

MINUTES OF THE MONTHLY MEETING OF HEPTONSTALL PARISH COUNCIL
HELD AT HEPTONSTALL SOCIAL & BOWLING CLUB, 01 SEPTEMBER 2026

Present: Councillors: C Jackson (Chairman) S Slater B Cutts
 N Dempsey M V Edwards M Hughes
 A Baldwin

(Also in attendance: Clerk Hannah Sherriff-Jackson, co-opted non-voting member R Greenwood, Ward Councillor M Puddepha and 1 member of the public)

78/26 APOLOGIES (AND REASONS) FOR ABSENCE

Apologies were received from Cllrs Holt and Crowther.

No request was made for the reasons for absence to be considered as Approved Reasons.

79/26 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

No declarations were made.

80/26 PUBLIC PARTICIPATION

One member of the public attended.

The member of the public wished to speak on Agenda Item 17 (Tractor Run). This item was moved to be discussed at this point. The member of the public introduced himself as one of the organisers of the annual tractor run. The Parish Council explained the concerns raised following the last tractor run regarding the inclusion of HGVs. The member of the public explained that the largest donors to the tractor run are haulage companies. The member of the public informed the Parish Council that the route for this year's tractor run has not yet been planned however they will look into alternative routes for the HGVs to avoid the village centre.

The Clerk will contact CMBC Highways to enquire about the suitability of the road through the village for the tractor run HGVs.

81/26 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 04 August 2026

Arising from the Minutes, Cllr Edwards reported that he has obtained postage prices to conduct a letter drop to the 697 dwellings in the parish regarding Calderdale Energy Park. RESOLVED: That the letters will be mainly hand delivered with postage being used for outlying properties. RESOLVED: That a budget of £600 was approved for stationery and letter delivery. The Wind Farm Working Party will draft the letter.

The Clerk provided an update on the Christmas lights at Hepton Drive bus stop.

82/26 OUTSTANDING ITEMS

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

Ward Councillor Puddepha will request an update on the suggested painted pavement on Heptonstall Road and request that the overhanging vegetation is removed that is forcing pedestrians into the middle of the road.

83/26 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.

84/26 NOTE PAYMENTS MADE IN AUGUST 2026

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

Heptonstall Social & Bowling Club	Room Hire – Summer Term	£104.00
A Baldwin	Newsletter – Honorarium	£100.00
TOTAL		£204.00

85/26 APPROVAL OF ACCOUNTS TO PAY

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

H Sherriff-Jackson	Salary (net) to 30/09	£691.44
	Home Working Allce	£26.00
	Domain & Mail Basic 25 – Aug	£13.20
	Email Archiving – Aug	£7.80

	HP Instant Ink (Printer Ink) (Aug)	£11.22
	Microsoft 365 – Aug	£5.80
HMRC	PAYE	£172.80
TOTAL		£928.26

86/26 NEWSLETTER

Cllr Baldwin reported that contributions are being accepted for the autumn edition.

87/26 CALDERDALE WIND FARM

Details of the discussion regarding the letter drop can be found at Minute 81/26.

The Parish Council noted that the need for statutory consultation has ceased.

88/26 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. **26/00522/FUL - RESOLVED:** That the Council objects on the grounds that this is inappropriate development within the Green Belt. The proposal is incongruous to its setting and surroundings.
 - Agricultural Barn, Smithwell Lane, Heptonstall
 - Change of use from an agricultural barn to form a detached dwelling (Class use C3)

89/26 ST THOMAS NEW CHURCHYARD

Cllr Dempsey reported that more species of flowers are emerging and the scything of the meadow area will be taking place soon. The pathways are being kept safe and clear.

Cllr Dempsey reported that the Friends Group has been invited to join the Hebden Royd Green Network.

90/26 PHONE BOX

Cllr Jackson provided members with a list of estimated costing for the work required on the phone box.

RESOLVED: That the Council approved the estimated costings. Cllr Jackson will proceed with the work required.

RESOLVED: That the Council will include ongoing maintenance costs for the phone box in future budgets.

91/26 OUTDOOR EXERCISE AREA

This item was deferred to the October meeting.

92/26 GRIT BINS

The Parish Council considered the response from CMBC regarding the permissions needed in order to gain approval from CMBC to site the grit bins in the locations suggested.

Ward Councillor Puddepha will contact CMBC's Winter Services Team to request a meeting between the Parish Council and a member of the team.

93/26 TRACTOR RUN

This item was considered during the Public Participation item. Details of this discussion can be found at Minute 80/26.

94/26 VERGES – LONGFIELD/SOUTHFIELD/VALLEY VIEW ROAD/HEPTON DRIVE

The Parish Council noted that the verges have been cut.

95/26 ARISING FROM CORRESPONDENCE RECEIVED

Complaints about roadworks in village: The Parish Council noted concerns raised regarding the roadworks in the village and relayed these to Ward Councillor Puddepha.

The Parish Council stressed that decisions regarding road closures and diversions need more community involvement.

Widdop Road Closure: The Parish Council noted concerns regarding the potential closure of Widdop Road to carry out works. Cllr Slater reported that she has requested further information such as whether this will be an overnight closure or whether there will be traffic light controls.

Statutory Consultation requirements have been removed from CEP's NSIP planning process: The Parish Council noted an email regarding the removal of the statutory consultation requirements from Calderdale Energy Park's NSIP planning process.

YLCA Branches merger: The Parish Council noted that the Leeds and the South Pennine branches of YLCA will be merging to create a West Yorkshire branch. Mr Greenwood reported that the October branch meeting has been cancelled and the next meeting will be held remotely in January.

Emergency Gas Works – Burnley Road: The Parish Council noted an email regarding emergency repairs taking place on Burnley Road at the junction with Luddenden Lane. These works will operate under manually controlled four-way temporary traffic signals.

96/26 REPRESENTATIVE REPORTS

Cllr Slater reported that she attended the recent Safer Cleaner Greener meeting.

Flytipping was discussed and another meeting between CMBC's Community Safety Team and parish councils may be held to discuss this issue and receive an update on prosecutions.

The meeting noted that no representative from the Highways Department attended.

Cllr Slater reported that pavement parking should be brought to the attention of the police. Calderdale Council and the fire brigade are carrying out patrols to prevent moorland fires.

Cllr Slater raised the issue of HGVs on Lee Wood Road and Widdop Road. This issue has also been raised at the Ward Forum. Cllr Slater informed the Parish Council of Operation Snap and encouraged anyone who witnesses a vehicle breaking the weight restriction to photograph the vehicle and send it to the police.

Cllr Slater raised the issue of overhanging vegetation on Widdop Road causing dangerous conditions for pedestrians and obscuring signage.

Finally, Cllr Slater reported that the speed reduction on Slack is open for consultation until 5th September. The Clerk will respond on behalf of the Parish Council to support the speed reduction but express concerns that it doesn't go far enough along Widdop Road.

Cllr Slater will raise the village security concerns issue at the next Safer Cleaner Greener meeting.

97/26 DATES & TIMES OF NEXT MEETINGS

The Clerk advised that matters for inclusion on the agenda of the next meeting should be with her by 28th September.

The Clerk advised the next meeting would be held:

- Monthly Council Meeting at Heptonstall Social & Bowling Club at **7.30pm on Tuesday 06 October 2026.**

.....

(Chair)

.....

(Date)