

# Minutes of the Ordinary Meeting of Darrington Parish Council held Thursday 11 December 2025 at DARRINGTON READING ROOMS, PHILIP'S LANE, DARRINGTON, PONTEFRAC, WF8 3BH

**Present** Cllr L. Thompson (LT) (Chair), Cllr F. Gray, (FG), Cllr T. Hirst (PB), Cllr K. Whalley, Cllr L. Dale, Cllr W. Pickup, Cllr P. Batty

## **In Attendance**

Cllr B. Mayhew and 1 resident in attendance.

## **Action**

### **1. To receive apologies and approve reasons for absence**

**NOTED** apologies received from Cllr D. Burns and approved reasons thereto.

### **2. To declare a vacancy in respect of the council seat of Cllr V. Stones**

**RESOLVED** to carry forward to the next meeting.

### **3. Declarations of Interest**

#### **3.1 To note any declarations of interests not already declared under members Code of Conduct or members register of Disclosable Pecuniary Interests**

None received.

#### **3.2 To receive, consider and decide upon any applications for dispensation**

None received.

### **4. Minutes of Previous Meeting**

To confirm the minutes of the ordinary meeting of Darrington Parish Council held on 13 November 2025

**RESOLVED** to confirm the minutes of the ordinary meeting of the Council held on 13 November 2025 as a true and correct record.

### **5. To receive information on the following ongoing issues**

#### **5.1 To provide an update in respect of the footpath running from North Lodge Lane to Stapleton**

**NOTED** that an updated application has been submitted to North Yorkshire Council with separate A4-sized map portions showing the route of the footpaths more clearly.

**RESOLVED** to provide a further update at the next meeting.

**DB**

- 5.2 To create a new flower bed in the verge of Valley Road and to move the bench further along the verge and face it towards the field and not the road  
**RESOLVED** to carry forward to the next meeting. **PB**
- 5.3 To implement the proposed auto-response and adjust as necessary  
**RESOLVED** that no further action is required.
- 5.4 To bring hi-vis jackets for wearing on the litter picking day  
**RESOLVED** that no further action is required.
- 5.5 To purchase 2 additional defibrillators, for the first to be placed outside The Spread and the second to be placed on a resident's wall on the east side of the village  
**NOTED** that the first defibrillator is purchased and is awaiting installation, and that the location of the second defibrillator is still to be determined. **RESOLVED** to provide an update at the next meeting. **TH**
- 5.6 To request support from The Spread's landlords, to raise funds for the defibrillators through a raffle in the pub  
**NOTED** that the landlords are in the process of raising funds through a raffle and **RESOLVED** to provide an update at the next meeting. **TH**
- 5.7 To join Pontefract Civic Society's scheme for the purchase and replacement of batteries and pads as and when needed  
**RESOLVED** that no further action is required.
- 5.8 To obtain a quote for the installation of the cable for each defibrillator  
**RESOLVED** that no further action is required.
- 5.9 To liaise with the owner of West Park to encourage them to purchase a defibrillator  
**RESOLVED** to carry forward to the next meeting. **TH**
- 5.10 To add Wakefield Council's 'Assistance for Wakefield residents' to the village notice boards  
**RESOLVED** that no further action is required.
- 5.11 To follow up on the invoice for the Council's use of the Reading Rooms  
**RESOLVED** to advise the church of the amount to invoice. **FG**
- 5.12 To add a filter to the planning register, to allow for newer items to be shown at the top

**RESOLVED** that no further action is required.

- 5.13 To ascertain the cost for the tree to be planted by the Village Field Trust in memory of Cllr V. Stones

**NOTED** that the Village Field Committee elected to install a hedge instead of a tree, and that the cost has been financed by the Village Field Trust.

**RESOLVED** that no further action is required.

- 5.14 To ascertain the cost for the tree plaque to be installed in memory of Cllr V. Stones

**NOTED** that the Village Field Trust will be financed by the Village Field Trust and that discussions are underway with Cllr V. Stones' son in this respect.

**RESOLVED** to provide an update at the next meeting.

**TH**

- 5.15 To engage with the relevant resident for the repair for the notice board by the bus shelter that is rotting at the bottom of the posts

**NOTED** that the resident has agreed to repair the notice board once the weather has improved and **RESOLVED** to table on the agenda once again for the March 2026 meeting.

