

Greencroft Parish Council

Minutes of the Council Meeting held on 20 January 2026 at 6.00pm at Lynwood House, Lanchester

Present: Vivien Self (Chair), Dorothy Parry, Jane Cain, Gavin Jarvis, Paul McAdam (Clerk),

Apologies :

1/26 Declarations of Interest

None

2/26 Public Participation

None.

3/26 Minutes of the last Meeting

Resolved that the Minutes of the Ordinary Meeting held on 28 October 2025 be **AGREED** as a correct record, other than to add a comment that the next meeting, scheduled for November had to be cancelled.

4/26 Planning

DCC reports had been circulated.

An application (Ref DM/25/03271/FPA) had been sighted for 4 x stables on Tower Road although the Parish Council had not been informed and it had not appeared in Planning Application lists circulated by Durham County Council and there had been no response as yet from a request for an extension to respond if necessary.

There were no concerns raised about the specific application other than the potential for it to be the start of a creeping development of various applications.

It was **AGREED** that Paul would contact DCC to bring this concern to their attention.

5/26 County Councillor Update

Not applicable as no attendance.

It was **AGREED** that Paul would contact county councillors to ask if it would be possible, in the event of not being able to attend, any sort of written update could be provided to be shared at the meeting.

It was noted that for many years the updates provided by various county councillors on matters both locally and county wide had been so valuable and well received.

6/26 Clerk Update

Banking

No progress made with Barclays signatories due to issues experienced with mobile app by Dorothy – discussed separately later in meeting.

New Parish Council email account

This is now operational and Paul will now arrange to transfer across old emails and begin to use the new .gov.uk address.

Park Area

- The table and benches, with the adjustment to be wheelchair/pushchair friendly had been purchased and installed by supplier.
- The other park bench has been delivered and stored prior to Nathan arranging to install.
- The stakes have been purchased and are also ready for Nathan to customise and add plaques prior to fixing into ground.

Jane also updated that she had undertaken more planting as previously agreed and commented on the poor condition of the soil.

Website

No response from Total Results regarding “insecure website” message – Paul to follow up.

Hours Worked – Anticipated to be 12 for January and it was **AGREED** for these to be paid at the end of the quarter.

7/26 Budget

2024/25 budget position circulated prior to meeting – no questions regarding position.

Precept request for 2026/27 discussed and the fact that Durham County Council changes to funding meant that Greencroft Parish Council income was set to reduce by £328.

Despite this it was **AGREED** that Greencroft Parish Council would not request an increase in council tax contribution from residents.

8/26 Accounts for Payment

None

9/26 Traffic Issues in Village

There had been no update from Durham County Council since November regarding the speed visors and it was **AGREED** that Paul would chase this up and ask for an indication of when this will actually happen – also referencing the recent intervention by our MP and the recent speed check results confirming the issue with speeding vehicles.

Jane had been visiting properties to distribute bin stickers and her visits had been generally well received.

Vivien expressed formal thanks to Jane for her efforts in distributing these stickers.

10/26 Future Meeting Dates

It was noted that Paul was unable to make the meeting scheduled for the last Tuesday in February and it was **AGREED** that this meeting would be moved to 17th February.

There was a discussion around changing regular dates to avoid clashing with Stanley Town Council full meeting but it was established that not all Town Council meetings fell on the last Tuesday of the month so it was **AGREED** to continue unchanged – and hopefully receive county councillor written updates if their attendance was not possible.

11/26 Banking Arrangements

As mentioned earlier Dorothy had not been able to progress with becoming an account signatory and it was **AGREED** that Jane would become the 3rd signatory on the account, along with Vivien and Paul.

12/26 Seat and Fence Inspections

Jane Cain had carried out the monthly check and identified no further changes in conditions since last month.

The issue of litter was discussed and a litter pick in the spring was suggested. It was **AGREED** that this would be discussed in more detail at the February meeting and also that Paul would contact Clean and Green Team to enquire if they still provided short term use of equipment for litter picking and collected the sacks afterwards.

13/26 Questions from Members

None received.

14/26 Chair Announcements

None.

15/26 Any Other Business

None

16/26 Next Meeting

Tuesday 17th February 2026 at 6.00pm at Lynwood House.

PLEASE NOTE EARLIER DATE THAN USUAL DUE TO UNAVAILABILTY OF PARISH CLERK