

MINUTES OF THE MONTHLY MEETING OF HEPTONSTALL PARISH COUNCIL
HELD AT HEPTONSTALL SOCIAL & BOWLING CLUB, 06 OCTOBER 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 3 members of the public)

98/26 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.

99/26 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

No declarations were made.

100/26 PUBLIC PARTICIPATION

Three members of the public attended.

Two members of the public wished to speak on Agenda Item 14(b) (Planning Applications). This item was moved to be discussed at this point; details of this application can be found at Minute 110/26. The members of the public introduced themselves as the applicants for planning application reference 26/00727/FUL. The applicant explained that they were in attendance to hear the discussion. RESOLVED: The Council had no objections.

One member of the public wished to speak on Agenda Item 20(i) (Correspondence – Noise in Weavers Square – Children playing). This item was moved to be discussed at this point. The member of the public explained their concerns about the noise from children playing in Weavers Square. The Parish Council noted and discussed these concerns. The Parish Council noted that the children involved were very polite, and children will be children and will play. The Parish Council advised the member of the public that Weavers Square is not under the Parish Councils jurisdiction and, although the children playing may be audible, they were not causing any public nuisance.

101/26 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 01 September 2026

Arising from the Minutes, Cllr Edwards reported that he has purchased the envelopes in preparation for the letter drop. Cllr Edwards will begin addressing the envelopes.

Cllr Slater reported that fly tipping was discussed at the Joint Parish Meeting. The neighbouring Parish Councils are interested in a meeting with the Community Safety Team to discuss this issue and receive an update. The Clerk will contact the Ward Councillors to request an update on any prosecutions arising from the fly tipping at Blake Dean.

102/26 OUTSTANDING ITEMS

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

Cllr Holt reported that the traffic lights on Lee Wood Road now change twice whilst trying to pass through on a horse. Cllr Holt has chased this up with CMBC.

103/26 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.

104/26 NOTE PAYMENTS MADE IN SEPTEMBER 2026

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

HMRC	Employers NI – April-June	£204.09
	Employers NI – July-August	£134.18
TOTAL		£338.27

105/26 APPROVAL OF ACCOUNTS TO PAY

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

H Sherriff-Jackson	Salary (net) to 31/10 & Pay Award	£850.33
	Home Working Allce	£26.00
	Domain & Mail Basic 25 – Sep	£13.20
	Email Archiving – Sep	£9.00
	HP Instant Ink (Printer Ink) (Sep)	£11.22
	Microsoft 365 – Sep	£5.80
HMRC	PAYE	£311.23
PKF Littlejohn LLP	External Audit	£252.00
YLCA	Training – Cllrs Crowther & Slater – Talking Tables	£210.00
	Training – Cllr Dempsey – Whole Council Training	£30.00
	Training – Cllr Holt – Biodiversity Challenge	£37.60
Orbit Haus Ltd	Newsletter Printing	£198.00
M V Edwards	Expenses - Envelopes	£28.00
J Crowther	Expenses – Train ticket to training	£17.50
S Slater	Expenses – Train ticket to training	£26.40
TOTAL		£2,026.28

106/26 BUSINESS TERM DEPOSIT

RESOLVED: That the Council will transfer £3,000 from the Business Term Deposit Account into the Current Account for 6 months from October 2026 to April 2027.

107/26 EXTERNAL AUDIT

RESOLVED: The Parish Council noted the final external auditor report. No further actions are necessary.

108/26 NEWSLETTER

Cllr Baldwin reported that the winter edition will be compiled in the near future.

109/26 CALDERDALE WIND FARM

Cllrs Slater and Jackson reported that they received an update on the wind farm at the Ward Forum.

Cllr Slater reported that she has been in contact with a representative from Yorkshire Wildlife Trust.

The Clerk will write to the Ward Councillors and the leader of CMBC to enquire about what steps are being taken by CMBC to obtain the funding from Calderdale Energy Park in order for CMBC to formulate its response.

110/26 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. **26/00727/FUL** - RESOLVED: The Council had no objections
 - Barn West Of Hudson House, Hudson Mill Road, Blackshaw Head
 - Change of use of existing agricultural barn and 2 storey extension to form 3 bed detached house
2. **26/00661/FUL** - RESOLVED: The Council had no objections
 - The Arvon Foundation, Lumb Bank, Lumb Road, Hebden Bridge
 - Ground mounted solar photovoltaic array
3. **26/20121/TPO** - RESOLVED: The Council had no objections
 - Milton Lee, Mill Road, Hebden Bridge
 - Crown 9 trees to prevent overgrow (tree preservation order)

111/26 ST THOMAS NEW CHURCHYARD

Cllr Dempsey reported that the meadow area was mowed and baled in September. The Friends Group has met to discuss upcoming tasks.

Cllr Dempsey reported that the information board is waiting to be made.

