

# Minutes of the Ordinary Meeting of Darrington Parish Council held Thursday 12 February 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 L. Dale, Cllr W. Pickup and Mrs J. Jones.

## **In Attendance**

Cllr B. Mayhew and 2 residents in attendance.

## **Action**

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

**NOTED** apologies received from Cllr P. Batty and Cllr K. Whalley and approved reasons thereto.

**2. To consider and decide upon any co-option applications received**

**NOTED** no co-option applications received and **RESOLVED** to carry forward to the next meeting. **JJ**

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

**3.1 To note any declarations of interest 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 8 January 2026

**RESOLVED** to confirm the minutes of the ordinary meeting of the Council held on 8 January 2026 as a true and correct record.

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

**5.1 To notify Wakefield Council of the declaration of a vacancy in respect of the council seat of Cllr V. Stones**

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

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

**NOTED** an update in respect of the application for the footpath with Wakefield Council.

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

**DB**

5.3 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**

5.4 To provide an update in respect of the new defibrillators

**NOTED** that both defibrillators have been installed and are working and **RESOLVED** that no further action is required.

5.5 To liaise with the owner of West Park to encourage them to purchase a defibrillator

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

5.6 To invite Home Instead to the next meeting to provide more detail in respect of the free dementia workshops

**NOTED** that the representative of Home Instead was unable to attend the meeting and **RESOLVED** to arrange an online meeting as an alternative.

**JJ**

5.7 To send the completed bank signatory forms for Cllr D. Burns to the bank

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

5.8 To table a planning proposal for the scarecrow festival / competition

**RESOLVED** to arrange for printing of flyers to be included with the next newsletter.

**WP**

5.9 To introduce Cllr W. Pickup to the Village Field Committee

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

5.10 To provide a write up in the next newsletter, for interested performers to come forward to ascertain the level of interest in a "talent" event

**NOTED** that the write up is complete and **RESOLVED** to liaise with Darrington Golf Club regarding booking the main hall as the venue for the event.

**LT**

5.11 To query with the school why the large drums are on the premises of the school

**NOTED** an update received and **RESOLVED** to carry forward to the next meeting.

**LD**

5.12 To request the historic newsletters from Cllr K. Whalley, for publishing on the website  
**RESOLVED** to search for and provide missing historic newsletters for publishing on the website. **KW**

5.13 To provide feedback in respect of the maintenance contract with the existing defibrillator service provider

**NOTED** an update from Cllr T. Hirst and **RESOLVED** to approve annual spend of £20 to Pontefract Civic Society, to provide access to consumables within 24 hours of request.

**RESOLVED** to approve spend of £816.00 to replace the current defibrillator in the telephone box with a new defibrillator from Pontefract Civic Society, and to sell the current defibrillator back to Pontefract Civic Society. **TH**

**RESOLVED** further to consider and decide upon options for re-insulating the telephone box and to discuss these at the next meeting. **TH**

5.14 To request training for the community, for the new defibrillators

**RESOLVED** to arrange 2 training sessions for April, the first in the Reading Rooms and the second in the meeting room at the Spread. **TH**

5.15 To check with Wakefield Council whether they would allow us to plug into the power in the lamp posts

**NOTED** that Wakefield Council will not allow the Council to plug into the power in the lamp posts and **RESOLVED** that no further action is required.

5.16 To query with Street Scene regarding the testing of the lamp posts in 2026

**NOTED** that no testing is required for 2026, with the next testing required to take place for Christmas 2027.

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

5.17 To request that the brackets are taken off the lamp posts

**NOTED** that this will be undertaken once the weather turns drier and **RESOLVED** that no further action is required.

## 6. Correspondence

None.

**7. Financial Matters**

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

Date Approved	Item	Payment Method	Payee	Reason	Amount	VAT
12.02.26	52-2526	TRF	PontyVA 925	Jan Admin services	330.00	0.00
					<b>330.00</b>	<b>0.00</b>

**7.2 NOTED payments made in 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
08.01.26	48-2526	TRF	PCC of Darrington	Hire of Reading Room 01.04.24 to 31.03.25	176.00	0.00
08.01.26	49-2526	TRF	PCC of Darrington	Maintenance of church clock	104.00	0.00
08.01.26	50-2526	TRF	PWLB	Loan repayment Street Lights Special Delivery Postage HMRC	1,104.17	0.00
12.02.26	51-2526	Card 31	Post Office	VAT Claim	9.25	0.00
					<b>3,469.42</b>	<b>130.00</b>

**7.3 NOTED the following income received in January 2026**

Donation from Cllr L. Thompson	£7.00
Virgin Money cash back	£0.02
	<b>£7.02</b>

**NOTED** the bank balance at 31 January 2026 as £22,405.91.

**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 January 2026 and spend against budget to 31 March 2026.

**7.5 To consider and decide upon any changes to the asset register**

**RESOLVED** to add the 2 new defibrillators, to remove the stone planter on Valley Road, and to add the additional 5 Christmas tree brackets to the asset register.

**FG**

**8. To consider planning applications received**

8.1 None received

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

9.1 None received.

**10. Reports**

10.1 To receive update from Village Traffic Working Group

**NOTED** that a meeting is to be arranged with Richard from Wakefield Council.

10.2 To consider school report

**NOTED** that the Chair of the PTFA will check why the Council is not receiving updates from the school.

**RESOLVED** to send the list of Councillor emails to the Chair to ensure they are on the distribution list. **LD**

10.3 To consider Gardening Club report

**NOTED** the Gardening Club report presented by Cllr L. Thompson

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 follow up with Cllr K. Whalley on the proof reading for the newsletter. **DB**

10.6 To consider Church report

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

**RESOLVED** to speak to Gary about the dripping tap. **LT**

10.7 To note Newsletter-worthy items

**RESOLVED** to include the flyer for the Scarecrow Festival in the next newsletter. **WP/KW**

10.8 Defibrillator usage

**NOTED** no usage since the previous meeting.

## 11. Governance matters

11.1 To review and decide on any changes to the Statement of Internal Control

**NOTED** and approved no changes to the Statement of Internal Control.

11.2 To review and decide on any changes to the Internet Banking Policy

**NOTED** and approved no changes to the Internet Banking Policy.

11.3 To review and decide on any changes to the Debit Card Policy

**NOTED** and approved no changes to the Debit Card Policy.

## 12. Matters requested by Councillors

12.1 To consider and decide upon the current defibrillator in the telephone box

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

12.2 To consider and decide upon a replacement Responsible Financial Officer

**RESOLVED** that Cllr F. Gray will type out all financial procedures and further discussion will take place at the next meeting.

**FG**

12.3 To consider and decide upon future social events

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

12.4 To consider and decide upon testing of the lamp posts

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

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

13.1 Consider and decide upon a litter pick for April (FG)

13.2 Moving the bench on Estcourt Road (FG)

## 14. Date of Next Meeting

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

**Meeting closed at 20h22.**