

Minutes of the Ordinary Meeting of Burnhope Parish Council held on Thursday 15th May, 2025 in Burnhope Community Centre at the conclusion of the Annual Meeting.

Present

Councillor D Coates (Chair)

Councillors T. Barras, S. McCormick, I. McKeag, C. Metcalf, D. Metcalf and L. Million,

Apologies for Absence

Councillors G. Smith, J. Stewart and H. Wilson, PCSO P. Hart and County Councillor A. Gray.

In attendance

Residents – R. Gardner, A. Stewart and T. Metcalf,

1. Police Report

The Chairman read out the following Police Report.

- Since the last report there have been a number of arson attacks committed in the village. All of these are currently undergoing investigations.
- There has been a theft of power tools from Broom House Farm.
- High visibility patrols are being carried out on a daily basis and local Officers will be conducting drop ins at the Community Centre.

It was noted that there had been no Police Officer present at the Parish Council meetings for a few months to present their report, it was requested that contact be made with to the Police and Crime Commissioner's Office to seek her help in providing a regular Police presence at the Parish Council meetings.

2. Partnership Report

There was no Partnership Report. Cllr McCormick confirmed that the Partnership was well supported.

3. Community Centre

There was no Community Centre report. All activities in the Centre continue to be well attended.

4. Minutes

The minutes were approved as a correct record and signed by the Chair.

5. Finance Report

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

Easyweb - Domain Hosting - May	£36.96
British Gas – Power supply to the Christmas tree -May	£35.00
T.P. Jones & Co. Ltd – Annual Payroll preparation fee	£84.48
CDALC – Annual Subscription	£280.08
CDALC – Six copies of the Good Councillor Guide	£24.00
Total Payments made	£460.52

Payments Received	
Durham County Council Precept	£9,238
Purchase of burial plot GR5/15	£1,015
Purchase of burial plot AS1/10	£870.00
HMRC VAT Return 1.10.24-31.3.25	£2,451.73
Total Received	£13,574.73

6. Planning Matters

Notification of the following planning applications has been received:-

DM/25/00549/PA56 - Mr Braines. Land to the east of Holmside Hall Road, Burnhope
Proposed agricultural building (for the purposes of storing fodder and general agricultural storage)
with hardcore apron around three sides of the building to allow vehicle movements/access. Pursuant
to DM/24/03454/PNA – No objection

DM/25/00728/FPA – Mr Winter. New Warlands Farm, Holmside Lane, Burnhope
Single story rear extension to provide quiet space – No objection

DM/25/00848/FPA - Burnhope Colliery Welfare Cricket Club, Cricket Ground, The Avenue,
Burnhope.
Installation of one bay cricket practice cage and surface – No objection.

7. Correspondence

- Durham County Council's Returning Officer – Notice of Uncontested Election – Vacancy for one Councillor advertised on Parish website.
- County Durham Association of Local Council's – Local Network Panel for Mid Durham Parish Council's. Request for Councillor nominations to apply for position of Mid Durham Panel representative.
- Durham County Council – Playground Inspection Report (noted)
- Mazars – Papers for Audit of Accounts for 2024/25 (accounts signed by Chairman)
- County Councillor Mike McGaun – Farewell Letter (circulated)
- County Durham Association of Local Council's Training Courses (circulated)
- Durham County Council – Initial approach re the fitting of Christmas Tree Lights December 2025 (noted)

8. Annual Accountancy and Governance Statement

The Clerk presented a detailed report on the Statement of Accounts and the Council's Internal Audit Controls for the financial year ended 31st March 2025, together with the Accountancy Statement for the same period.

RESOLVED that the Parish Council approves the Annual Governance Statement as detailed by the Clerk, together with the Accountancy Statement. The Statement to be forwarded to the Council's External Auditor, Mazars, for approval. The notice for public inspection of the accounts between 1st June and 14th July be placed on the Council's website .

9. Any Other Business

It was **agreed that** Cllrs Sarah McCormick and Caroline Metcalf be administrators of the Parish Council Facebook Page.

10. Next Meeting

The next Ordinary Meeting of the Parish Council will be held on Thursday 5th June, 2025, at 6.00 p.m. in Burnhope Community Centre.

Signed



Date

5/6/25