

MINUTES OF THE MONTHLY MEETING OF HEPTONSTALL PARISH COUNCIL
HELD AT HEPTONSTALL SOCIAL & BOWLING CLUB, 07 JULY 2026

Present: Councillors: C Jackson (Chairman) J Holt J Crowther
 S Slater N Dempsey M V Edwards
 M Hughes A Baldwin

(Also in attendance: Clerk Hannah Sherriff-Jackson, co-opted non-voting member R Greenwood and 2 members of the public)

40/26 APOLOGIES (AND REASONS) FOR ABSENCE

Apologies were received from Cllr Cutts.

No request was made for the reason for absence to be considered as an Approved Reason.

41/26 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

Cllrs Slater, Jackson and Crowther declared non-pecuniary interests in Agenda Item 13b (Planning Applications).

42/26 PUBLIC PARTICIPATION

Two members of the public attended.

One member of the public wished to observe.

One member of the public wished to speak on Agenda Item 19b (Correspondence: Urgent CEO Escalation – Material Breach of Compliance, Trespass Notice and Lack of Consultation). The member of the public explained that Open Reach has erected a telegraph pole in the field directly behind Edge Hey Green. The member of the public and her neighbours have liaised with Open Reach to negotiate the pole's removal in order to preserve the green belt but still have no resolution. The member of the public has also contacted the Ward Councillors about this issue and is in the process of contacting the local MP. The Parish Council offered its support to the member of the public and advised the member of the public to seek legal advice on this issue.

43/26 MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETING

Minutes of the previous meeting of Heptonstall Parish Council were approved as a correct record of the following:

- Monthly Meeting held 27 May 2026

Arising from the Minutes, Cllr Edwards reported that he raised the issue of the road closure on Towngate with the Ward Councillors at the Ward Forum to take the issue forward.

Cllr Edwards also reported that, following the publicity around the proposed parking charges at Towngate Car Park, an informal meeting was held with Councillor Peter Hunt (Ward Councillor for Elland and Cabinet Member for Public Services). Councillor Hunt explained that the implementation of the car park review across Calderdale has been taken off the table pending a total re-evaluation by the newly elected council. Many ideas were discussed such as an asset transfer or a residents parking permit scheme. Discussions were also had around the discriminatory contractual arrangements between Calderdale Council and Heptonstall Social and Bowling Club around the use of the Club's car park and how this would not be a viable alternative for residents parking. Concerns were raised about the potential impact on local businesses and care services. The Clerk will write to Calderdale Council's Parking Services Manager and Councillor Hunt to request the updated figures on the income and expenditure relating to the car park. The Clerk will also point out the discriminatory contractual arrangements with the Bowling Club regarding their car park. The Clerk will send a note of thanks to Councillor Hunt for taking the time to visit the village and speak with residents and request further information on the implementation of a residents permit scheme such as the eligibility criteria to apply for a permit and the proportion of the spaces allocated to permit holders.

44/26 OUTSTANDING ITEMS

The Clerk circulated the Outstanding Items List to members prior to the meeting.

Cllr Slater will request an update on the Speed Review at the Safer Cleaner Greener meeting in August.

45/26 TRAINING/WEBINAR/CONFERENCE OPPORTUNITIES

The Clerk provides regular details of the availability of training and conferences and invites members to request bookings via the Clerk as already authorised.

46/26 NOTE PAYMENTS MADE IN JUNE 2026

RESOLVED: That the Council noted the following payments made in June 2026:

H Sherriff-Jackson	Salary (net) to 30/06	£691.44
	Home Working Allce	£26.00
HMRC	PAYE	£172.80
TOTAL		£890.24

47/26 APPROVAL OF ACCOUNTS TO PAY

RESOLVED: That the Council approved the following accounts to pay:

H Sherriff-Jackson	Salary (net) to 31/07	£691.44
	Home Working Allce	£26.00
	Domain & Mail Basic 25 – May	£25.20
	Email Archiving – May	£7.80
	Domain & Mail Basic 25 – June	£13.20
	Email Archiving – June	£7.80
	HP Instant Ink (Printer Ink) (May)	£11.22
	HP Instant Ink (Printer Ink) (June)	£11.22
	Microsoft 365 – May	£5.80
	Microsoft 365 – June	£5.80
HMRC	PAYE	£172.80
YLCA	Training – Cllr Holt – Intro to Planning	£28.20
A Baldwin	Newsletter – Microsoft Office	£84.99
Orbit Haus Ltd	Newsletter Printing – Summer	£215.00
BT Payphones Receivables	Phone Box Adoption	£1.00
TOTAL		£1,307.47

48/26 NEWSLETTER

Cllr Baldwin reported that the date for submissions for the autumn edition will be circulated soon.

49/26 ENVIRONMENTAL GRANT

RESOLVED: That the Council approved and adopted the new Environmental Grant Application Form.

This will be published on the Parish Council's website.

50/26 CALDERDALE WIND FARM

Cllr Slater reported that herself and Cllr Holt attended the Parish Council Forum meeting.

Discussions were held regarding the community benefit fund and its management.

The meeting was presented with a Transport and Access Plan. It was pointed out during the meeting that this plan was flawed as it did not account for the importation of aggregate and did not include a study on the impact to Laneshaw Bridge.

51/26 PLANNING

All Planning matters are discussed by Full Council, including all members of the Planning Committee.

