



SACRISTON PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of the meeting held on Wednesday, 6th May 2026 at 6.30 pm In The Fulforth Centre

Present: Cllr H. Dixon (Chair), Cllr D Robson, Cllr M Morrell, Cllr A Page, Cllr E Waldock, Cllr K Wilson, Cllr G Ludlow, Cllr R Mickle, Cllr A Wray, Cllr E Hopkins, Cllr J Robson, and Cllr A Przybysz
Mrs C Dixon (Clerk)

There were two members of the public in attendance.

Item No:

1. Election of Chair for 2026/2027

Election of the Chair was considered.

RESOLVED: The appointment of Cllr Dixon as Chair was proposed by Cllr Waldock, seconded by Cllr Page, and agreed unanimously. The Chair then signed the Declaration of Acceptance.

2. Election of Vice Chair for 2026/2027

Election of Vice Chair was considered.

RESOLVED: The appointment of Cllr Ludlow as Vice Chair was proposed by Cllr Page, seconded by Cllr Waldock, and agreed unanimously.

3. Apologies for Absence

Apologies received from Cllr K Welsh.

RESOLVED: To **NOTE** the apologies received.

4. Resignation of Debra Cumiskey

RESOLVED: To **NOTE** that the Notice of Vacancy has been published.

5. Declarations of Interest

RESOLVED: No declarations were received.

6. Approval of Minutes

RESOLVED: The minutes from the Meeting held on 1st April 2026 were accepted and signed as a true record.

7. Representatives to Outside Bodies

a. County Durham Association of Local Councils (CDALC), including the smaller councils forum.

RESOLVED: To **NOTE** that no members expressed an interest in attending.

b. Sacriston Community Association

RESOLVED: To **APPROVE** that the representatives are Councillors H Dixon, D Robson, G Ludlow, M Morrell, K Wilson, J Robson, and A Przybysz.

c. Witton Gilbert Education Trust

RESOLVED: To **APPROVE** that the representative is Cllr Waldock.

d. New Hill Allotments

RESOLVED: To **NOTE** that there is no representative; however, the council to **APPROVE** to send correspondence to the New Hill Committee Chair, inviting them to a meeting.

8. Committees and Working Groups

The report was considered.

RESOLVED: To **APPROVE** the committees as follows: -

ALLOTMENT COMMITTEE (7) – Cllr Waldock (Chair), Cllr Page, Cllr Robson, Cllr Dixon, Cllr Ludlow, Cllr Mickle, and Cllr Sharp

FINANCE COMMITTEE (8) – Agreed to have eight members - Cllr Przybysz (Chair), Cllr Waldock (Chair), Cllr Page, Cllr Robson, Cllr Dixon, Cllr Ludlow, Cllr Mickle, and Cllr Sharp

PERSONNEL COMMITTEE (8) – Agreed to have eight members - Cllr Waldock (Chair), Cllr Page, Cllr Robson, Cllr Dixon, Cllr Ludlow, Cllr Mickle, Cllr Sharp and Cllr Przybysz

NEWSLETTER – Cllrs to attend as and when required.

9. Bank Signatories

RESOLVED: To **APPROVE** the removal of Cllr F Morrell and to **APPROVE** Cllr Dixon, Cllr Robson, Cllr Ludlow, and the Clerk as signatories.

10. Subscriptions

To consider the subscriptions

RESOLVED: to **APPROVE** the subscriptions.

11. Calendar of Meetings 2026/2027

RESOLVED: To **APPROVE** the calendar of meetings for 2026/2027.

12. Standing Orders Review

To consider the Standing Orders.

RESOLVED: That the Standing Orders be **APPROVED**, incorporating the recommended amendments.

13. Financial Regulations Review

To consider the Financial Regulations

RESOLVED: That the Financial Regulations be **APPROVED**, incorporating the recommended amendments.

14. Asset Register Review

To consider the asset register

RESOLVED: To **APPROVE** the asset register with no amendments.

15. Complaints Procedure

To consider the complaints procedure

RESOLVED: That the Complaints Procedure be **APPROVED**, incorporating the recommended amendments.

16. GDPR Policy

To consider the GDPR Policy.

RESOLVED: That the GDPR Policy be **APPROVED**, incorporating the recommended amendments.

17. Public Participation - (Questions & Comments from the public in attendance – max 5 mins per item/individual)

Concerns were raised about the textile bin that has been placed in the gap site.

RESOLVED: To **NOTE** the information. Cllr T Robson was dealing with this matter, and we had been advised at a previous meeting that the bin was to be relocated.

Concern regarding the seat at Daisy Hill. The seat looks quite small and is in disrepair. Unsure if the seat belongs to DCC.

RESOLVED: To **NOTE** the information and find out who the seat belongs to.

Parking is an issue outside the doctor's surgery and at the top lane coming into The Fulforth Centre.

RESOLVED: To **NOTE** the information. The Issue previously raised with County Councillors. Cllr Dixon will speak to Cllr Robson to see what can be done and ask the neighbourhood warden to patrol the areas.

18. Police Matters

RESOLVED: To **NOTE** there were no comments.

19. Planning Applications

RESOLVED: To **NOTE** there no applications have been received.

20. Growing Sacriston Together in Bloom

Discussed the repairing of the seats around the Crossroads and requested volunteers to help repair them.

RESOLVED: To **APPROVE** Cllr Ludlow to look at purchasing materials for the restoration of the seats.

21. Parish Assets

a. Bus Shelters – A report that the bus shelter inside requires cleaning due to vomit.

RESOLVED: Nothing to report.

b. Village Clock - The clock has been serviced. The engineer suspects the clock needs a new bulb, but due to its height, was unable to fit one.

RESOLVED: To **APPROVE** an electrician to see if they can carry out the work.

c. Parish Building

RESOLVED: Nothing to report.

d. War Memorial

RESOLVED: Nothing to report.

e. Pit Wheel

RESOLVED: Nothing to report.

22. County Councillor Report

RESOLVED: There were no County Councillors in attendance.

23. Reports from Group Representatives

a. Fulforth Centre – Cllr Dixon provided a verbal update.

RESOLVED: To **NOTE** the information provided by Cllr Dixon.

b. HR and Finance Panel

The meeting on 11th May did not take place. The next meeting is scheduled for 1st June.

RESOLVED: To **NOTE** the information.

c. Sacriston Allotment Association

The meeting on 11th May did not take place. The next meeting is scheduled for 1st June. The clerk informed members about the advice that the internal auditor had provided regarding transferring the Allotment Association monies over to the Council's bank account.

RESOLVED: To **NOTE** the information.

24. Finance Report

a. To review and approve payment of invoices received.

RESOLVED: to **APPROVE** payment of the invoices.

b. To receive the bank statement.

RESOLVED: To **RECEIVE** the information.

25. Species Survey

Information provided by Cllr J Robson.

RESOLVED: That Cllr Robson obtain further information on this matter to see if there is any funding available.

26. Durham Miners Gala Advert

RESOLVED: To **APPROVE** quarter page advert (£200).

27. Request for a Memorial Plaque at the Crossroads

RESOLVED: To **APPROVE** a plaque be placed on the seats at the Crossroads in memory of Shay Bladen.

28. DUFC correspondence

RESOLVED: That the Council support the DUFC and that a meeting is requested with the leader of the Council.

29. Insurance Renewal

RESOLVED: To **APPROVE** the insurance renewal.

30. Date and Time of Next Meeting

RESOLVED: The next meeting will be held on Wednesday, 1st July 2026, at 6.30 pm.

The meeting closed at 19.24pm.

Agreed and signed by Chair of Sacriston Parish Council

Date