



MINUTES OF PARISH COUNCIL MEETING

WEDNESDAY 8 APRIL 2026

COUNCILLORS: Wilkinson, Thelwell, Platten, Hannan & Watson

Clerk: Martin Clark

Others: Susan Tron, Durham Community Action, & 2 residents

Public Participation

The Blooming Gainford group were requesting to plant on the Lord Nelson island. Members were in full agreement to see planting on the island.

The proposed bench located in the herb garden was discussed – The Blooming Gainford group will work with the Clerk on sourcing an appropriate bench.

1. Acceptance, or otherwise of apologies

Cllr Jackson submitted her apologies. No apologies were received from Cllr Jerome.
Resolved – That the submitted apologies be accepted.

2. Declarations of Interest

Resolved – No personal or pecuniary declarations were made.

3. Minutes of the Ordinary Council Meeting held on 11 February 2026

Resolved – That the minutes of the Ordinary Council Meeting held on the 11 February 2026.

4. Finance

4.1 April 2026 meeting reconciliation and payments.

Additional payments:

Zurich (insurance) £1373.52

A. Tomlinson (bench work) £171.00

CDALC (Annual fee) £256.42

Simon Baldwin (window cleaner) £40.00

Resolved – That the April 2026 meeting payments and reconciliation be approved.

Minutes April 2026

4.2 (submitted) To consider the quote to create a sub-base path alongside the football pitch at the recreation field.

Resolved – That the quote from C Robson Building Services be accepted

4.3 To consider the purchase of single space barrow

Resolved – That the purchase of a single Space-Liner barrow, with a brake unit is purchased from Glasdon UK at a purchase price of £1,076.14

4.4 To consider the purchase of a bench to be situated in the herb garden

Resolved – (a) That research on the most appropriate outdoor bench is carried out; and (b) That the maximum approved budget for the bench is £400.00.

5. Affordable Rural Housing Survey

Susan Tron, Durham Community Action presented the report on the Parish Housing Profile and survey results. The survey results can be found on the council website:

https://gainfordandlangtonparishcouncil.org.uk/wp-content/uploads/2026/04/Gainford-Parish-Housing-Needs-Survey_Report_2026.pdf

6. Village issues/Maintenance

6.1 Repairs to two benches on the village green – Mr Tomlinson has repaired and cleaned up one of the benches and will be looking what needs to be done on the other.

6.2 Fly tipping at St Peter's – Requested assistance from Kebble to help the removal of the tipped waste.

6.3 New signage required for village green and recreation field now the council has its corporate logo.

Resolved – That the designs for the village greens and recreation field are created.

6.4 It has been announced the Revd Canon Eileen Harrop will be leaving the church and village at the end of May. Members may wish to record their thanks and good wishes.

Resolved – That the Parish Council extends its gratitude to Revd Eileen Harrop and wish her well for the future.

7. Correspondence

County Councillor	Update
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8. Planning

None

9. Speeding Group

Cllr Hannan informed members that she was finalising the traffic survey results and members will have things before the next meeting.

- Enough volunteers have come forward for the village Speedwatch. Training will now be organised.
- 40 mph buffer zones would be asked for at all entrances to the village, and located back before the 30-mph breaking area.
- The village gateway signs from the East to be relocated at St Peter's to ensure improved visibility on exiting the surgery.

Resolved – That the information is received and noted.

10. Annual Parish (APM) & Annual Council Meetings (ACM)

To set the date for the APM & ACM in May

Resolved – (a) That the Annual Council Meeting is held on the 6th May and the Annual Parish Meeting is to be held on the 15th May; and (b) That the June ordinary council meeting be held on the 17 June.