

HAZLERIGG PARISH COUNCIL

MINUTES OF THE MEETING HELD ON THURSDAY 26th JUNE 2025 at HAZLERIGG VILLAGE MEMORIAL HALL

Present: Councillors Barbour (Vice Chair), Down, & Fairley.

In attendance: 3 residents & Ali Lamb (Clerk)

AGENDA

Item	Action
<p>1. Welcome & apologies Cllr Barbour welcomed everyone to the meeting.</p> <p>Apologies were received from Parish Councillors Locke & Garbett, Ward Councillor Avaei & the Neighbourhood Policing Team.</p>	
<p>2. Minutes of the Annual Parish meeting and the Annual General meeting held on 29th May 2025 were agreed and signed by Cllr Barbour.</p>	
<p>3. Matters Arising not otherwise on the agenda It was noted that an article in the Chronicle stated that a challenge had come forward to the planning permission for the path through Havannah Nature Reserve and that the School Trust had made alternative walking arrangements until the matter is settled.</p>	
<p>4. Issues raised by residents A resident raised the issue of the poor public transport service in the village – specifically in terms of the low frequency of bus services and the poor connections between services when travelling further afield.</p> <p>An issue was also raised in relation to the Beef ‘n’ Leaf burger van and the apparent lack of toilet facilities for the staff – a resident witnessed an incident of urination in the hedgerow on High Ridge. Similar incidents have been witnessed by patrons of the gym. It was agreed that the Clerk should contact the gym to raise these concerns.</p>	Clerk
<p>5. Actions / updates from Ward Councillors Although no Ward Councillors were able to attend the meeting, Cllr Down reported that he had attended a recent Brunswick Parish Council meeting and when the possibility of a Community Governance Review taking place next year was raised, Brunswick Parish Councillors said they would have no objection to such a review of Parish boundaries taking place. It was noted that the issue was on the agenda for the next All Parishes Meeting in September 2025.</p>	
<p>6. Police Matters The Neighbourhood Policing Team have advised that they are now posting updates on the Next-Door app and requested that the Parish Council publicise this on our social media channels.</p> <p>Cllr Down reported that he had met representatives of ‘EPIC’ community safety project who welcome opportunities to meet the community. It was agreed that the Clerk would contact the Team to suggest opportunities such as the Coffee Morning in the Centre and Youth Club sessions.</p> <p>Reported crime statistics April 2025 – taken from the Northumbria Police Crime Map:</p>	Cllr Fairley Clerk

<p>1 reported crime – reports made from or nearby:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Coach Lane – 1 x Public Order offense 	
<p>7. Correspondence</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Updates and newsletters - Parks Forum, Gosforth Wild Web, NGN, NALC (National & Northumberland), CAN. - Promotions and advertisements including Royal British Legion (VJ Day), Playgrounds and web designers. - Notice of the next All Parishes Meeting – 24.09.25 at 4pm. - Meeting offer from NGP planning officer – to be arranged for September. - Housing Officer contact details – a meeting has taken place, and it was agreed that the Clerk asks for possible dates when the Housing Officer could hold a surgery in the Centre (possibly at a Coffee Morning) – HPC would then publicise the session. - Fly tipping in Havannah – copied into resident email to MP’s and NCC – papers were discovered in the tipped materials that had addresses on them which NCC can use to progress an investigation. - AGAR 2024/25 – confirmation of receipt of our Certificate of Exemption. - Northumberland Association of Local Councils – notification of change in web provider – decision required from HPC about whether to go with NALC’s new provider (Hugo Fox) – cost estimated at £9.99 plus VAT per month. They further advised that all Local Councils must have a ‘. gov.uk’ email address by 1st April 2026 – Hugo Fox could provide this for £2.49 plus VAT per month. It was agreed that the Clerk ask if this would mean there would be a reduction in NALC subs and that the matter be raised on the July agenda. - A new version of ‘Local Councils Explained’ circulated by NALC. - HPC has won a Bee’s Need’s Champions Award and is invited to attend a ceremony at Kew Gardens on 15/07/25 – Cllr Down will look at whether he is able to attend or not. - Further email from a resident of North View about parking / car damage on the street. It was agreed that the matter would be raised with NCC Traffic Management. 	<p style="text-align: right;">Clerk</p> <p style="text-align: right;">Clerk</p> <p style="text-align: right;">Clerk</p> <p style="text-align: right;">Cllr Down</p> <p style="text-align: right;">Clerk</p>
<p>8. Financial matters</p> <p>The balance on the accounts is £11,817.04 (current); £8,424.69 (reserves).</p> <p>Payments authorised for:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Clerk - £179.30 - HMRC - £44.80 	
<p>9. Environment Planning & Highways</p> <p>Grass Cutting –</p> <p>The complaint made by the Parish Council about the unauthorised grass cutting on High Ridge has been upheld by the City Council and the receipt for the yellow rattle plug plants has been forwarded to them.</p> <p>Further cuts have been arranged with the Farmer.</p> <p>A resident mentioned the excellent contribution that a neighbour makes to the tidiness of the village by cutting the grass in front of the bungalows on High Ridge.</p> <p>It was agreed that the Clerk checks the frequency of the Council’s grass cutting on other areas of grass in the village and reports back.</p>	<p style="text-align: right;">Clerk</p>

