



SACRISTON PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of the meeting held on Wednesday; 4th March 2026 at 6.30 pm In The Fulforth Centre

Present: Cllr H. Dixon (Chair), Cllr D Robson, Cllr M Morrell, Cllr A Page, Cllr K Wilson, Cllr G Ludlow, Cllr R Mickle, Cllr A Wray, Cllr R Sharp, Cllr K Welsh, Cllr A Przybysz and Mrs C Dixon (Clerk)
Also, present was County Cllr T Robson

Item No:

1. Introductions and Apologies for Absence

The Chair opened the meeting at 6.30 pm and welcomed everyone.

Apologies received from Cllr D Cumiskey, Cllr E Waldock, Cllr E Hopkins, and County Cllr J Pickard.

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

2. Declarations of Interest

RESOLVED: No declarations were received.

3. To consider the co-option of a Councillor to fill a casual vacancy

RESOLVED: That Jennifer Robson be co-opted onto the Council and that she has signed the Declaration of Acceptance of Office.

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

There was 1 member of the public in attendance. No comments were made.

5. Approval of Minutes

RESOLVED: The minutes from the Meeting held on 4th February 2026 were accepted and signed as a true record.

6. Police Matters

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

7. Planning Applications

DM/26/00247/FPA - Mr Behnam Azar – 27 Uphill Drive, Sacriston, DH7 6PP – Two storey side extension, application of render and window replacements.

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

8. Growing Sacriston Together in Bloom

Cllr Dixon provided an update on the flower bulbs at the Crossroads and advised members that more pebbles were required. Cllr Wilson also informed members that the stonework was getting moss on and required cleaning.

RESOLVED: To **APPROVE** for NJ Kearton to be contacted who carried out the initial work to provide more pebbles for the area and look at the cleaning of the stonework.

9. Parish Assets

a. Bus Shelters

RESOLVED: Nothing to report.

b. Village Clock

RESOLVED: The clerk was waiting for Cumbria Clock Company to advise about the light not working.

c. Parish Building

RESOLVED: Nothing to report.

d. War Memorial

RESOLVED: Nothing to report.

e. Pit Wheel

RESOLVED: The signage on the ground requires cleaning – this will be carried out at a later date.

10. County Councillor Report - Cllr T Robson;

- Meeting to be arranged regarding development and potential Section 106 monies.
- Charlaw Estate update – 27 houses have been approved. Complaints have been received from residents regarding rats.
- Reports of speeding on Charlaw Fell.
- Plawsworth Road – ongoing speeding issues.
- John Street car park – lighting issue still ongoing.
- Schools and doctors – to arrange a visit in relation to the impact of new housing developments.
- Robin Hood – potential development to be explored.
- Zebra crossing on Front Street is poorly lit – to investigate what improvements can be made.
- Issues reported with the clothes bin and bollards on the gap site.

Members also raised issues with Cllr T Robson;

- Concerns raised regarding St Cuthbert's Meadow, where food is being thrown and attracting rats.
- Lack of signage on the Charlaw Estate.
- Increase in rubbish in the car park near the old Post Office.
- Rose Crescent – during windy conditions, rubbish is being blown across the area.
- Reports that motorcycles have returned to the woods.
- Request for an update regarding the road markings at the entrance to the Fulforth Centre.
- Flooding issues reported at Cross Lane.

RESOLVED: To **RECEIVE** the report.

11. 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**

RESOLVED: To **RECEIVE** the minutes of the meeting held on 5th January 2026.

- c. Sacriston Allotment Association**

RESOLVED: To **RECEIVE** the minutes from the Allotment Meeting held on 5th January 2026.

12. Finance Report

The Clerk updated members regarding the current bank account balance of £54,614.69. The clerk asked members about the appointment of the internal auditor.

RESOLVED: To **APPROVE** the clerk to contact Gordon Fletcher.

- a.** To review and approve payment of invoices received.

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

13. Parish Noticeboard

Report discussed.

RESOLVED: To **APPROVE** the clerk to contact DCC about siting the new board in a different location. The type and size of board had not been finalised yet.

14. Website Redevelopment and Email Management

Report considered. Cllr Przybysz advised members he has some knowledge on this and would be happy to look over the information before the council makes a decision.

RESOLVED: To **APPROVE** the clerk to discuss this further with Cllr Przybysz and bring information back to the next meeting.

15. Letter of Support – The Fulforth Centre

Request for the Parish Council to provide a Letter of Support was considered.

RESOLVED: To **APPROVE** the Chair to send off a Letter of Support.

16. IT Policy

The IT Policy was considered and it was agreed that the policy was unnecessary for such a small council. Cllr Przybysz advised members he had knowledge within IT and would provide advice on this matter.

RESOLVED: To **APPROVE** the clerk to prepare a new policy as the previous one seemed too lengthy and unnecessary for a small council.

15. Date and Time of Next Meeting

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

The meeting closed at 19.41pm.

Agreed and signed by Chair of Sacriston Parish Council

Date