ness Cottage, Coalpit Lane, Saughall.
 - Land near to Crabwall Manor, Parkgate Road.
 - PIP application, 6 Feilden Court, Mollington.
- Miscellaneous reports/issues:
 - Hedge – field after the Mollington Banastre Hotel – very overgrown and causing a pavement safety issue.
 - Replacement of village signs.
 - Public Rights of Way matters
 - Chester Wetland project.
 - Sanctuary Housing regarding the drainage on Grove Road (in the vicinity of Aeron).
 - Litter pick on Parkgate Road on 20/06/26.
 - Siding out works on the footpath on Parkgate Road.
 - BT works on Well Lane.
 - Surface dressing works on Grove Road/Townfield Lane

RESOLVED

That the Clerk asks Councillor Eardley for advice regarding the following:-

- (i) **The purchase of speed warning stickers for resident's bins;**
- (ii) **The process of installing a speed indicator device on Well Lane.**

9. PLANNING

The Parish Council considered the following planning matters:-

- **Comments submitted under the provisions of the Standing Orders**
- (i) **Reference** 26/01546/PIP
Address Land At 6 Feilden Court Mollington Chester
Proposal Erection of one dwelling (following the demolition of extension to 6 Feilden Court)

The comments submitted by the Parish Council on 5th June 2026, were circulated.

RESOLVED

That the comments submitted by the Parish Council on 5th June 2026, be ratified.

- (ii) **Re-Consultation on Planning Application 25/02561/FUL
Cottage Coalpit Lane Chester
Planning Notice - Amendments**

Amended plans/additional information in respect of the following:

Material change of use of land for stationing of caravans for residential occupation with associated hard standing and utility block (part retrospective) at Land Adjacent Ness

The comments submitted by the Parish Council on 19th June 2026, were circulated.

RESOLVED

That the comments submitted by the Parish Council on 19th June 2026, be ratified.

- (iii) **Reference Number: 26/01603/FUL**

Site Address: 5 Mollington Court Mollington Chester CH1 6LA

Proposal: Single storey rear extension, alterations to existing attached garage roof, alterations to windows openings to include replacement front window to bay window and render to all elevations.

There were no comments submitted for this proposal.

RESOLVED

That the decision of the Parish Council, be ratified.

10. NEIGHBOURHOOD PLAN

RESOLVED

That Councillor Eardley's cousin be extended an invitation to the next meeting of the Parish Council to talk about matters relating to the introduction of a Neighbourhood Plan.

11. PROJECTS 2026-2027

- (i) **Benches**

RESOLVED

(a) **That the purchase of a bench to be located by the Kind George V oak tree, be approved in principle, and Councillor Coulter to circulate examples, for consideration by the Parish Councillors.**

(b) **That when approval is obtained, the Clerk applies to the Borough Council, for a Street Furniture Licence.**

- (ii) **Newsletter**

RESOLVED

(a) **That the following articles for the next Newsletter be approved, and forwarded to Councillor Wells within two weeks:-**

- **Impact of dog foul on cows - to be written by Councillor Brassington**
- **HyNet update – to be written by Councillor Jones**
- **School parking posts – to be written by Councillor Wells**
- **Highways Volunteer Scheme (Working Party) – to be written by Councillor Coulter**
- **Neighbourhood Plan – poster created by Councillor Jones to be printed on the reverse side of the poster**

(b) **That approval be given to Councillors Wells and Coulter, to incorporate the articles written above, into the Newsletter, and arrange for printing and distribution.**

12. PUBLIC RIGHTS OF WAY (PRoW)

Councillor Wells requested that the Parish Council continued to monitor any progress to resolve issues on the following routes. The issues had been reported to the Cheshire West and Chester PRoW Department:-

- (i) Footpath from Grove Road to Station Road – Overgrown
- (ii) Townfield Lane footpath - Overgrown
- (iii) Townfield Lane to Overwood Avenue - Overgrown and style needed attention.
- (iv) Parkgate Road to Kingswood Lane - Impassible, signage removed and style missing.
- (v) Parkgate Road between Overwood House and The Mount - maize planted making route impassible.
- (vi) Coalpit Lane to Townfield Lane - maize planted making route impassible.
- (vii) Station Road to Demage Lane - becoming impassable
- (viii) Cycle way from Demage Lane to A5117.

Councillor Wells had requested that all signage, styles, bridges and kissing gates on public rights of ways were inspected. The residents of Mollington had used their own strimmers and shears to keep the footpaths passable, but it was now beyond their scope.

RESOLVED

That the report be noted.

13. URGENT ITEMS

There were no items which the Chair was of the opinion should be considered as a matter of urgency.

14. DATE OF NEXT MEETING

The Parish Council noted that the next date of the Parish Council was Thursday, 17th September 2026 at 7.30 pm at St. Oswald's Primary School.