

**MINUTES OF THE ANNUAL MEETING OF WADWORTH PARISH COUNCIL
HELD ON THURSDAY 14TH MAY 2026**

Members present: D Wright (Chair), P Oliver, C Blow, N Mead

In attendance: 1 x public, CDC Cllr Dudley

5022 APPOINTMENT OF CHAIR AND SIGNING ACCEPTANCE OF OFFICE AS CHAIR
Cllr D Wright was proposed and seconded for the position of Chair of Wadworth Parish Council for 2026-27 by Cllrs Blow and Mead. There were no other nominations.

Resolved: Cllr D Wright elected Chair of Wadworth Parish Council for 2026-27. The Declaration of Acceptance of Office was signed in front of, and witnessed by, the Clerk.

5023 APPOINTMENT OF VICE-CHAIR. Cllr P Oliver was elected unopposed to the position of Vice-Chair of Wadworth Parish Council, proposed and seconded by Cllrs Blow and Mead.

5024 APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE. Apologies were received and accepted from Cllr Smyth, and City of Doncaster (CDC) Councillor Cllr Greenhalgh.

5025 TO CONSIDER THE EXTENT, IF ANY, TO WHICH THE PUBLIC AND PRESS ARE TO BE EXCLUDED FROM THE MEETING – Nil

5026 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST. Nil

5027 MATTERS RAISED BY MEMBERS OF THE PUBLIC. Nil

5028 NOMINATIONS TO REPRESENT THE COUNCIL AT THE SOUTH YORKSHIRE BRANCH OF THE YORKSHIRE LOCAL COUNCILS ASSOCIATIONS

Resolved: Cllr D Wright be nominated as council representative; proposed and seconded by Cllrs Mead and Blow.

5029 TO CONSIDER ANY RESOLUTIONS FOR DEBATE AT THE ANNUAL MEETING OF THE YORKSHIRE LOCAL COUNCILS ASSOCIATION. Nil.

5030 NOMINATIONS FOR EXECUTIVE POSITIONS ON THE BOARD OF THE SOUTH YORKSHIRE BRANCH OF THE YORKSHIRE LOCAL COUNCILS ASSOCIATION

Resolved: That Cllr D Wright be nominated for the position of Vice-Chair; proposed and seconded by Cllrs Oliver and Mead.

5031 APPOINTMENT OF REPRESENTATIVE TO THE PARISH COUNCIL JOINT CONSULTATIVE COMMITTEE

Resolved: Cllr D Wright appointed to represent the council on the PCJCC.

5032 APPOINTMENT OF SUBSTITUTE REPRESENTATIVE TO THE PARISH COUNCIL JOINT CONSULTATIVE COMMITTEE

Resolved: Cllr P Oliver appointed to be the substitute representative on the PCJCC

5033 APPOINTMENT OF REPRESENTATIVE TO THE PUBLIC RIGHTS OF WAY FORUM. Item deferred until next meeting.

5034 APPOINTMENT OF REPRESENTATIVE TO WADWORTH VILLAGE HALL COMMITTEE

Resolved: Cllr C Blow appointed to represent the council on the village hall committee.

5035 APPOINTMENT OF A BIODIVERSITY REPRESENTATIVE. Item deferred until next meeting.

5036 APPOINTMENT OF AN ALLOTMENTS REPRESENTATIVE

Resolved: Cllr P Oliver appointed as the council's allotments representative.

5037 MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF WADWORTH PARISH COUNCIL HELD ON 16TH APRIL 2026 –Approved as a true record.

5038 MATTERS ARISING FROM THE MINUTES

a. **Item 5014a – Village Hall survey – update.** There had been no progress on the work to fix the chimney stack or install air bricks/vents. One quote for an electrical survey had been received and two other contractors had been approached but declined to quote. It was to be attempted to gain a further quote before making a decision.

South Yorkshire Fire Service had been approached for building fire safety advice and an initial meeting provisionally arranged; however, this meeting was to be re-arranged due to the work required before the visit. Cllr Wright to contact the fire service for further advice.

b. **Item 5014d – MP meeting invite – update.** The MP had agreed to delay her visit until the July meeting.

5039 WARD MEMBER UPDATE. Speeding traffic through the village was discussed with various possible options to calm the traffic explored. The Ward Members would raise the issue with CDC.

5040 TO CONSIDER PLANNING APPLICATIONS RECEIVED BY DONCASTER COUNCIL SINCE THE LAST MEETING OF THE PARISH COUNCIL: Nil

5041 CORRESPONDENCE AND REPORTS

a. **Log of Outstanding Issues.** Nothing significant to report.

b. **Social media report.** Engagement levels remained constant and it was suggested to introduce a 'meet your councillor' feature, to be developed over the next few months. Immediate future posts were likely to focus on biodiversity.

c. **Allotments report.** A total of five tenancies had now changed hands in the last few weeks.

