

Capheaton Parish Council

Annual Parish Assembly

Meeting held on Monday 11 May 2026 at 7.00pm at Capheaton Village Hall

- 1. Present:** Mr W Browne-Swinburne, Mr RD Patterson, Mr RW Irving, Mrs E Moffat
- 2. In attendance:** Mr P Ware (Clerk)
- 3. Apologies for absence:** Ms A Coe, County Councillor R Dodd
- 4. Minutes of the Meeting held on Monday 12 May 2025** having been circulated, were agreed, and signed by Cllr W Browne-Swinburne (Chair of the Parish Council).
- 5. Matters arising:** There were no matters arising.
- 6. Report of the Parish Council Chairman:** Cllr W Browne-Swinburne provided a report to members on the Parish Council's activities over the past year. The report was read and accepted unanimously.

Agreed as a true record and signed by the Chairman

_____ **Chairman**

_____ **Date**

Capheaton Parish Council

Annual Report of The Chairman, 1st April 2025 – 31st March 2026

This year has seen the Council working hard for the parish, making representations to the County Council and other relevant bodies. We continue to constantly press the Highways Authority on the subject of potholes and have made some progress there.

The precept remained unchanged at £3,045.00.

As in previous years we have made donations to small charities which we feel genuinely benefit residents of the parish. A total of £1,475.00 was shared with Northumberland Theatre Company, Great North Air Ambulance, Kirkwhelpington PCC (for upkeep of graveyards at Kirkwhelpington and Kirkheaton), Tynedale Hospice at Home and Community Action Northumberland.

The Council reviewed three planning applications (wind farm, 3 North Side, and the Old School) and the three wind turbines located at Kirkheaton were decommissioned and removed by EDF Renewables. Having failed to secure monies for some community EV chargers, after the funding stream was paused following the change of government, and following a consultation exercise carried out by the Council, instead we approached EDF Renewables for assistance. They kindly gave the Council a donation, through their *Community Benefit Fund*, towards the cost of providing two communal parking areas around Kirkheaton Village Green.

Our ward Councillor, Richard Dodd has retained his seat after the County Council Elections and so we will continue to work with him as we have done for a number of years now.

Our memberships of The Northumberland Association of Local Councils and Community Action Northumberland continue which allows us to look up and see wider issues in the region and act accordingly.

The Council now has a new .gov.uk website domain and email address, to ensure a legitimate and trusted online presence, so residents can find and communicate with us easily (and to comply with Assertion 10, a mandatory declaration in the AGAR process).

Our clerk, Peter Ware continues to be invaluable and we thank him wholeheartedly for his diligence and patience.

As councillors we are always happy to discuss issues with parishioners and any resident is most welcome to attend our meetings.

William Browne-Swinburne, Chairman May 2026