

DUNSTON with COPPENHALL PARISH COUNCIL

MINUTES OF THE PARISH COUNCIL MEETING HELD ON THURSDAY 4TH SEPTEMBER 2025 AT
DUNSTON VILLAGE HALL 7.30PM.

Minutes

Present: Parish Cllrs. J. Richardson, S. Hodgkinson, S. Barrow (Chair), L. Pliva and J. Perchard.

District Cllr. A. Adams

Clerk; A. Fletcher

Apologies: County Cllr. C. Large

- 1) Chairman's welcome received.
- 2) Parish Cllr. J. Richardson declared non-pecuniary interest in item 9a on the agenda due to being a committee member but wishes to stay during the discussion but not vote.
- 3) The Minutes of the Parish Council meeting held on 7th July 2025 were approved and signed by the Chair.
- 4) **Public Open Forum:**
 - a) A representative of the Dunston Litter Pickers came to the meeting to raise the issue about bags of rubbish being left behind the bus shelter, they have spoken to the land owner but would like further support from the Parish Council. The Chair advised that they will speak with the land owner and if needed a letter can be sent on behalf of the Parish Council.
 - b) A Dunston resident came to the meeting to discuss the issue that the keep left bollard hasn't been replaced on the A449 and that there is an increase in A Frame signs near Dunston Heath Business Park. District Cllr. A. Adams has reported the keep left bollard and informed the resident that the road side furniture can be reported to County Council as they are in a position to be dangerous and reduces visibility.
- 5) **Matters arising:**
 - a) Hedge on corner of A449 and School Lane has been reported to Highways by County Cllr. C. Large and has shared the link for residents to report similar issues on the County Council Website.
- 6) **District Councillor Report:**
 - a) District Cllr. A. Adams reported that the planning application on Mill Lane for 2 horse stables and tack room raised his concerns regarding access to the site. Surveys on devolution have been circulated

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and the decision is due to be released in November. Also there is a planning application due to be released regarding 135 new homes in Penkrige by the treatment works.

District Cllr. A. Adams left the meeting at 8pm

7) Financial Matters;

- The following cheque payments of current invoices were approved and signed
 - Hyde Lea & Coppenhall Village Hall – Cheque 300063 - £78
 - DM Payroll Services Ltd – Cheque 300064 - £60
 - Clerk Quarterly Salary – Cheque 300065 - £491.45
 - HMRC – Cheque 300066 - £122.80
- The National Joint Council for Local Government Services has reached an agreement on the rates of pay applicable from 1st April 2025. The Parish Council to implement the pay rise. Current pay scale is SCP 20 at the 23/24 scales of £15.75. The Chair proposed to agree to the pay rise to £16.90 per hour. The was seconded by Parish Cllr. S. Hodgkinson. The Parish Council resolved unanimous in favour.

8) Planning matters in the Parish.

25/00574/FUL – Portal frame general purpose agricultural building at Agricultural Lane off Long Lane, Dunston Heath. Deadline for comments: 7th September 2025. The Parish Council has no objection to this planning application. Unanimous in vote.

25/00697/FUL – Proposed first floor balcony at Little Heath House, Levedale Road, Levedale, ST18 9AJ. Deadline for comments: 19th September 2025. The Parish Council has no objection to the planning application. Unanimous in vote.

9) Highways matters:

- a) Issue was raised about the speeding in Coppenhall and Dunston. There is an active speed watch team in Coppenhall.

10) Correspondence received.

- a) A letter has been received from Dunston Village Hall in request for support towards community benches at Dunston Village Hall. The Chair proposed to support Dunston Village Hall and to donate £300 towards the benches. This was seconded by Parish Cllr. J. Perchard. The Parish Council resolved 4 in favour and 1 abstention.
- b) An email has been received from Street Scene Team Manager about a proposed scheme of donating litter pickers for local volunteer groups. The Chair proposed to respond to the email regarding more information and it to be forwarded to the Dunston Litter Pickers.

11) Clerk's Report.

- a) In accordance with section 1(2) of the Public Bodies (Admission to Meetings) Act 1960, by reason of the confidential nature of the business of this meeting, the public and press will be excluded for item 10 on the agenda. – The Clerk is unable to attend the meeting on Monday 3rd November 2025. The Chair proposed to cancel the meeting on Monday 3rd November 2025 and for the next Parish Council meeting to be held on Thursday 8th January 2026 at Dunston Village Hall. The Parish Council resolved unanimous in favour.

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12) Any Other Business.

- a) Parish Cllr. J. Richardson raised that the pillar of the wall to Dunston House has fallen over and is looking unsightly.
- b) Raised that Dunston Bus Shelter has been graffitied inside, looking for volunteers to paint inside the shelter – this to be organised over the winter period by the Chair.

Meeting Ended at 8:40pm

Chairman:

Date:.....