- d. **Speedwatch group report.** Cllr Smyth provided a written update detailing that online training had been completed by some members, but there had been no additional volunteers since last month.
- e. **Biodiversity report.** Nothing to report.
- f. **To discuss the horses on Carr Lane.** The horses on Carr Lane were escaping their paddock daily, causing issues in the area. There were concerns for the animal's welfare as well as security. The relevant authorities were aware of the issues and CDC Cllr Dudley would report to the appropriate person in CDC.
- g. **To discuss/agree council articles in Tickhill Today .** Half-page articles could be included at no cost but were limited to 250 words. A full page article (500 words) would £60+VAT per issue. It was **resolved** that council articles were to be full page articles when required.
- h. **To discuss the rabbit problem on the Memorial Field.** The issues being caused by rabbits on the Memorial Field and in neighbouring properties was worsening, with significant health and safety hazards due to the number and size of holes being dug. Various authorities had been contacted for advice (YLCA, CDC, insurers etc.) with no clear guidance offered. A local, fully qualified, insured and authorised, contractor had offered to resolve the issue by shooting the rabbits at night with a silent weapon. After much discussion, it was **resolved** by majority vote (Cllrs Oliver, Blow and Mead – For, Cllr Wright – Against), to authorise the contractor to operate on the council land to remove the rabbit issue; the owners of all affected properties were to be notified in advance.

5042 FINANCIAL MATTERS

a. Accounts for Payment:

Resolved: that the following accounts are approved and passed for payment including a late received invoice from P Oliver:

PAYEE	Chq No	Reason	INV NO	NET	VAT	TOTAL
Staff	BACS	Salary – Apr 26	-	335.43	-	335.43
		Expenses:	-			
		Mileage (77@45p)		34.65		34.65
		Monthly printer fee		11.24	2.25	13.49
		Work at Home allowance		27.00		27.00
		Consumables		70.83	14.16	84.99
		<u>TOTAL EXPENSES</u>		<u>143.72</u>	<u>16.41</u>	<u>160.13</u>
		TOTAL				495.56
HMRC	BACS	PAYE – Apr 26	-	83.80	-	83.80
DMBC	BACS	Q4 grounds maintenance		40.00	8.00	48.00
Microshade	BACS	IT hosting fee		40.00	8.00	48.00
A Evans	BACS	Printer fee		-6.50	-	-6.50
Q-tron	BACS	Fix speed sign fault		115.00	23.00	138.00
P Harrison	BACS	Internal audit fee		55.00	-	55.00
P Oliver	BACS	Allotment key		27.00	-	27.00
INCOME RECEIVED						
Various	BACS	Allotment fees		577.50	-	577.50
DMBC	BACS	Precept		11000.00	-	11000.00

- b. **To approve a bank reconciliation to end April 2026.** The bank reconciliation had been circulated to members. **Resolved:** that the bank reconciliation was noted.
- c. **To receive a report from the independent internal auditor.** The Internal Auditor reported that the accounts were well maintained and the only matter raised was to ensure that all items of expenditure appeared in the council minutes. Members noted and accepted the report.
- d. **To approve the accounts and Annual Return for 2025/26**
The Clerk presented the accounts for 2025-26 which showed a year-on-year bank balance increase of approx. £12k, mainly due to unspent, planned maintenance work to the Village Hall. Members approved the accounts. Members were then asked to approve, on the basis of the accounts presented, the information be used as the basis for the completion of the Annual Governance and Accountability Return for 2024-25 (Section 1 – Annual Governance Statement (page 4), and Section 2 - Accounting Statements (page 5) and that both the Chair and Clerk be authorised to sign the return on behalf of the Council prior to submission.

Resolved: that Wadworth Parish Council approve Section 1 Annual Governance Statement 2025-26 for Wadworth Parish Council on page 4 of the Annual Governance and Accountability Return 2025-26.

Resolved: that Wadworth Parish Council approve Section 2 Accounting Statements 2025-26 for Wadworth Parish Council on page 5 of the Annual Governance and Accountability Return 2026-26.

The Annual Governance and Accountability Return 2025-26 was signed by the Chair and Clerk and would be published on the council's website along with all other required documents.

- e. **To appoint an internal auditor for 2026/27.** Pam Harrison was nominated to continue in the role of internal auditor. **Resolved – the Clerk was to approach Pam Harrison to appoint as internal auditor for 2026-27.**

5043 TO EXCLUDE THE PUBLIC AND THE PRESS FROM THE FOLLOWING ITEMS OF BUSINESS. Nil

5044 ITEMS FOR NEXT AGENDA – Deferred items above, village award scheme

5045 DATE OF NEXT MEETING

Resolved: that the next meeting of the Parish Council is held on **TUESDAY 16th June 2026, commencing at 7:00pm.**

Approved as a true record

Chair:

Dated: