Houghton Regis Town Council

Community Safety Sub-Committee
Minutes of the meeting held on
Wednesday 16th September 2026 at 11.00 am

Present:	Councillors:	Y Farrell	(Chairman)
		E Cooper	
		M Herber	
		T McMahon	
		C Slough	
	Officers:	Ian Haynes (virtual)	Head of Environmental & Community Services
		Bianca Nagle	Project Manager
Apologies:	Councillors:	0	

CS63 ELECTION OF CHAIR

Members were invited to elect a Chair for the Community Safety Sub-Committee for 2026-2027.

Nominee:	Cllr Herber	Proposed by:	Cllr McMahon
		Seconded by:	Cllr Herber
Nominee:	Cllr Farrell	Proposed by:	Cllr Cooper
		Seconded by:	Cllr Slough

On being put to the vote the nominees received the following votes:

Cllr Herber	In favour: 2	Against: 0	Abstentions: 3
Cllr Farrell	In favour: 3	Against: 2	Abstentions: 0

On being put to the vote, Cllr Farrell became the Chair of Community Safety Sub-Committee for the municipal year of 2026/2027.

CS64 ELECTION OF VICE-CHAIR

Members were invited to elect a Vice-Chair for the Community Safety Sub-Committee for 2026-2027.

Nominee:	Cllr Herber	Proposed by:	Cllr Slough
		Seconded by:	Cllr McMahon

There were no other nominations.

On being put to the vote, Cllr Herber became Vice-Chair of Community Safety Sub-Committee for the municipal year of 2026/2027.

CS65 APOLOGIES & SUBSTITUTIONS

None.

CS66 QUESTIONS FROM THE PUBLIC

None.

CS67 SPECIFIC DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

None.

CS68 MINUTES

To approve the Minutes of the meeting held on 15th July 2026.

Resolved: To approve the Minutes of the meeting held on 15th July 2026 and for these to be signed by the Chairman.

CS69 "WATCH" SCHEMES UPDATE

Members received a verbal update in respect to the "Watch" schemes within the Parish.

Street Watch patrols had established that problems remained the same, with ASB incidents – most notably shoplifting, bikes and e-bikes - continuing to be an issue.

It was suggested that HRTC might advertise the Street Watch and Speed Watch schemes, to encourage resident participation.

Members felt it would be beneficial for representatives from local schemes to provide updates at future meetings, thereby providing a broader, more structured update. The Head of Environmental and Community Services reminded Members that they had the authority to co-opt individuals onto the Committee. Members were further advised that the recommendation could be amended to instruct officers to invite scheme representatives either to attend meetings or submit a written update. Members expressed support for both inviting scheme representatives to future Committee meetings and encouraging co-option where appropriate.

Proposed by: Cllr McMahon Seconded by: Cllr Herber

Members voted unanimously in favour of amending the recommendation.

Resolved:
1. **To invite scheme representatives to future meetings of the Community Safety Sub-Committee**
2. **To encourage co-option onto the Community Safety Sub-Committee, where appropriate**

CS70 EXCLUSION OF THE PRESS AND PUBLIC

- Police Report
- Redeployable Camera Locations

Members voted on the exclusion of the press and public:

Proposed by: Cllr McMahon Seconded by: Cllr Herber

Votes in favour: 5

Resolved: **In accordance with Section 1(2) of the Public Bodies (Admission to Meetings) Act 1960, the public and press be excluded from the meeting during the consideration of the item set out below on the grounds that publicity would be prejudicial to the general interest by reason of the confidential nature of the business to be transacted.**

CS71 POLICE REPORT

Bedfordshire Police did not attend the Community Safety Sub-Committee

CS72 REDEPLOYABLE CCTV CAMERA LOCATIONS

Members received a schedule of redeployable camera locations.

In light of the lack of a police report, Members agreed to leave the cameras in situ.

Resolved: **To leave the redeployable cameras in situ.**

The Chairman closed the meeting at 11:50 am

Dated this 18th day of November 2026

Chairman