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Clerk: Mr Ian Robson - Tel: 07999 985 548

THE MINUTES OF THE ORDINARY MEETING OF HEALEYFIELD PARISH COUNCIL HELD THURSDAY 24th SEPTEMBER 2026

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

The Chairman opened the meeting at 7.02 p.m.

1. **Apologies for Absence**
   None received

2. **Declarations of Interest**
   Cllr. Pearson & Cllr. Robson declared an interest in item 14. Cllr. Pearson is an employee of the Academy Trust of which Castleside Primary School is a member, and Cllr. Robson is the Chair of Governors at the Primary School. Dispensation requests for both councillors have been received for item 14 to allow them to participate in the discussion and vote, and these will be discussed under item 13.

3. **Notice of councillor resignation and resultant casual vacancy**
   It was noted that Cllr Spencer resigned as of 12th September 2026, and this has created a casual vacancy on the Council which the clerk has notified to Durham County Council.

   Council thanks Kris Spencer for her many years of service and dedication to the parish of Healeyfield.

4. **Agree minutes of the previous meeting**
   RESOLVED That the minutes of the Ordinary Meeting held on Thursday 23rd July 2026 be accepted as a true and correct record.

5. **Public Participation**
   No members of the public were in attendance.

6. **Chair's Report**
   The Chair reported that the village festival held on the 12th September was an exceptional day and received a good & positive response from residents with multiple entries into the festival categories. Thank you to everyone involved in organising and delivering the festival, both within the parish council, and the representatives from partner organisations, i.e. Castleside Village Hall, Castleside Primary School, Castleside Scout Group and Castleside Photography Club. Thank you to the clerk for their support & leadership during the event. Also, thank you to Councillor Dominic Haney for his financial support for the festival and for judging the Scarecrow competition.

7. **County Councillor's Report**
   County Cllr. D Haney provided the following report:

   - The village festival looked great and thank you to the parish council for the invitation to judge the Scarecrow competition.

- Speed survey now in place at Maudville.
- Shotley Bridge Hospital – on track to meet planned timescales, with construction of the new hospital expected to begin in 2027. The developer began land remediation work on Monday 7th September, with work expected to take up to a year to complete. During this period County Durham & Darlington NHS Foundation Trust will also continue to progress the Final Business Case which is planned to be submitted to NHS England by January 2027.

RESOLVED to receive, with thanks, the County Councillors report

8. Correspondence

a. Tour of the Reservoir Organiser - Steve Walton Resident – keen to gauge the opinion of how the event affected the village on the day.

RESOLVED that the clerk responds to advise that no negative comments have been received, but also that it may not have been well known what was occurring in Consett as part of the event.

b. St John's Church Parishioner – comment on the three sides of the memorial that have not had the letters renewed and perhaps requires it.

RESOLVED to respond regarding the parish council's plans regarding the maintenance of the memorial

9. Clerk's Report

The Council received the clerk's written report prior to the meeting.

RESOLVED to receive the clerks' report.

RESOLVED to add the cost for repair of the Miners Tub to the next agenda.

10. Finance

a. Accounts for Payment

See *Appendix A* for a detailed list of all authorised payments

RESOLVED To approve the accounts for payment for September 2026, as listed in Appendix A.

Bank Balances as of 21st September 2026

Account	Balance as of 21st Sep
Community Account	£1,490.33
Instant Access Account	£11,894.32
Hinckley & Rugby 45 Day	£15,000.00
TOTAL	**£28,384.65**

b. Receive Financial Regulations para 2.6 report

Cllr. Spencer inspected the July 2026 Bank Reconciliation and Bank Statements in line with Financial Regulations para 2.6 and found no exceptions to be reported to the council.

RESOLVED To receive the report.

c. Village Festival Financial Report

RESOLVED To receive the report.

d. Village Gates quotation

RESOLVED To receive the quotation from Durham County Council and approve the sum of £2,345.53 to be paid from S106 funds.

e. 2027/28 Budget inputs

The clerk requested councillors determine the desired projects for 2027/28 to allow for production of a draft budget for the period.

RESOLVED To receive the request for budget inputs.

11. Planning Applications

Application Number	Applicant	Location	Proposal
DM/26/01994/FPA	Mr Blackmore	1A Wesley Terrace, Castleside, Consett, DH8 9QB	Detached garage/storage building
RESOLVED to make no comment on this application			
DM/26/02129/VOC	Mr Jason Welch	Land To The North Of Knitsley Bridge, Knitsley, DH8 9EL	Variation of condition 4 (Occupancy Condition) pursuant to planning permission DM/23/03389/FPA for holiday occupancy purposes
RESOLVED to make no comment on this application			

12. Parish Event Planning

a. Castleside Remembrance Day Parade & Service – 8th November 2026
b. Poppy Net Pyramid Installation – determine dates for installation and removal.
c. 2027 Village Festival – determine event date and planning approach.

RESOLVED:

a. To proceed as per previous years with preparation activities.
b. To share the agreed date with Mark Dixon
c. Proposed date for the 2027 Festival – Sat 18th Sep 2027 & to arrange a 'lessons learnt' session with partners.

