MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF

SOUTH HETTON PARISH COUNCIL

HELD ON TUESDAY 17 MARCH 2026

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

1. **APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE**

Apologies for absence were submitted on behalf of Councillors P Casson and Councillor Griffiths.

2. **OPEN FORUM**

There was no public present.

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

There were none.

4. **POLICE REPORT**

Consideration was given to the police report, which had previously been circulated to Members. The calls related to ASB – 6, Personal – 0, Nuisance/Environmental – 6, Burglary – 1, Criminal Damage – 1, Vehicle – 0, Theft and handling - 1.

The next cuppa with a copper will be held on Tuesday 14 April 2026 at East Durham Garden Centre between 10am and 11am.

The next face to face PACT meeting will be held on Thursday 21 May 2026 at the Robin Todd Centre between 4pm and 5pm.

January 2026 Mobile Safety Camera Enforcement results –

During two visits to the area of the A182 Logan Terrace, 18 drivers triggered the Safety Cameras

0 drivers fell within our Process Level (Court Action)
0 drivers fell within our Conditional Offer Level (Court Action)
18 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 17 FEBRUARY 2026** a copy of which had been circulated to each Member were approved and signed by the Chair.

6. **MATTERS ARISING**
There were none.

7. **PLANNING MATTERS**

a) Planning Applications
DM/26/00453/DRC Discharge of condition 3 (replacement planting) pursuant to DM/23/03059/TPO (retrospective) at The Old Vicarage, South Hetton

RESOLVED that no objection be made.

DM/26/00449/FPA The upgrade of existing hard standing area to a PlayZone complete with fencing and floodlighting at Welfare Park, Front Street, South Hetton

RESOLVED that no objection be made.

b) Planning Approvals - None

8. **CORRESPONDENCE**

Litter Picking – volunteers had expressed an interest in litter picking in the village on behalf of the Parish Council. Durham County Council would supply the equipment and as the residents would be working under the Council's direction and supervision would be covered by the public liability insurance. All risk assessments would be carried out.

RESOLVED that the litter picking initiative be agreed.

9. **FINANCIAL POSITION – BANK RECONCILIATION**

The Clerk submitted a report setting out the bank reconciliation as at February 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
09/02/2026	Co-operative Bank	BACS	6.98	Bank Fees
12/02/2026	EE Ltd	DD	29.36	Mobile Phone
13/02/2026	Groundsman1	BACS	1,775.46	Salary - February
13/02/2026	Clerk	BACS	845.76	Salary - February

13/02/2026	Groundsman2	BACS	807.18	Salary - February
16/02/2026	British Gas	DD	160.57	Gas - January
17/02/2026	E.on Next	DD	345.15	Electricity
18/02/2026	JRB Enterprise Ltd	TRANSFER	1,182.24	Dog Bags
18/02/2026	Durham County Council	TRANSFER	1,589.76	Play area inspections
18/02/2026	Durham County Council	TRANSFER	589.20	Health and Safety Inspection
19/02/2026	Groundsman1	BACS	1,121.13	Salary Deductions - January
19/02/2026	Clerk	BACS	308.58	Salary Deductions - January
19/02/2026	Groundsman2	BACS	620.53	Salary Deductions - January
27/02/2026	Co-operative Bank	DD	33.24	Signs
05/03/2026	The Right Fuel Card Co Ltd	DD	114.77	Fuel
06/03/2026	Mazars LLP	TRANSFER	504.00	Audit
06/03/2026	Connected Gas Heating	TRANSFER	2,640.00	Gas Boiler to Cricket Club
06/03/2026	Trade UK	TRANSFER	30.37	Equipment
06/03/2026	Aitken's Sportsturf Ltd	TRANSFER	14.34	Rocker Switch
06/03/2026	Stuart Mitchell	TRANSFER	28.80	Mileage
06/03/2026	Clerk	TRANSFER	212.56	Expenses - March
06/03/2026	Viking	TRANSFER	78.09	Stationery

12. **WELFARE MATTERS**

The groundsmen be requested to litter pick the car park as part of their daily tasks.

The new groundsman had commenced employment and they were working well together.

13. **NAMING OF THE PLAYZONE**

The planning application had been submitted and was awaiting an outcome. A name would be required for the playzone. Options from the parish council would be advertised via the community forum and request any further suggestions which could be voted upon.

14. **REPORTS**

a) **Durham County Council**

There was no report from County Councillors.

15. **DATE OF NEXT MEETING**

The next meeting will be held on 21 April 2026 at 7pm