

Minutes of the Annual Meeting of Darrington Parish Council held
Thursday 14 May 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 L. Dale (LD), Cllr W. Pickup (WP) and Mrs J. Jones.

In Attendance

1 resident in attendance.

Action

1. To elect a Chair and receive acceptance of office

RESOLVED to re-elect Cllr D. Burns as Chair with immediate effect.

RESOLVED further to notify Wakefield Council of Cllr D. Burns' re-election.

JJ

2. To receive apologies and approve reasons for absence

NOTED apologies received from Cllr T. Hirst, Cllr K. Whalley and Cllr P. Batty and approved reasons thereto.

3. To elect a Vice-Chair and receive acceptance of office

RESOLVED to re-elect Cllr L. Thompson as Vice-Chair with immediate effect.

RESOLVED further to notify Wakefield Council of Cllr L. Thompson's re-election.

JJ

4. **Declarations of Interest**

4.1 To note any declarations of interest not already declared under members Code of Conduct or members Register of Disclosable Pecuniary Interests

None received.

4.2 To receive, consider and decide upon any applications for dispensation

None received.

5. **Minutes of Previous Meeting**

To confirm the minutes of the ordinary meeting of Darrington Parish Council held on 9 April 2026

RESOLVED to confirm the minutes of the ordinary meeting of the Council held on 9 April 2026 as a true and correct record.

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

6.1 To create invitations to join the Council and place these on the notice boards

RESOLVED that no further action is required.

6.2 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

6.3 To send the digital version of the January 2026 newsletter to Mrs Jones for publishing on the website

RESOLVED that no further action is required.

6.4 To publish the historic newsletters on the website

RESOLVED that no further action is required.

6.5 To arrange for re-decorating of the telephone box

RESOLVED to carry forward to the next meeting.

TH

6.6 To request that the notice boards are repaired

RESOLVED that no further action is required.

6.7 To place the poster for the scarecrow competition, litter pick and defibrillator training on the website and social media

RESOLVED that no further action is required.

6.8 To re-send the school newsletter to councillors

RESOLVED to carry forward to the next meeting.

LD

6.9 To request that the school advertises the scarecrow competition in its newsletter

RESOLVED that no further action is required.

6.10 To share the risk assessments with the Council and save to Google Drive

RESOLVED that no further action is required.

7. **Correspondence**

None.

8. Financial Matters

8.1 NOTED payments to be approved for May 2026

Date Approved	Item	Payment Method	Payee	Reason	Amount	VAT
14.05.26	06-2627	TRF	N. Dyas	Gardening & Maintenance April - 9hrs @ £16ph	144.00	0.00
01.05.26	07-2627	D/D	ICO	ICO Annual Data Protection Renewal	47.00	0.00
14.05.26	08-2627	TRF	PontyVA 925	April Admin services	350.00	0.00
14.05.26	09-2627	TRF	Gallagher Insurance Brokers	Hiscox Ins Policy 8188182 – 01.06.2026	724.89	0.00
					1,265.89	0.00

8.2 NOTED payments made in April 2026

Date Approved	Item	Payment Method	Payee	Reason	Amount	VAT
09.04.26	01-2627	TRF	WJP Software Ltd	Annual Support Active Council .gov.uk & emails	702.00	117.00
09.04.26	02-2627	TRF	N. Dyas	Gardening & Maintenance March - 13hrs @ £16ph	208.00	0.00
09.04.26	03-2627	TRF	PontyVA 925	March Admin services	330.00	0.00
09.04.26	04-2627	TRF	PCC D'ton with W'bridge	Hire of Reading rooms 11 x £16 1.4.25 to 31.3.26	176.00	0.00
09.04.26	05-2627	TRF	PCC D'ton with W'bridge	Maintnce Church Clock 1.4.25 to 31.3.26 52 x £2	104.00	0.00
					1,520.00	117.00

8.3 **NOTED** the following income received in April 2026:

- Precept – Wakefield Council - £19,439.46
- Sales – Darrington Golf Club – Scarecrow Festival – £5.00
- Newsletter Advertisements – Darrington Golf Club - £100.00
- Cashback – Virgin Money Card 31 - £1.04

8.4 To receive and approve the bank reconciliation to 30 April 2026 and to review spend against the budget to 31 March 2027

RESOLVED to approve the bank reconciliation to 30 April 2026 and spend against budget to 31 March 2027.

NOTED further the final bank balance at 30 April 2026 as £40,301.70.