## 6. Correspondence

- 6.1 Wakefield Council – Community Safe Places Project

**RESOLVED** that no further action is required.

- 6.2 Offer of free dementia workshops by Home Instead

**RESOLVED** to invite Home Instead to the next meeting to provide more detail in respect of the workshops.

**JJ**

## 7. Financial Matters

- 7.1 **NOTED** payments to be approved for December 2025

Date Approved	Item	Payment Method	Payee	Reason	Amount	VAT
13.11.25	38-2526	TRF	White Rose Plants	Lamp Chris trees (extra 5 plus brackets	1,663.23	0.00
11.12.25	39-2526	TRF	Nick Dyas	Nov gardening/maintenance 4hrs @ £16	64.00	0.00
11.12.25	40-2526	TRF	PontyVA 925	Nov admin services	330.00	0.00
26.11.25	41-2526	Card 35	B&M 064	Refreshments Tithe Barn Carol Service	7.00	0.00
26.11.25	42-2526	Card 35	Aldi 16 779	Refreshments Tithe Barn Carol Service	47.36	0.00

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7.2 **NOTED payments made for November 2025**

Date Approved	Item	Payment Method	Payee	Reason	Amount	VAT
13.11.25	33-2526	TRF	Nick Dias	Gardening/maintenance Oct – 6hrs @ £16	96.00	0.00
13.11.25	34-2526	TRF	Carter Jackson	630 newsletters November	125.20	0.00
13.11.25	35-2526	TRF	PontyVA 925	Oct admin services	330.00	0.00
13.11.25	36-2526	Card 31	JRB Enterprises	10x packs 800 dog waste bags	297.60	49.60
16.11.25	37-2526	Card 31	Hungry Horse	Refreshments following litter pick	41.26	6.88
					<b>£890.06</b>	<b>£56.48</b>

7.3 **NOTED** income of £4.36 including £4.00 received from a donation and £0.36 Virgin Money cashback

**NOTED** the bank balance at 30 November 2025 as £26,199.86

7.4 **To receive and approve the bank reconciliation and review spend against the budget to 31 March 2026**

**RESOLVED** to approve the bank reconciliation to 30 November 2025 and spend against budget to 31 March 2026.

7.5 **To consider and decide upon the 2026-27 precept**

**NOTED** the revised budget for 2026-27, including removal of the election costs and reduction of the cost of the defibrillators. **NOTED** further that a provisional amount of £5,000 has been included for the possible purchase of a Smiley Sid.

**RESOLVED** to approve the proposed 2% increase in precept and to approve the final precept demand at the next meeting.

7.6 **To consider and decide upon a new banking mandate following the passing of Cllr V. Stones**

**RESOLVED** to approve Cllr D. Burns as the replacement third signatory for the Parish Council bank account. **FG**

8. **To consider planning applications received**

8.1 None

9. **To receive information on finalised planning applications**

9.1	<b>CYC Reference</b>	<b>Address/Description</b>	<b>Wakefield Council Decision</b>
	<a href="#">25/01776/TPO</a>	15 Beech Crescent - Crown Reduce the entire canopy of 1 Sycamore Tree by 2metres. Remove all deadwood	Refused with alternative works given

## 10. Reports – School, Police, Gardening Club, Village Field, Newsletter

### 10.1 To receive update from Village Traffic Working Group

**NOTED** an update in respect of the Working Group.

### 10.2 To consider school report

**NOTED** no update from Cllr L. Dale.

### 10.3 To consider Gardening Club report

**NOTED** the Gardening Club report presented by Cllr F. Gray.

### 10.4 To consider Village Field report

**NOTED** a report provided by the Village Field Trust Chair.

### 10.5 To consider newsletter report

**NOTED** that Cllr V. Stones' son has offered to support Cllr K. Whalley with the newsletter in memory of his mom. **NOTED** further that the next newsletter is to be published in February 2026.

### 10.6 To consider Church report

**NOTED** the Church report as presented by Cllr L. Thompson.

### 10.7 To note Newsletter-worthy items

**RESOLVED** to include an item in respect of Cllr V. Stones.

## 11. Governance matters

### 11.1 To review the 2026 Policy Review Schedule

**NOTED** and approved no changes to the 2026 Policy Review Schedule.

## 12. Matters requested by Councillors

### 12.1 To consider and decide upon holding an annual scarecrow festival / competition

**NOTED** Cllr W. Pickup's proposal to host an annual scarecrow festival and **RESOLVED** to table this for further discussion at the next meeting.

**WP**

12.2 To consider and decide upon future social events

**NOTED** Cllr L. Thompson's proposal to host a "talent" event, inviting people that have a talent they would like to showcase, to participate.

**RESOLVED** to include an invitation in the newsletter, for interested performers to come forward to ascertain the level of interest in such an event.

**KW**

**13. Matters for inclusion on the agenda for the next meeting**

13.1 To add a usage report for the additional defibrillators.

**JJ**

13.2 To consider and decide upon additional guardians for the defibrillators (TH).

**14. Date of Next Meeting**

It was **RESOLVED** that the next ordinary meeting of the Council will be held on Thursday 8 January 2026.

**Meeting closed at 20h08.**