

Minutes of the Ordinary Meeting of Darrington Parish Council held Thursday 12 March 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 P. Batty, Cllr K. Whalley and Mrs J. Jones.

In Attendance

Cllr B. Mayhew in attendance.

Action

1. To receive apologies and approve reasons for absence

NOTED apologies received from Cllr W. Pickup 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 12 February 2026

RESOLVED to confirm the minutes of the ordinary meeting of the Council held on 12 February 2026 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 an update in respect of the application for the footpath with Wakefield Council.

RESOLVED to carry forward to the next meeting.

DB

- 5.2 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 arrange an online meeting with Home Instead in respect of the free dementia workshops
RESOLVED that no further action is required.
- 5.4 To arrange for printing of flyers for the scarecrow festival / competition to be included with the next newsletter
RESOLVED that no further action is required.
- 5.5 To liaise with Darrington Golf Club regarding booking the main hall as the venue for the “talent” event
RESOLVED that the event is to take place on a Saturday after summer and to provisionally book the date. **LT**
- 5.6 To query with the school why the large drums are on the premises of the school
RESOLVED that no further action is required.
- 5.7 To search for and provide missing historic newsletters for publishing on the website
RESOLVED to send the list of currently available newsletters to Cllr K. Whalley and to search for the remaining outstanding ones. **DB/KW**
- 5.8 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
NOTED that the new defibrillator for the telephone box had been purchased but had not yet been installed.

NOTED further that the current defibrillator’s battery has been replaced and it will be sold by the Pontefract Civic Society.

RESOLVED that no further action is required.
- 5.9 To consider and decide upon options for re-decorating the telephone box
RESOLVED to explore this further with the resident that assists in general maintenance tasks around the village. **LT**
- 5.10 To arrange 2 training sessions for the new defibrillators for April
NOTED the training sessions scheduled for 20 April 2026 at the Reading Rooms and 11 May 2026 at the Spread.

5.11 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

RESOLVED that no further action is required.

5.12 To work with the Chair of the PTFA to get a response from the school to the Council's request to be copied on school newsletters

NOTED that Cllr L. Dale will forward all future school newsletters to the Council.

RESOLVED that no further action is required.

5.13 To follow up with Cllr K. Whalley on the proof reading for the newsletter

RESOLVED that no further action is required.

5.14 To speak to Gary about the Church dripping tap

RESOLVED that no further action is required.

5.15 To include the flyer for the Scarecrow Festival in the next newsletter

RESOLVED that no further action is required.

5.16 To document all procedures for the RFO role

RESOLVED to carry forward to the next meeting.

6. Correspondence

6.1 To receive and note a complaint submitted by a parish resident concerning a Parish Councillor and to consider the appropriate process for handling the complaint

RECEIVED a complaint from a resident in respect of a councillor. **RESOLVED** to engage further prior to a decision being taken as to next steps.

DB

7. Financial Matters

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

Date Approved	Item	Payment Method	Payee	Reason	Amount	VAT
12.03.26	53-2526	TRF	PontyVA 925	Feb Admin services	330.00	0.00
12.03.26	54-2526	TRF	Pontefract Civic Society	Annual Donation to Pontefract Defib Scheme	20.00	0.00
12.03.26	55-2526	TRF	P. Cook	Replacement Defib for Telephone box	668.00	0.00
12.03.26	56-2526	TRF	Carter Jackson	Feb Newsletters x 630	129.45	0.00

12.03.26	57-2526	Card 31	JRB Enterprises	Dog Waste Bags x 10 packs	297.60	49.60
12.03.26	58-2526	TRF	P. Batty	Whisky for Brotherhood – Christmas Thank you	32.39	5.40
12.03.26	59-2526	TRF	F. Gray	2x Yellow Cartridges – flyer printing	43.79	7.31
					1,521.23	62.31

7.2 **NOTED** payments made in 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
					330.00	0.00

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

HMRC VAT Refund for 2024-2025	£1,721.49
Virgin Money cash back	£0.03
	£1,721.52

NOTED the bank balance at 28 February 2026 as £23,797.43.

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 28 February 2026 and spend against budget to 31 March 2026.

7.5 To consider and approve the Wakefield Council Annual Maintenance Agreement 2026/27

RESOLVED to approve the Agreement.

8. **To consider planning applications received**

8.1 None received

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

CYC Reference	Address/Description	Wakefield 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	Application Approved

10. **Reports**

10.1 To receive update from Village Traffic Working Group

NOTED that Wakefield Council has agreed corrective actions for the first half of 2026, but no dates have been confirmed yet.

10.2 To consider school report

NOTED an update from Cllr L. Dale.

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 June 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 Thank Yous to the residents that support the village in various ways.

10.8 Defibrillator usage

NOTED no usage since the previous meeting.

11. Governance matters

None.

12. Matters requested by Councillors

12.1 To consider and decide upon the repair of the notice boards

RESOLVED to request that the notice boards are repaired.

LT

12.2 To consider and decide upon social media content and timing for the scarecrow competition

RESOLVED to place poster on Facebook, notice boards and the website.

WP/JJ

12.3 To consider and decide upon the next litter pick

RESOLVED that the next litter pick will take place on Saturday 16 May 2026.

RESOLVED further to place notices on social media, notice boards and the website for both **TH/LT/JJ** the litter pick and the defibrillator training.

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 To consider and decide upon using a print service for future ad hoc print requirements (FG)

14. Date of Next Meeting

It was **RESOLVED** that the next ordinary meeting of the Council will be held on Thursday 9 April 2026.

Meeting closed at 20h52.