8.5 To consider and decide upon appointment of Internal Auditor

RESOLVED to appoint Mr. Scott Davis as the Internal Auditor for the 2025-2026 audit period.

8.6 To consider and approve final 2026/27 budget with updated adjustments

NOTED and **RESOLVED** to approve an update to the 2026/27 budget.

9. To consider planning applications received

9.1 None.

10. To receive information on finalised planning applications

10.1	CYC Reference	Address/Description	Wakefield Council Decision
	22/01983/S730	Delph House, Estcourt Road - Variation of condition 1 (approved plans) of planning application 22/01983/S7302 dated 18/11/2024 (which granted planning permission for variation of condition 2 (approved plans) of planning application 22/01983/FUL dated 27/10/2023	Application Approved

11. Reports

11.1 To receive update from Village Traffic Working Group

NOTED no feedback received from Wakefield Council and to source an alternative contact to liaise with going forward.

11.2 To consider school report

NOTED no update since the last meeting.

11.3 To consider Gardening Club report

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

11.4 To consider Village Field report

NOTED a report provided by the Village Field Trust Chair.

11.5 To consider newsletter report

NOTED that the next newsletter will be published in July 2026.

11.6 To consider Church report

NOTED a report provided by Cllr L. Thompson.

11.7 To note Newsletter-worthy items

RESOLVED to include the following items in the next newsletter:

- Possibility of creating hedgehog highways in the village

- An invitation for residents to sign up as volunteers
- The October 'Evening of Entertainment'

11.8 Defibrillator usage

NOTED no usage since the previous meeting.

12. Governance matters

12.1 To consider and approve any changes to Standing Orders

NOTED no changes to the Standing Orders.

12.2 To consider and approve any changes to Financial Regulations

RESOLVED to amend the Financial Regulations to reflect the Responsible Financial Officer, the Chair and 1 other councillor as authorised for a Council debit card.

JJ

12.3 To consider and approve any changes to Members' Code of Conduct

NOTED no changes to the Code of Conduct.

12.4 To consider and decide upon the annual website, .gov.uk domain and email support agreement

RESOLVED to approve the agreement and to send to Cllr D. Burns for signature.

JJ

13. Matters requested by Councillors

13.1 To consider and decide upon planning for the Feast and Fayre stall

RESOLVED that Cllr F. Gray will arrange the boards for the stall and Cllr L. Thompson will prepare the rota for the day.

FG/LT

13.2 To consider and decide upon planning for the Scarecrow Competition

RESOLVED that due to lack of interest from the village, the Scarecrow Competition will not go ahead, and that the posters will be updated to reflect cancelled, and residents that have paid their entry fee will be refunded.

WP/FG

13.3 To consider and decide upon planning for the Evening of Entertainment

NOTED that the event is provisionally booked for 10 October 2026 and that there are currently 5 participants for the event.

RESOLVED to put arrangements down in writing and share with the Council.

LT

- 13.4 To consider and decide upon contributing towards the cost of installing a footpath across the village field from Denby Rd to Philips Lane, as well as facilitating the payment on behalf of the Village Field Trust

RESOLVED to approve a contribution of £1,000 towards the installation of a footpath across the village field from Denby Rd to Philips Lane, and to facilitate the payment on behalf of the Village Field Trust.

FG/LD

- 13.5 To consider and decide upon the upkeep of land to the side of the footpath to the church, at the end of the cul-de-sac in Wentworth Park Rise

RESOLVED to request that Nick Dyas picks this up and maintains it going forward.

LT

- 13.6 To note correspondence to Wakefield Council in respect of the planned road resurfacing in Valley Road

NOTED information in this respect and **RESOLVED** to carry forward to the next meeting.

DB

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

- 13.1 To consider and decide upon supporting the creation of hedgehog highways in the village (FG).
- 13.2 To consider and decide upon a donation to Yorkshire Ambulance Service Charity for the defibrillator training provided by them (FG).
- 13.3 To consider and decide upon contacting Highways England to request industrial litter picking along the A1 (PB)
- 13.4 To consider and decide upon adding Cllr L. Dale to the list of bank signatories (FG)
- 13.5 To consider and decide upon clearing the hedgerow next to the A1 slip road near Ripon Farm (coming down into the village) (PB)

14. Date of Next Meeting

It was **RESOLVED** that the next ordinary meeting of the Council will be held on Thursday 14 June 2026.

Meeting closed at 20h32.