<p>Weed killing & glyphosate – An invitation to a national webinar about the issues has been shared with NCC. Progress on the Facebook survey is deferred to the next meeting.</p> <p>Bee's Needs – The email from Defra about the Bee's Needs Award to be emailed to Cllr Down.</p> <p>Elliot Walk – The ownership of the land is now confirmed as being NCC's. Cllr Barbour will continue to explore the possibility of Remediation funding from the Coal Board. A recent site meeting with NCC Operations has raised the possibility of double yellow lines being installed to allow enforcement action to be taken against verge parking.</p> <p>Road safety and traffic management – A recent Automatic Traffic Count on Coach Lane has recorded speeds which concern our Area Traffic Management Engineer, and she has agreed to a site visit with Parish Councillors – to be arranged by the Clerk. Parish Councillors will take some photos / video of the early morning traffic to show to her at the meeting.</p> <p>Planning – No new applications to note but there is evidently going to be an application coming forward for more houses near Morrisons.</p> <p>High Ridge – Parish Councillors held a separate meeting to discuss actions arising from the Risk Assessment:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Hedgerow planting on the A1 side of the field – enquiries with NCC about the planting programme have been made. The Tree Officer is not able to give a timescale at this stage but confirms the planting season is November to March. Further updates will be sought closer to the time. - Signs – enquiries have been made with Northern Powergrid about signage, but they have advised that overhead power lines are the responsibility of National Grid – further enquiries to be made. Enquiries have been made with Ridge Court Resident's Association about the possibility of mounting a sign on the garages – awaiting a reply. It was suggested that Jan Forster Estate Agents may have a contact for the Chairman of the RA – Clerk to investigate. A draft sign was shared at the meeting, but the text is difficult to agree given the changes in the contact details for the Parish in terms of email address and web address which have been discussed. It was agreed that the Clerk's phone number should not be on the sign. Item deferred to the July meeting. - Travellers – it was confirmed that responsibility lies with the landowner and that legal advice would need to be secured. - It was confirmed that the village is a No Cold Calling zone and Cllr Down offered to try to get hold of some No Cold Calling Stickers for residents that don't have them. 	<p>Cllr Locke</p> <p>Cllr Barbour</p> <p>Clerk / Cllr Barbour</p> <p>Clerk</p> <p>Cllr Down</p>
<p>10. Other issues raised by Councillors</p> <p>Cllr Down confirmed that Cllr Avaei is following up potential action in relation to the shipping container on Strawberry Terrace.</p>	<p>Cllr Avaei</p>

Next meeting of Hazlerigg Parish Council will be held on Thursday 24th July 2025 at Hazlerigg District Memorial Hall at 6pm.