13. Dispensation under Standing Order 13

Discussed a dispensation under Standing Order 13, for Cllrs. Pearson and Robson in relation to item 13 on this agenda.

RESOLVED That, having regard to Standing Order 13, the Council grants a dispensation to Cllrs. Pearson & Robson in relation to item 14, on the basis that:

a) Cllrs Pearson & Robson have declared an interest in the matter;
b) without the dispensation the Council would be inquorate for this item and unable to transact the business;
c) the dispensation is granted for participation in the discussion for both councillors, and in the vote on this item only for Cllr. Robson;
d) the dispensation applies only to this item and for this meeting.
e) Cllrs. Pearson & Robson may remain in the room for the item, but only Cllr. Robson may vote on the matter.

14. Payments in relation to Castleside Village Festival

RESOLVED to submit donations to Castleside Village Hall, Castleside Primary School and Castleside Scouts in relation to their help and support regarding the village festival which directly benefited residents of the parish.

RESOLVED that Standing Order 3(x) be suspended for the remainder of the meeting, to allow the Council to continue beyond 2 hours and complete the business on the agenda.

15. Parish Newsletter – October production

RESOLVED to commence with the collation of content for the newsletter.

16. Parish Survey by Councillors

RESOLVED to move this item to a future agenda.

17. Parish Bench Maintenance

RESOLVED to move this item to a future agenda.

18. Adderstone Living – potential support for local projects

RESOLVED to propose that the two projects below are passed to Adderstone Living as potential projects:

- 'Way of Light' footpath repair near the Industrial Estate.
- Parish Wood perimeter fence repair.

RESOLVED to contact Durham County Council regarding the condition of the fence beside the 'black' path

19. Date of the next Ordinary Meeting

RESOLVED That the date and time of the next meeting be **Thursday 22nd October 2026 at 7pm in St Johns Church Community Room**.

Meeting ended at 9.40 pm

Chair …….. Date ……..

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Appendix A: List of authorised payments

Ref	Date	Supplier	Description	Net £	VAT £	Gross £
556	09/07/2026	Marmax Recycled Products	Seat Back Slats for WI seat	34.00	6.80	40.80
557	24/07/2026	Northern Print Solutions	750 Folded Festival Leaflets	78.00	-	78.00
558	26/07/2026	HP Instant Ink	HP Instant Ink	5.41	1.08	6.49
559	31/07/2026	Karbon Homes	Grant for Litter Picking Equipment	- 400.00	-	- 400.00
560	01/08/2026	Northern Print Solutions	100 Tickets (Business Cards)	16.80	3.36	20.16
561	04/08/2026	Grove Methodist Church	Council Storage	100.00	-	100.00
562	04/08/2026	SumUp Payments Ltd	SumUp Solo Card Reader	79.00	15.80	94.80
563	06/08/2026	Amazon Services Europe S.a.r.L. UK Branch	Heavy Duty Litter Sacks	26.63	5.33	31.96
564	06/08/2026	The Helping Hand Company	5 x Kids Litter Pick Grabbers	49.17	9.83	59.00
565	07/08/2026	The Helping Hand Company	15 x Adult Litter Pickers & 10 Hoops	257.37	51.48	308.85
566	10/08/2026	P Snowdon	Winter\Spring Planting	250.00	-	250.00
567	18/08/2026	Lloyds Bank	Lloyds Bank Account Charge	4.25	-	4.25
568	21/08/2026	Euro Packaging UK Limited	100m Banqueting Roll	27.49	5.50	32.99
569	21/08/2026	Amazon Services Europe S.a.r.L. UK Branch	50 x A4 Sheet Card 220gsm	4.16	0.83	4.99
570	22/08/2026	Amazon Services Europe S.a.r.L. UK Branch	120 x A5 Sheet Card 300gsm	14.16	2.83	16.99
571	26/08/2026	HP Instant Ink	HP Instant Ink	5.41	1.08	6.49
572	30/08/2026	Amazon Services Europe S.a.r.L. UK Branch	50 x A5 Envelopes	4.49	0.90	5.39
573	02/09/2026	Durham County Council	Castleside Festival Grant	- 500.00	-	- 500.00
574	01/09/2026	Richardson Design Ltd	43 x Rosettes	64.07	12.81	76.88
575	12/09/2026	Barrie McDermid	Evening Entertainment - Singer	450.00	-	450.00
576	12/09/2026	Healeyfield Parish Council	Ticket Sales	- 250.00	-	- 250.00
577	14/09/2026	Healeyfield Parish Council	Ticket Sales	- 20.00	-	- 20.00
578	14/09/2026	Healeyfield Parish Council	SumUp Ticket Sales	- 19.67	-	- 19.67
579	24/09/2026	I Robson	Salary - Sep 2026	450.40	-	450.40
580	24/09/2026	HMRC	HMRC Employer Payment	134.27	-	134.27
581	21/09/2026	Transfer	Instant Access Account	- 750.00	-	- 750.00

Chair Initials ……