MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF

SOUTH HETTON PARISH COUNCIL

HELD ON TUESDAY 17 FEBRUARY 2026

Present: Councillors G Rodgers (Chair), P Casson, D Rodgers, C Charters, S Mason, R Stephenson, L Haswell and S Elliott

1. **APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE**

Apologies for absence were submitted on behalf of Councillors L Wass and Councillor Rowney.

2. **OPEN FORUM**

There was no public present.

3. **DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST IN ITEMS ON THE AGENDA**

Councillor P Casson declared an interest in Item 8b – 36 Hetton Le Hole Squadron RAF Cadets
Councillor G Rodgers declared an interest in Item 8c – East Durham Action Group

4. **POLICE REPORT**

Consideration was given to the police report, which had previously been circulated to Members. The calls related to ASB – 3, Personal – 1, Nuisance/Environmental – 2, Burglary – 0, Criminal Damage – 1, Vehicle – 0, Theft and handling - 1.

The next cuppa with a copper will be held on Tuesday 3 March 2026 at East Durham Garden Centre between 1pm and 2pm.

The next face to face PACT meeting will be held on Thursday 12 March 2026 at the Robin Todd Centre between 4pm and 5pm.

November 2025 Mobile Safety Camera Enforcement results –

During two visits to the area of the A182 Logan Terrace, 31 drivers triggered the Safety Cameras

1 driver fell within our Process Level (Court Action)
2 drivers fell within our Conditional Offer Level (Court Action)
28 drivers fell within our Speed Awareness Course level.

Keep in the Know is a messenger platform used by the Police to pass out local messages via email on local topics.

RESOLVED that the information given be noted.

5. **MINUTES OF THE MEETING HELD ON 20 JANUARY 2026** a copy of which had been circulated to each Member were approved and signed by the Chair.

6. **MATTERS ARISING**

The estimates for replacement of the gas boiler had been received.

RESOLVED that Connected Gas and Heating was the cheapest quotation and be requested to do the works as soon as possible.

7. **PLANNING MATTERS**

a) Planning Applications - None

b) Planning Approvals - None

COUNCILLOR P CASSON DECLARED AN INTEREST AND TOOK NO PART IN CONSIDERATION OF THE FOLLOWING ITEM

8. **CORRESPONDENCE**

a) 36 Hetton le Hole Squadron RAF Air Cadets – a request for financial assistance had been received.

RESOLVED that £100 be donated.

b) Welfare Seat Plaque – a request had been received for a commemorative plaque to be installed on one of the seats in the park. The cost to refurbish the seat before the plaque was installed would be £270.

RESOLVED that the family be informed of the costs.

COUNCILLOR G RODGERS DECLARED AN INTEREST AND TOOK NO PART IN CONSIDERATION OF THE FOLLOWING ITEM

c) **East Durham Action Group** – A request for financial assistance was received to assist the group in meeting costs relating to room hire, the production of printed information, and fuel expenditure.

RESOLVED that £100 be donated.

d) **Bus Shelters** - a resident submitted a request seeking the parish council's support for a project to refurbish the village bus shelters. The resident wished to apply for funding from the EGL1 Community Benefit Fund and required a sponsor in order to proceed. It was noted that responsibility for the bus shelters rests with DCC.

Should permission be granted for residents to undertake the refurbishment, they may subsequently be required to assume responsibility for ongoing repair and maintenance.

The parish council confirmed that it was unable to take on these responsibilities but offered to report any concerns on behalf of the resident, should they so wish.

RESOLVED that the resident be advised that the parish council could not support the project for the reasons stated.

9. **FINANCIAL POSITION – BANK RECONCILIATION**

The Clerk submitted a report setting out the bank reconciliation as at January 2026.

RESOLVED that the report be agreed and the information given be noted.

10. **BUDGET 2025/26**

The Clerk submitted a report setting out details of income and expenditure for 2025-26.

RESOLVED that the report be received and the information given be noted.

11. **ACCOUNTS**

RESOLVED that the following invoices for payment by the Clerk be endorsed.

DATE	PAYEE	CHEQUE NO/DD/T/BACS	AMOUNT	DESCRIPTION
12/01/2026	EE Ltd	DD	29.36	Mobile phone
15/01/2026	Groundsman1	BACS	1,775.66	Salary - January
15/01/2026	Clerk	BACS	845.76	Salary - January
15/01/2026	Groundsman2	BACS	1,368.51	Salary - January
15/01/2026	British Gas	DD	115.86	Gas - December
18/01/2026	South Hetton Community Ass	TRANSFER	3,099.95	Management Fee
18/01/2026	Madhouse Media Ltd	TRANSFER	90.00	Website Renewal
19/01/2026	Groundsman1	BACS	1,121.13	Salary Deductions - December
19/01/2026	Clerk	BACS	308.58	Salary Deductions - December
19/01/2026	Groundsman2	BACS	558.84	Salary Deductions - December
20/01/2026	E.on Next	DD	427.56	Electricity - December
25/01/2026	LBI Electrical Ltd	TRANSFER	648.00	LED light fittings instal
26/01/2026	Co-operative Bank	DD	26.78	Cleaning materials
27/01/2026	Direct Roofing & Building	TRANSFER	550.00	Dry Verge fit to Cricket Club
02/02/2026	Clerk	TRANSFER	224.55	Expenses
05/02/2026	Aitken's Sportsturf Ltd	TRANSFER	355.20	Rocastem
05/02/2026	The Right Fuel Card Co Ltd	DD	33.59	Fuel

12. **WELFARE MATTERS**

Quotes have been received for the replacement of the garage roof, and it was agreed that the lowest quotation would be accepted.

The condition of the bowling green was discussed, and it was agreed that congratulations should be passed on to the groundsman for the standard of maintenance.

It was agreed that the goalmouth would be reseeded by the grounds staff. To allow these works to be completed, the start of the football season would be extended by one week, and the football teams would be requested to schedule the final match of the season accordingly.

It was noted that the play zone required a formal name. This item will be placed on the agenda for consideration at the next meeting.

13. **REPORTS**

a) **Durham County Council**

There was no report from County Councillors.

14. **DATE OF NEXT MEETING**

The next meeting will be held on 17 March 2026 at 7pm