

Minutes of an Ordinary Meeting of Burnhope Parish Council held on Thursday 5th March, 2026 in Burnhope Community Centre at 6.00 p.m.

Present

Councillor D Coates (Chair)

Councillors T. Barras, S. McCormick, I. McKeag, C. Metcalf, D. Metcalf, L. Million, H. Wilson and County Councillor A Gray,

Apologies for Absence

Councillors L. Clarke, G. Smith, J. Stewart, PCSO P. Hart and Alderman O. Johnson.

In attendance

Mr S. Lancaster, Area Neighbourhood Warden Team Leader and Mr. A. Gibson, Community Centre representative.

68. Police Report

The Chairman read out the following Police Report.

- A number of reports from residents that drones are being flown in the area. There have been a number of Police drone deployments in the area. Residents are asked to continue to report any incidents as they happen to the Police.
- Multi agency “Drop In” at the Burnhope Community Centre on 12th March, 2026.
- Increased patrols are being carried out in the village for the foreseeable future

Scott Lancaster informed the meeting that, since the last meeting, Neighbourhood Wardens had been involved in the following issues which had occurred in Front Street :-

- the disposal of an abandoned vehicle;
- various environmental issues;
- nuisance caused by an electric bike;
- enquiries made into the removal and refixing of the stone village entrance feature which had been knocked over during a road traffic incident. Further investigations to be undertaken by Mr Lancaster and County Councillor A. Gray into this reported incident and the prospect of repositioning the village entrance feature.

69. Minutes

The minutes of the meeting held on Thursday 5th February, 2026 were approved as a correct record and signed by the Chair.

70. Finance Report

The following transactions had been made since the last meeting:-

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| Payments | | |
| Easyweb - Domain Hosting - March | | £36.96 |
| British Gas – Power supply to the Christmas tree -March | | £38.00 |
| Donation to University Hospital Durham Hospital Radio | | £50.00 |
| Mr P. Raine preparation of ashes plot AS1-6 for interment | | £100.00 |
| | | |
| | Total Payments made | £224.96 |
| Receipts | | |
| | | |
| Interment of ashes – plot AS1-6 | Total Receipts | £290.00 |
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71. Planning Matters

Notification of the following planning application has been received:-

DM/26/00213/AD Burnhope Partnership

Display of 30 no plaques and one display board associated with the installation of Burnhope Heritage Trail in locations across Burnhope, Holmside Lane, Burnhope.

72. Correspondence

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| Durham County Council, Planning Section | Confirmation of date for Public Inquiry into Appeal by Lightsource regarding Solar Energy plant on land east of Edge Lane, Maiden Law. 10 th March, 2026, Lanchester Community Centre | Noted |
| Durham Hospital Radio | Thank you email for £50 donation. | Noted |
| Durham County Council, Outdoor Services | Service Level Agreement for play area inspections and invoice for service | Service Level Agreement with Durham County Council for weekly inspections was agreed . |
| Durham County Council Regeneration and Local Services | Application for Section 106 Funding for funding towards the creation of a link footpath to the children's play area. | Approval of funding noted |
| North East War Memorials Project | Index of Memorials in North East England and invitation to become a Friend of the NE War Memorials Project | Agreed that Burnhope Parish Council register to become a Friend of NE War Memorials Project. |
| Burnhope Community Centre - Co-ordinator March Update | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Exceptionally busy and successful Christmas period for the Centre • another strong February Half Term holiday programme. • Work on the Business Plan with Cranfield Trust is in its final stages. | Report noted. |

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| | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Expansion of Community Pantry. • The Big Spring Clean up. Community wide litter picks week commencing 23rd March. | |
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73. Road Closure – Greenwood Avenue

Cllr Sarah McCormick raised concerns regarding the forthcoming six week road closure in Burnhope at Greenwood Avenue, and the impact this would have upon infirm residents living in the Greenwood Avenue, Langley Lane and Whitehouse Avenue areas. It was deemed, by residents, that to try to access the temporary bus stops on Holmside Lane as being too far to walk.

County Councillor Gray agreed to raise this with the Passenger Transport Team in County Hall to see what options could be put in place for bus service users who were unable to walk to the designated temporary bus stops on Holmside Lane.

74. Next Meeting

The next Ordinary Meeting of the Parish Council will be held on Thursday 2nd April, 2026, at 6.00 p.m. in Burnhope Community Centre.

Signed

Date

02/04/26