(a) **Planning Decisions:** Details of Planning decisions made by Calderdale Metropolitan Borough Council were provided to members.

(b) New Applications

1. **26/00360/HSE** - RESOLVED: The Council had no objections
 - Bent Head, Widdop Road, Heptonstall
 - Double detached garage with garden store
2. **26/00361/LBC** - RESOLVED: The Council had no objections
 - Bent Head, Widdop Road, Heptonstall
 - Double detached garage with garden store (Listed Building Consent)
3. **25/01287/HSE** - RESOLVED: The Council had no objections
 - Clair Cottage, 25 Slack Bottom, Smithwell Lane, Heptonstall
 - Side and rear extension with first floor balcony
4. **26/00501/LBC** - RESOLVED: The Council had no objections
 - 28A Smithwell Lane, Heptonstall
 - New door and opening devices to existing door opening (Listed Building Consent)

52/26 ST THOMAS NEW CHURCHYARD

Cllr Dempsey reported that two tidy up sessions and two meetings of the Friends group took place in June.

The new information board is close to completion.

53/26 PHONE BOX

RESOLVED: That the Council approved the contract to adopt the phone box. The Clerk signed the contract on behalf of the Parish Council.

Once the adoption is complete, a working party will be set up to manage the phone box.

54/26 OUTDOOR EXERCISE AREA

Cllr Holt reported that the general consensus from the survey was that the installation of an outdoor exercise area is a good idea.

Cllr Holt will chase CMBC for the risk assessment and the cleaning and inspection schedule for the existing play equipment.

Cllr Holt reported that she is exploring grant options for the purchase of the equipment.

55/26 GRIT BINS

Mr Greenwood confirmed that neighbouring Parish Councils do not pay CMBC to have their grit bins refilled.

The Clerk will contact CMBC to request the same agreement.

56/26 TRACTOR RUN

The Parish Council discussed the issues raised following the 2025 Tractor Run.

In principle, the Parish Council supports the Tractor Run however the Parish Council is concerned about the potential damage to property, health and safety issues and noise issues from larger vehicles travelling through the village.

Cllr Holt reported that the organisers will be attending the August meeting.

57/26 ARISING FROM CORRESPONDENCE RECEIVED

State of Longfield Verges: The Parish Council noted an email regarding the lack of maintenance of the verges on Longfield. The Clerk reported that this issue has been resolved by Cllr Cutts in this instance. The Clerk will contact the Ward Councillors to enquire as to why these verges are missed by CMBC when other grass cutting is carried out as it poses a serious health and safety concern when the grass is allowed to grow so long.

Urgent CEO Escalation – Material Breach of Compliance, Trespass Notice and Lack of Consultation: The Parish Council noted an email regarding the Open Reach pole installed in the field directly behind Edge Hey Green. Details of this discussion can be found above at Minute 42/26.

Mytholm Steeps: The Parish Council noted an email regarding the resurfacing works at Mytholm Steeps over two weeks during the summer holidays. The Clerk will respond to request that the signage for the diversions is accurate.

Roadworks on New Shaw Lane: The Parish Council noted an email regarding the poor management of the roadworks on New Shaw Lane by Yorkshire Water. Cllr Crowther reported that Yorkshire Water closed Slack on the day of Heptonstall Festival. The signage erected was not specific regarding which road was closed causing much confusion with the buses and other drivers thinking the village was closed. This inaccurate signage was not removed within an adequate time. This was reported to the Ward Councillors on the day. The Clerk will write a letter of complaint to Yorkshire Water, Morrisons Water Services and CMBC regarding this recent issue.

Traffic Light Issues – Bottom of Heptonstall Road: The Parish Council noted concerns regarding the confusion caused by the lights at the bottom of Heptonstall Road. It appears that the light that controls the traffic coming down from the village has become damaged or has been moved resulting in traffic from Hebden Bridge becoming confused when traveling over the junction. The Clerk will write to Highways to make them aware of this issue.

Northgate Community Garden Areas: The Parish Council noted concerns from residents regarding the destruction of the community garden area on Northgate. The Clerk will contact CMBC to request information on whether spraying is still carried out by CMBC and whether any remedial works have been carried out recently on Northwell Lane or Tinker Bank Lane.

Proposed date for rescheduled Hebden Royd Green Network Community Showcase – Tuesday 11th August: The Parish Council noted an email regarding a proposed date for the rescheduled Hebden Royd Green Network Community Showcase.

Creation of Allotments: The Parish Council noted an email regarding the creation of more allotments in Heptonstall. The Clerk will respond to explain that the Parish Council does not own any land in order to create allotments however it supported the opening of the allotments in Heptonstall by providing a grant. The Parish Council advised that the resident speaks with the allotment management committee regarding the provision of raised beds.

58/26 REPRESENTATIVE REPORTS

Cllr Dempsey reported that the light on Hepton Drive is still too tall. The Clerk will contact CMBC to request that this is replaced with a like-for-like post.

59/26 DATES & TIMES OF NEXT MEETINGS

The Clerk advised that matters for inclusion on the agenda of the next meeting should be with her by 27th July.

The Clerk advised the next meeting would be held:

- Monthly Council Meeting at Heptonstall Social & Bowling Club at **7.30pm on Tuesday 04 August 2026**

(Chair)

(Date)