Minutes of the Annual Parish Meeting of Electors

Bowes Parish Council

held at Bowes Hutchinson's School on 14 April 2026 7.00 p.m.

Present

Cllr Hughes, Cllr Thompson, Mr Ross Woodley (Clerk and RFO) and one local elector.

1. Minutes of the Previous Annual Meeting

Minutes of the annual parish meeting of electors held Wednesday 16 April 2025 (circulated with the agenda) were discussed. It was **resolved to accept the circulated minutes as a true record.** Proposed by Cllr Hughes seconded by Cllr Thompson.

2. Discussion of any issue, activity or subject that specifically affects electors of Bowes Parish.

The Chair confirmed that one elector (excluding councillors) had attended and the time was past the advertised start time. The agenda had been published on the noticeboard at the bus shelter seven days before the meeting as required. The Clerk confirmed that he had also published the agenda on the website at the same time and had not received any correspondence from any other electors indicating that they were likely to attend.

Therefore, the Chair invited the elector who had attended the meeting to raise the issue that he would like discussed. The elector referred to the problem of wild camping in the village, principally concerning parking up overnight in the village hall car park. Two vehicles appeared to have been abandoned in the car park and he was aware of occupied vehicles there late at night and still there the next morning indicating that people were using it to avoid paying for camping at the campsite within the parish. The Chair confirmed that he was aware of the problem, but the Village Hall Committee owned the car park and not the Parish Council. The elector replied that he suspected that might be the case but wondered if the Council had any power to take preventative measures such as erecting barriers or notices. The Clerk confirmed that in his view the Council did not because it was not their land, but he could discuss the issue with the Village Hall Committee. The Chair concurred adding that the Council are unable to raise by-laws on public land. The elector was satisfied with this proposal.

3. Voting on any proposals made by electors for consideration at the ordinary meeting of Bowes Parish Council in May 2026.

All agreed that there was no need to discuss the above issue at the Annual Meeting of the Parish Council in May 2026 or vote on the informal resolution agreed with the elector.

4. Questions from Bowes Parish Council electors for the Council.

The elector asked if the Council had written to National Highways about the potholes on the A66. The Clerk replied that he had not done. The Chair clarified that as the elector had already reported the issue to National Highways and the substantial roadworks were ongoing additional reporting by the Council was unnecessary at this stage.

The meeting closed at 7.25 p.m.

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