

Minutes of the Ordinary Meeting of Darrington Parish Council held Thursday 8 January 2026 at DARRINGTON READING ROOMS, PHILIP'S LANE, DARRINGTON, PONTEFRACT, WF8 3BH

Present Cllr D. Burns (DB), Cllr L. Thompson (LT), Cllr F. Gray, (FG), Cllr T. Hirst (PB), Cllr K. Whalley, Cllr L. Dale, Cllr W. Pickup, Cllr P. Batty and Mrs J. Jones.

In Attendance

No resident in attendance.

Action

1. To receive apologies and approve reasons for absence

NOTED no apologies received.

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

NOTED that Cllr V. Stones had passed away and **RESOLVED** to declare a vacancy.

RESOLVED further to notify Wakefield Council accordingly.

JJ

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 11 December 2025

RESOLVED to confirm the minutes of the ordinary meeting of the Council held on 11 December 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 no update since the last meeting and **RESOLVED** to carry forward to 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 provide an update in respect of the 2 additional defibrillators to be installed
NOTED that the defibrillator at the Spread was installed on 2nd January 2026 and the defibrillator at Valley Road is due to be installed 26th January 2026.
 To carry forward to the next meeting. **TH**
- 5.4 To provide an update in respect of the raffle to raise funds for the defibrillators
NOTED that a total of £2,105 has been raised towards the cost of the defibrillators and the remaining cost of £607 will be funded by the Council.
RESOLVED that no further action is required
- 5.5 To liaise with the owner of West Park to encourage them to purchase a defibrillator
NOTED that Cllr T. Hirst has written to the owner and **RESOLVED** to provide an update at the next meeting. **TH**
- 5.6 To advise the church of the amount to invoice for the Reading Rooms
RESOLVED that no further action is required.
- 5.7 To provide an update in respect of the tree plaque to be installed in memory of Cllr V. Stones
RESOLVED that no further action is required.
- 5.8 To invite Home Instead to the next meeting to provide more detail in respect of the free dementia workshops
NOTED that Home Instead has offered to attend the next meeting and **RESOLVED** to carry forward to the next meeting. **JJ**
- 5.9 To add Cllr D. Burns as the replacement third signatory for the Parish Council bank account
NOTED that the forms are ready for signature and **RESOLVED** to send these through to the bank. **FG**
- 5.10 To consider and decide on planning for the scarecrow festival / competition

NOTED that Cllr W. Pickup will table a planning proposal at the next meeting.

WP

RESOLVED to introduce Cllr W. Pickup to the Village Field Committee.

LD

5.11 To include an invitation in the next newsletter, for interested performers to come forward to ascertain the level of interest in a “talent” event

RESOLVED to provide a write up for the newsletter.

LT

5.12 To add a usage report for the defibrillators in the village

RESOLVED that no further action is required.

6. Correspondence

None.

7. Financial Matters

7.1 **NOTED** payments to be approved for January 2026

Date Approved	Item	Payment Method	Payee	Reason	Amount	VAT
08.01.26	45-2526	TRF	PA Cook	Defibrillator for Valley Road	966.00	0.00
08.01.26	46-2526	TRF	JJ Electrical	Cable for Valley Road Defib	780.00	130.00
08.01.26	47-2526	TRF	PontyVA 925	Dec admin services	330.00	0.00
					2,076.00	130.00

7.2 **NOTED** payments made in December 2025

Date Approved	Item	Payment Method	Payee	Reason	Amount	VAT
13.11.25	40-2526	TRF	White Rose Plants	Lamp Chris trees (extra 5 plus brackets)	1,663.23	0.00
11.12.25	41-2526	TRF	Nick Dyas	Nov gardening/maintenance 4hrs @ £16	64.00	0.00
11.12.25	42-2526	TRF	PontyVA 925	Nov admin services	330.00	0.00
11.12.25	43-2526	TRF	Phil Cook	Defibrillator for Spread – London Hearts	966.00	0.00
22.12.25	44-2526	Card 35	Morrisons	Christmas	7.00	0.00
					3,030.23	0.00

7.3 **NOTED** the following income received in December 2025

Donations for Vera Stones	£547.83
Donations for defibrillators	£2,105.00
Darrington Gold Club – newsletter advertising	£100.00

Virgin Money cash back

£1.37

£2,754.20

NOTED the bank balance at 31 December 2025 as £25,868.31.

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 31 December 2025 and spend against budget to 31 March 2026.

7.5 To consider and decide upon the 2026-27 precept

RESOLVED to approve the 2026-27 precept of £19,439.46.

8. To consider planning applications received

8.1	CYC Reference	Address/Description	Council Vote	Parish Council Decision
	25/02360/FUL	15 Hillcroft Close - Removal of existing porch and construction of new extension to front and alterations to windows and doors	8 for / 0 against	No objection

9. To receive information on finalised planning applications

9.1	CYC Reference	Address/Description	Wakefield Council Decision
	24/02179/FUL	Stone Leigh Manor, Manor Park - Proposed demolition of existing detached bungalow and erection of new detached two storey dwellinghouse including balcony to rear	Application Approved
	25/01834/CPL	Church Farm Cottage, Estcourt Road - Construction of new porch/canopy and relevant building works to combine 2no dwellings	Application Approved

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

10.1 To receive update from Village Traffic Working Group

NOTED that there is a new Head of Highways. Cllr D. Burns to provide update at next meeting.

10.2 To consider school report

NOTED that Cllr L. Dale is liaising with the Chair of the PTFA.

RESOLVED to query with the school why the large drums are on the premises of the school.

LD

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 the next newsletter will be published in February 2026.

RESOLVED to request the historic newsletters from Cllr K. Whalley, for publishing on the website.

DB

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 the following items in the next newsletter:

- Cllr V. Stones
- Invitation to participate in the talent show
- Thank you to the Spread landlords and the community for supporting the fundraising and installation of the defibrillators

10.8 Defibrillator usage

NOTED usage data as presented by Cllr T. Hirst.

NOTED further that the maintenance contract with Community Heartbeat for the existing defibrillator expires in the coming months, and that Cllr T. Hirst has written to the service provider to ascertain options. **RESOLVED** to provide feedback at the next meeting.

TH

RESOLVED further to request training for the community, for the new defibrillators.

TH

11. Governance matters

11.1 To review and decide on any changes to the GDPR policy

NOTED and approved no changes to the GDPR Policy.

11.2 To review and decide on any changes to the Data Protection policy

NOTED and approved no changes to the Data Protection Policy.

11.3 To review and decide on any changes to the Subject Access Request (SAR) policy

NOTED and approved no changes to the Subject Access Request (SAR) Policy.

11.4 To review and decide on any changes to S137 Grants policy

NOTED and approved no changes to the S137 Grants Policy.

11.5 To note the results of the Annual Data Audit

NOTED and approved the results of the Annual Data Audit

11.6 To review and decide on any changes to Website Accessibility Statement

NOTED and approved no changes to the Website Accessibility Statement.

12. Matters requested by Councillors

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

RESOLVED that no further action is required.

12.2 To consider and decide upon future social events

RESOLVED that no further action is required.

12.3 To consider and decide upon testing of the lamp posts

RESOLVED to check with Wakefield Council whether they would allow us to plug into the power in the lamp posts. **FG**

RESOLVED to ask Street Scene about the testing of the lamp posts for this year. **FG**

RESOLVED further to request that the brackets are taken off the lamp posts. **FG**

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

None.

14. Date of Next Meeting

It was **RESOLVED** that the next ordinary meeting of the Council will be held on Thursday 12 February 2026.

Meeting closed at 20h12.