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THE MINUTES OF THE ORDINARY MEETING OF HEALEYFIELD PARISH COUNCIL HELD THURSDAY 23rd JULY 2026

Present: Cllr. A Pearson (Chair), Cllr. J Robson, Cllr. K Spencer, Cllr. A Wallace and
County Cllr. D Haney
Mr. I Robson (Clerk)

The Chairman opened the meeting at 7.00 p.m.

1. Apologies for Absence

Cllr. S Langlands

RESOLVED To approve the apology

2. Declarations of Interest

Cllr. Wallace declared a personal, non-pecuniary, non-registerable interest in item 16 as they reside near a proposed site referred to in the County Durham Plan Scoping Consultation. Following consideration of the Code of Conduct, Cllr. Wallace remained in the meeting and participated in the discussion and voted.

3. Agree minutes of the previous meeting

RESOLVED That the minutes of the Annual Meeting held on 25th June 2026 be accepted as a true and correct record.

4. Public Participation

No members of the public were in attendance. The planned representation from Adderstone Living was rescheduled by mutual agreement.

5. Chair's Report

The Chair reported that the existing flower tubs have been planted, and that a retirement card has been sent to Rev. Jackson on behalf of the Parish Council. The Chair also attended two retirement events for the Rev. Jackson representing the Parish Council. The Chair also thanked Cllr. Wallace for the repair of the WI seat on Rowley Bank.

6. County Councillor's Report

County Cllr. D Haney provided the following report:

- Shotley Bridge hospital money still with HM Treasury.
- Care Quality Commission has determined that County Durham & Darlington NHS Trust requires improvement for the 'Well-Led' rating.
- Integrated Care Board restructuring.
- Care Quality Commission presented to the Health Scrutiny Board
- Some GP surgeries in County Durham not inspected for over 10 years
- DCC are going to hold a special meeting on Shotley Bridge Hospital and set up a Shotley Bridge Hospital Reference Group.
- Full Council meeting held this month, only 1 on the 4 motions debated.

RESOLVED to receive, with thanks, the County Councillors report

RESOLVED to write to local MPs regarding the delay in the release of funding from HM Treasury regarding Phase 1 of Shotley Bridge Hospital.

7. Correspondence

RESOLVED To receive the following correspondence.

- Resident – Tommy the Pitman – condition of wood in pit tub.
- Resident – Request for DCC to investigate Consett Road Vehicle Speeds.
- Traffic Management Officer, Durham Constabulary – Response to item b above.

RESOLVED that Cllr. Wallace inspect the miner's and report back.

8. Clerk's Report

The Council received the clerk's written report (2026-07 Clerks Report).

RESOLVED that:

- The Clerk raises the missing items from FS-Case 852874872

9. Finance

- Accounts for Payment

Ref	Description	Payee	Amount (£)
547	HP Instant Ink	HP Instant Ink	13.49
548	War Memorial Lettering - One Side	Scott Memorials	360.00
549	Lloyds Bank Account Charge	Lloyds Bank	4.25
550	Stihl Mechanical Belt	Amazon Services Europe S.a.r.L. UK Branch	25.58
551 552	Staff Costs - July 2026		584.67
553 554	Staff Costs - August 2026		584.67
555	Instant Access Account	Transfer	- 2,000.00

RESOLVED To approve the accounts for payment for July 2026.

Bank Balances as of 19th July 2026

Account	Balance
Community Account	£2,479.68
Instant Access Account	£12,633.32
Hinckley & Rugby 45 Day	£15,000.00
TOTAL	£30,113.00

10. Planning Applications

Application Number	Applicant	Location	Proposal
DM/26/01647/FPA	Michael Lancaster Designs	24 Wesley Gardens Castleside Consett DH8 9QE	Extra side storey above existing garage and utility
RESOLVED to make no comment on this application.			
DM/26/01764/VOC	Mr B and Mrs A Hylton	Irthingvale Farm Outputs Lane Knitsley Consett DH8 9EX	Removal of Condition 6 (Agricultural Worker's Occupancy Restriction) pursuant to application 1/1984/0863/48412.

RESOLVED to submit the parish council's opposition to the loss of agricultural assets within the parish.			
DM/26/01809/LB	Durham County Council	Hownsgill Viaduct Consett DH8 9AA	Replacement of defective concrete surfacing with new concrete slab
RESOLVED to make no comment on this application.			

11. Parish Event Planning

- a. Castleside Village Festival – September 2026
 - i. The clerk provided an update on progress of event governance activities.
 - ii. The council received an update on the VAT position for the event.
 - iii. The council received a quotation for the hire of inflatables.
 - iv. The council received a briefing regarding the use of contactless payment options

RESOLVED:

- a. To receive the clerk's update.
- b. To receive the VAT position report and proceed on that basis.
- c. To approve the cost of inflatable hire.
- d. To proceed with the purchase of a standalone card reader, which will be held, and administered by, the clerk.
- e. To contact the Primary School Head Teacher about improving access to the School Field.

12. Flower Tub Planting

- a. Receive updated costs for annual planting following the addition of three new planters.

RESOLVED To receive the update from Cllr. Pearson and for the Clerk to reach out to the contractor to the installation and planting of the new planters.

13. Parish Survey by Councillors

- a. To receive feedback and recommendations from councillors following their survey of the parish.

RESOLVED to move this onto the next meeting.

14. Community Engagement Survey

- a. To review the proposed community engagement survey and determine implementation approach.

RESOLVED to approve the survey as presented, and to create an online version for launch during the parish festival.

15. Parish Bench maintenance

- a. To receive report from Cllr. Wallace regarding the maintenance work required on parish benches.

RESOLVED to move this onto the next meeting.

16. County Durham Plan Scoping Consultation

- a. To discuss and determine any views that the parish council wishes to submit regarding the key planning issues, challenges and opportunities that should be considered.

RESOLVED to encourage individuals to complete the scoping consultation survey.

17. Parish Council as a Trustee

- a. To receive an update on the legal advice received via CDALC regarding the Parish Council becoming a trustee.

RESOLVED to receive the update and not proceed with becoming a trustee.

18. Date of the next Ordinary Meeting

RESOLVED That the date and time of the next meeting be **Thursday 24th September 2026 at 7pm in St Johns Church Community Room.**

Meeting ended at 9.00 pm

Chair Date

DRAFT