



MINUTES OF PARISH COUNCIL MEETING

WEDNESDAY 9 SEPTEMBER 2026

COUNCILLORS: Wilkinson, Jackson, Platten, Hannan, & Watson

Clerk: Martin Clark

1. Acceptance, or otherwise of apologies

Cllrs Thelwell & Jerome submitted their apologies.

Resolved – That the submitted apologies be accepted.

2. Declarations of Interest

Resolved – No personal or pecuniary declarations were made.

3. Minutes of the Council Meeting held on 8 July 2026

Resolved – That the minutes of the Annual Council Meeting held on the 8 July 2026 are approved.

4. Finance

4.1 September meeting reconciliation and payments.

Resolved – That the September meeting reconciliation and payment be approved.

4.2 Warm & Welcome financial support application

Submitted – Grant application form & Clerk report on repeat funding applications.

Resolved – (a) That the grant request from Warm & Welcome be approved; and (b) That Warm & Welcome organisers arrange for a Food Hygiene course to be completed.

4.3 Local Government pay award agreed for 2026/27 (from April) at 3.3% - payable in September salary

Resolved – That the information be received and noted

5. Village issues/Maintenance

5.1 Public Space Protection Order – A discussion took place on the use of Public Space Protection Orders and the use of the Direction to Leave powers.

5.2 Footpaths across St Peter's (Kebble development)

Kebble Homes have set up two sections of safety fencing that allow walkers to maintain access whilst engineering work is being carried out.

5.3 Strimming School Lane.

Requires more than strimming as the road width has been reduced by vegetation.

Action: To look into alternative ways to improve visibility and roadway other than just strimming bushes back.

5.4 Council garage roof repair – obtaining fresh quotes for the work.

5.5 Concern was raised over the electricity pole on the island which is bent.

5.6 Recreation Field signage required – No dogs, camping, fires etc

6. Communication Strategy Refresh

Item deferred from July meeting.

Resolved – That the revised Communication Strategy policy be approved.

7. Allotments

The Clerk advised members that the council were returning to administer the allotments.

Improvements to the area are to be looked at going forward.

Reference was made to a planning application from Kebble Homes that referred to gifting the allotment site to the council. It was agreed that this would be investigated by the Clerk.

Resolved – That a noticeboard is purchased for the allotments with a budget of £500 (net)

8. Speeding Group

Cllr Hannan updated members on the latest meetings held by the Speeding Group. In the process of drawing up a number of questions for Durham County Council and county councillors. Another meeting is scheduled for this month.

Resolved – That the information is received and noted.

