

MELKRIDGE PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of Quarterly Parish Council Meeting held on 11 February 2026

PRESENT: Cllr T Lewis (Chairman), Cllr M Oliver, Cllr Hingston,
Cllr K Stronach, Cllr S Vallance

In attendance: County Cllr A Sharp
Mrs K Little – Clerk

502/26 Apologies for absence - None

503/26 Minutes of meeting held 12 November 2025 to agree

Proposal to accept minutes of meeting held 12 November 2025

Prop: Cllr Stronach Sec: Cllr Hingston Agreed

504/26 Declarations of Interest in accordance with Section 31 of the Localism Act 2011, members to declare any interests in items on this agenda – None received

505/26 Reports/updates

505/26/01 Update on bus stop – NCC

No response from Chris Curtis of NCC - clerk to follow up

505/26/02 Update on electricity supply and defibrillator – Cllr Sharp

Cllr Sharp advised NCC to supply and install post for the defibrillator Cost £2,000 – Total cost of the defibrillator including box and fittings approx £1,711 (exc VAT) - Cllr Sharp to contribute £1,300 towards the cost and parish council agreed to pay the remainder.

505/26/03 Issue of water discharge from field onto public highway east of Park House – Cllr Sharp had spoken to the property owner who agreed there is an issue. There is a drain that goes under the road into the pit field and this may be blocked. Cllr Sharp has asked NCC to inspect the drain to see if it needs flushing out

505/26/04 Parish Website – update from HugoFox

The council have now signed up with HugoFox and are in the process of obtaining a domain name. Discussion regarding the new website which may cost £199 plus VAT for a full service website to build

506/26 Visual Inspection of trees in Queens Platinum Jubilee Park

Alder still needs to be cut down and tree leaning over the hedge needs to be trimmed

507/26 Correspondence

507/26/01 NCC – Wildlife and Countryside Act 1981

Definitive Map and Statement of Public Rights of Way

Definitive Map Modification Order (No 15) with Schedules and plan(s) – acknowledged receipt of

507/26/02 NALC – *updates forwarded by email*

507/26/03 Community Action Northumberland – *forwarded by email*

- 507/26/04 Community Resilience Forums – *forwarded by email - cancelled*
- 507/26/05 NCC – Revised tax base – *forwarded by email*
- 507/26/06 Tynedale Community Partnership – 27 January 2026 -*forwarded by email* – Next meeting to be held in Haltwhistle on 31 March 2026
- 507/26/07 NCC – Northumberland Design Code – Sharing our Consultation with our Communities – *responses invited by 9 January 2026*
- 507/26/08 NCC – Community Governance Review – Stage 1 of the public consultation will go live on 1 February and will run to 30 April 2026
- 508/26/09 Northumberland National Park Authority – letter received from Tony Gates announced appointment of David Renwick as next CEO

508/26 Finance

- 508/26/01 Grass Cutting 2026 arrangement - to agree Craig Watson to continue with grass cutting
Prop: Cllr Lewis Sec: Cllr Vallance Agreed
Clerk to write to Craig Watson to confirm agreement for grass cutting at £200 per cut

- 508/26/02 Accounts for approval and payment:
Prop: Cllr Lewis Sec: Cllr Vallance Agreed

| Date | | | Business A/c | | Receipts | Payment | Balance |
|----------|--------|-------------------|--------------|--|-----------|-----------|---------|
| 05.12.25 | CR | Interest | 30.17 | | | | |
| 06.12.25 | DR | Charges to 14 Nov | | | | £2.00 | £318.12 |
| 05.01.26 | DR | Charges to 14 Dec | | | | £2.00 | £316.12 |
| 02.02.26 | TRF | | -300.00 | | | | |
| 02.02.26 | TRF | From Business A/C | | | £300.00 | | £616.12 |
| 11.02.26 | 100557 | K Little | | | | £409.69 | £206.43 |
| 11.02.26 | 100558 | HMRC | | | | £77.00 | £129.43 |
| | | | 8,865.79 | | £6,300.00 | £3,944.01 | |

£7,000 ring fenced for future burials

509/26 Date and Time of next meeting – Annual Parish Meeting and Annual Parish Council Meeting to be held 13 May 2026

Meeting closed at 7.45pm

**SIGNED AND ACCEPTED AS A TRUE AND ACCURATE ACCOUNT OF THE
MINUTES FOR THE PARISH COUNCIL MEETING HELD ON 11 FEBRUARY 2026**

Chairperson.....

Date.....