Cllr Dempsey informed the Parish Council that the signs erected directing visitors to the poets' graves have been removed and hidden. The Friends Group would like to know why this has been done and will request further information on this on social media.

112/26 PHONE BOX

Cllr Jackson reported that he has repaired the door closer.

Cllr Jackson has started cleaning the internal frames.

The Parish Council thanked Cllr Jackson for his hard work restoring the phone box.

113/26 OUTDOOR EXERCISE AREA

Cllr Holt reported that she has yet to receive a response from CMBC regarding her request for information on inspections. Cllr Holt has escalated this issue to the Ward Councillors.

Cllr Holt will contact equipment suppliers to create a plan for the exercise area.

114/26 GRIT BINS

The Parish Council considered the response from CMBC.

Cllrs Jackson and Slater will decide exact locations for the grit bins in order to inform CMBC.

115/26 TRACTOR RUN

The Parish Council considered the response from CMBC regarding safety concerns from HGVs travelling through the village centre.

Cllr Holt will liaise with the organisers and request a copy of the health and safety report.

116/26 ARISING FROM CORRESPONDENCE RECEIVED

ETTRO – Smithy Lane Colden: The Parish Council noted an email regarding an emergency road closure on Smithy Lane, Colden to renew a water main.

New legal framework for CEP: The Parish Council noted an email containing a presentation about the new legal framework for Calderdale Energy Park.

Vital information on peat landslide hazard on Calderdale Energy Park: The Parish Council noted an email regarding the peat landslide hazard on Calderdale Energy Park.

Parking – Longfield: The Parish Council noted concerns about parking on Longfield. This issue is already being dealt with by the Ward Councillors.

Invitation to the AGM, Hebden Bridge Junior Band, 12th November 2026: The Parish Council noted an invitation to the AGM of the Hebden Bridge Junior Band. Cllr Edwards will attend on behalf of the Parish Council. RESOLVED: That the Parish Council will give a donation of £100 from the Chairmans Allowance.

Removal of setts – Junction with Towngate and Hepton Drive: The Parish Council noted concerns regarding the removal of setts on the junction with Towngate and Hepton Drive. The Clerk will write to CMBC Highways to request that the setts are replaced.

Road Closure – Smithwell Lane – Lack of notice: The Parish Council noted concerns about the lack of notice for the recent road closure on Smithwell Lane. Cllr Slater has passed this issue on to the Ward Councillors.

The Mechanics Institution – Restoration: The Parish Council noted an email regarding the restoration of the Mechanics Institution and noted concerns about access to Weavers Square.

Noise in Weavers Square – Children playing: This item was considered during the Public Participation item. Details of this discussion can be found at Minute 100/26.

Footpath Heptonstall50 notice of application for modification order: The Parish Council noted concerns about the application for a modification order on footpath Heptonstall50. The Parish Council objects to the modification order due to safety concerns. The path is dangerous and unsuitable for both cyclists and horses due to the sheer drop. There are utilities running under the path that supply the scout hostel which may be damaged by upgrading the footpath and allowing heavier traffic.

Condition survey of chimney at Colden and closure of surrounding footpaths: The Parish Council noted an email regarding the dangerous condition of the chimney at Colden and the closure of the surrounding footpaths.

Consultation on Calderdale Council's Statement of Licensing Policy: The Parish Council noted an email regarding a consultation on Calderdale Council's Statement of Licensing Policy.

117/26 REPRESENTATIVE REPORTS

Cllrs Slater & Crowther reported that they attended a Talking Tables training day. Cllr Crowther reported that there are now three different types of planning; Settlements, Non-settlements and 800m from a high performing railway station. Cllr Crowther reported that Highways can force landowners to cut back overhanging vegetation causing an obstruction to the highway.

Cllr Slater reported that she raised the issue of the weight restriction on Lee Wood Road at the Ward Forum. Cllr Slater was advised that drivers breaking this restriction should be reported to the DVSA as it is the operators of the vehicles that are at fault. Cllr Slater has enquired about the installation of moving traffic enforcement cameras on Lee Wood Road.

Cllr Jackson reported that he also attended the Ward Forum. Cllr Jackson informed the Parish Council of an organisation called Active Travel England who may be able to help with the painted pavement on Heptonstall Road.

Mr Greenwood reported that he attended the Joint Parish Meeting where issues such as Calderdale Energy Park and fly tipping were discussed. Mr Greenwood reported that these meetings are held every three months and it is Heptonstall Parish Council's turn to chair and clerk the next meeting.

Mr Greenwood reported that he will be attending the YLCA AGM.

Cllr Edwards thanked Cllr Slater for attending the Ward Forum in his absence.

118/26 DATES & TIMES OF NEXT MEETINGS

The Clerk advised that matters for inclusion on the agenda of the next meeting should be with her by 26th October.

The Clerk advised the next meeting would be held:

- Monthly Council Meeting at Heptonstall Social & Bowling Club at **7.30pm on Tuesday 03 November 2026**

(Chair)

(Date)