

Minutes of the Dunston Parish Council Meeting - Monday 13th April 2026

Present: Cllrs McLuckie, Armstrong, Craig, Harding, Phillipson, Lamyman

Public session - No members of the public were present

Council Session

26040 Apologies received from L Treece, R Pellow, T Barbour (Clerk)

26041 No declarations of interest were received.

26042 The minutes of the March 2026 PC meeting were signed by the chairman. No matters arising or not scheduled were presented.

26043 No Councillors from either NKDC or LCC were present to give reports

26044 **Chairman's Report –**

1. Salaries: the revised salaries from 1st April 2026 agreed at the salary review meeting following the change to the “Living Wage” for both H & T Barbour were given to the Councillors & will be relayed to both employees.

2. A reminder to all that we still have 2 vacancies outstanding; a Councillor and a Vice Chairman's position.

26045 3. A reminder that the next meeting will be both the Annual Parish meeting with invitees from all village organization, followed by the Annual Parish Council meeting. Invitees to go out asap.

RM

RM

26046 **Clerk's Report –**

1. No Planning issues

2. Fraud Pack. A free Fraud Warning Pack from the Police Commissioner is available, and it was agreed that we should require 350 copies for village distribution please.

TB

26047 **Highways issues –**

1. Thanks were given to the councillors who have continued to press for action from LCC on the replacement of the Front St Bridge and nearby street lighting.

2. Little progress has been made to date.

3. It was agreed to ask for an LCC rep to attend our next meeting.

BL

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| 26048 | <p>Village hall</p> <p>1. No formal report had been received. It was agreed to re-request that the Clerk be included in the distribution of minutes from village Hall.</p> | TB |
| 26049 | <p>2. Lighting for the Car Park area was discussed, and both costs and durability were to be further investigated.</p> | AC |
| 26050 | <p>3. Income levels have now stabilized.</p> <p>4. Feedback on PC & VH terms of reference no response to date.</p> | RM |
| 26051 | <p>Playing Field</p> <p>1. Fence repairs have yet to begin with marking out in readiness to do.</p> | TB |
| 26052 | <p>2. Agreement with Dunston Bowls Club to use their toilet and storage for the fencing repairs.</p> | RM |
| 26053 | <p>3. HAGS reported that we need to clarify more precisely what work we want them to do.</p> <p>a. The inspection and repair of those elements that need to be dismantled & inspected (e.g. see saw, rocking horse).</p> <p>b. Replacement of any parts (e.g. pole tops missing)</p> | TB |
| 26054 | <p>Finance</p> <p>Year-end finances were at just under £34,000 on the March accounts, with only the £1720 outstanding for the replacement defibrillator – which has been ordered.</p> <p>This is slightly above the base target of £26,500 reserve, equivalent to 1 year's Precept.</p> <p>Councillors were asked to consider what uplifting and beneficial projects we should consider for the coming year.</p> | All |
| 26055 | <p>Next Meeting{s} Monday 11th May will be as follows: 6.30pm Annual Parish Meeting</p> <p>1. All clubs, activity groups and organisations are to be invited to attend and use a 5 minute slot to outline themselves, plans and opportunities they offer.</p> | TB |
| 26056 | <p>2. Refreshments to be provided</p> | LP |
| 26057 26058 | <p>8.00pm (approx.) Annual Parish Council Meeting</p> <p>1. The Clerk will be the opening Chairman until a Chairman is elected, then all officials are duly elected. (Chairman, Vice Chairman, Emergency Planning Team, etc)</p> <p>2. Notices and organisations to be invited as soon as possible</p> | TB TB |