



Minutes of Meeting held Monday, 14th September 2026 at 7.00 pm,
Community Parish Room, 1 Monteith Close, West Auckland DL14 9UB

Present:

Cllr K Guest, Chair
Cllr K Bolton
Cllr T Horsman
Cllr J Pattison
Cllr M Roberts
Cllr N Simpson
Cllr D Swainston

26.61 TO RECEIVE APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Apologies were received from Cllr Curl, Cllr Farrer, Cllr Foster & Cllr Robinson: no other apologies were received.

26.62 DECLARATION OF INTEREST IN ITEMS ON THE AGENDA

There were no expressions of interest received.

26.63 TO CONFIRM MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETING

The Minutes of the previous meeting were agreed and signed accordingly.

26.64 TO INVITE ANY COMMENTS FROM MEMBERS OF THE PUBLIC

There were no comments from the public.

26.65 TO RECEIVE COUNCILLORS' REPORTS

- Cllr Simpson highlighted that the company which removed the skip did not take the tyres as originally agreed. The Parish Council paid for the removal of skip as DCC did not manage to arrange its removal despite numerous safety concern reports to them. This created a cost of £360 to the Parish Council due to the absence of action from DCC.
- A fridge dumped on George Street was reported to DCC but DCC said they could not find the fridge to remove it. The report will be made again.
- It was highlighted that the overgrown thistles and shrubs on George Street have been cut by DCC but they were dumped on an existing fly-tipping garden at the rear of Copeland Road.
- A black bollard on Milbank Corner has been removed and reported to DCC with a request to re-install it.

Chairman's Signature..... Date.....

- Cllr Simpson has reported fliers being sited around the village to DCC. It was resolved that Wolsingham Show Committee should be asked to stop placing them on West Auckland bus shelters.
- Bramble bushes were reported as dangerous as they are overgrown and coming over the riverside wall on Chapel Street corner. It was resolved that the Environment Agency be asked to cut them back or remove completely.

26.66 CLERK'S TABLING OF CORRESPONDENCE/ENDORISING OF INVOICE CHEQUES

Correspondence received was tabled and payments endorsed as follows:

	Income	Expenses
Eon Next		£47.98
Eon Next		£22.55
BT		£40.74
GT Coatings x 4 benches powder coated		£852.29
HMRC PAYE		£300.00
Benches x 4 removed, transported and reinstalled		£150.00
Removal of builders skip Front Street		£360.00
Domestic - Lynne Lord		£88.00
Telephone & broadband		£30.00
GT Coatings x 5 benches powder coated		£1,065.36
Eon Next		£47.03
Eon Next		£23.50
BT GROUP PLC		£40.74
Benches x 5 removed, transported and reinstalled		£200.00
GT Coatings x 4 benches powder coated		£970.91
GT Coatings x 4 benches powder coated		£852.29
Windows cleaned - S Yorke		£20.00
Telephone & broadband		£30.00
Cleaner - L Lord		£88.00
L Farrington Go Sew	£212.50	
Anglian Water		£94.71
Benches x 4 removed, transported and reinstalled		£160.00
Benches x 4 removed, transported and reinstalled		£160.00

26.67 TO RECEIVE ENVIRONMENT/PLANNING WORKING GROUP UPDATE

- To consider a future remembrance plaques

It was resolved that commemorative plaques will continue to be installed on seats throughout the village in recognition of individuals who have passed away and who have made a significant voluntary contribution to the village and its community.

- To receive update on removal of shed from Parish Council land

It was resolved that the Parish Council do not agree that the land belongs to Mr Wall and he is yet to produce any Deeds. At least most of the land in question belongs to the Parish Council and until Mr Wall proves otherwise, the Parish Council require written confirmation from Mr Wall that he will take full responsibility and be solely liable for any accident or injury relating to the shed. ACTION: Clerk to reply.

Chairman's Signature..... Date.....

- iii. To consider a West Auckland boundaries review

The item was raised at Cllr Stephen Gray, DCC Councillor's request. In his absence this item is carried to the next meeting. In the interim Cllr Roberts will draft a proposed plan of more appropriate boundaries for West Auckland.

26.68 To RECEIVE FINANCE WORKING GROUP UPDATE

There were no financial items for consideration.

26.69 To CONSIDER LOCAL PLANNING ISSUES

There were no plans for consideration.

26.70 To RECEIVE AGENDA ITEM FOR MONDAY, 12TH OCTOBER 2026 MEETING

- To consider a plaque to commemorate West Auckland's fallen miners
- To receive update on the shed on Parish Council land.
- To consider a West Auckland boundaries review.
- To receive update on Copeland Road garden clear up.
- To explore options for improvements to Edith Terrace & George Street unadopted roads.

Chairman's Signature..... Date.....