

Whessoe Parish Council

MINUTES of the Meeting of Whessoe Parish Council held at Whessoe Parish Hall on Monday 23rd March 2026, at 7.00 pm.

Present: Councillor D Woodley Councillor S Goldfinch (Vice Chair) Councillor T Musson
 Councillor F Minay Councillor C Stewart Councillor M Singh Bains
 Borough Councillors R Lawley and G Lee
 Parish Clerk – B Goldfinch

MINUTE NO.	ITEM	ACTION
84.25	<p><u>Introduction</u></p> <p><u>Apologies for Absence</u></p> <p>Councillor S Patterson sent apologies, which were accepted by the Parish Council.</p>	
85.25	<p><u>Public Participation</u></p> <p>None.</p>	
86.25	<p><u>Declarations of Interest</u></p> <p>Councillor Woodley expressed an interest in Agenda item 15 – Social Committee, selection of charity.</p>	
87.25	<p><u>Minutes of the meeting of Whessoe Parish Council – 26th January 2026</u></p> <p>The Minutes of the meeting of Whessoe Parish Council held on the 26th January 2026 were presented.</p> <p>The Council RESOLVED that the Minutes of the meeting of Whessoe Parish Council held on the 26th January 2026 be approved and signed.</p> <p><u>Action Points</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • All actions are covered in the Agenda. 	
88.25	<p><u>Planning</u></p> <p>Planning Applications</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Darlington Borough Draft Local Plan Review 2025-2042 consultation. The Council agreed that there were no significant new impacts on the Parish. <p>Planning Committee</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The Planning Committee met on 17th March 2026. The Council noted the report. 	

Signed..... Date.....
 Chair of the Parish Council

	27/06/25	PAYE Q1	£ 405.00	HMRC	
	27/06/25	Booking Software	£ 265.00	Hallmaster	
	30/06/25	Clerk's Salary Q1	£ 1,620.40	Clerk	
	07/07/25	Hall Maintenance (roof)	£ 100.00	Dave Woodley	
	08/09/25	Ink cartridges, teaspoons and HDMI wall plate	£ 108.18	Amazon	
	29/09/25	PAYE Q2	£ 405.00	HMRC	
	29/09/25	Clerk's Salary Q2	£1,620.40	Clerk	
	01/10/25	Replacement Website	£ 258.00	Plexus Media Ltd	
	09/10/25	Replacement Laptop	£ 299.99	Amazon	
	13/10/25	Roof Repair	£ 720.00	C Park DHM Roofing	
	13/10/25	Boiler Service & certification	£ 300.00	MHL Ltd	
	02/12/25	Fire extinguisher service and replacement extinguisher	£ 123.24	Churches Fire Security	
	02/12/25	Christmas Tree	£ 519.60	Croft Christmas Trees	
	02/12/25	Christmas Party Entertainment final payment	£ 160.00	S W Enterprises	
	17/12/25	Gas November	£ 151.63	EDF Energy	
	30/12/25	PAYE Q3	£ 431.00	HMRC	
	30/12/25	Clerk's Salary Q3	£1,724.40	Clerk	
	20/01/26	Gas December	£ 102.05	EDF Energy	
	12/02/26	Tree trimming	£ 130.00	Darren Crang	
	19/02/26	Gas and Electricity February	£ 171.63	Octopus	
	<p>Internal Audit</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> The Parish Council RESOLVED to appoint Kevin Pearce as their internal auditor. <p>Banking – outstanding action</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> The Council's bankers, Lloyds, are charging a monthly fee to continue banking with them. The charges that affect the Council's account are a £4.25 fee per month plus 42p for every manual transaction (paying in cheques and cash). At the moment there are no manual transactions. The Clerk will investigate alternative options. 				Clerk
92.25	<p>T - Website and Email</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> There are some issues with the downloaded documents that the Clerk is continuing to address and correct. 				Clerk
93.25	<p>Policies</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> At the meeting in January it was reported that the Parish Council has had updated advice on compliance with the UK GDPR regulations. In particular the change to Assertion 10 in the Annual Governance and Accountability Return. Actions were identified and the Clerk and Councillor Goldfinch had drafted an IT policy. After discussion the Parish Council RESOLVED to approve the IT Policy and publish it on the Council's website. 				

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Chair of the Parish Council

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Data Protection – The Clerk is working on the roadmap suggested by NALC to meet the Information Commissioner’s requirements. 	Clerk
94.25	<p><u>Correspondence</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Clerks and Councils Direct was passed to Councillor M Singh Bains. • Correspondence had been received from the charity Local Cancer Voices, and it was agreed to discuss this as part of the selection of charities discussion at Agenda Item 15. 	
95.25	<p><u>Events and Training</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The Council noted the events and training log. 	
96.25	<p><u>Marketing and social media</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Notice Board on Berrymead Farm – Storey Homes has been approached to see if they would sponsor and install a notice board on the site. The Clerk will pursue a response and find out when the path to the hall will be completed and ask them to take away the traffic cones. POST MEETING NOTE: I wrote to them on 26th March 2026. 	Clerk
97.25	<p><u>Whessoe Parish Hall Committee</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The Hall Committee met on 17th March 2026. An update was provided by Councillor Woodley. <p>Contracts</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The trees have been trimmed. The Clerk will ask for pressure washing to be carried out. • A specification for cleaning is being drafted. • A cheaper mobile phone contract has been adopted. • M H Gorman moved the fuse board, fixed the car park lights and carried out portable appliance testing. The laminator failed the test and has been replaced. <p>Hall Maintenance</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Trevor and Bill have repaired the window blind and the ladder bracket. • There is no new leak in the kitchen but an inspection of the loft area is needed. • The support in the disabled toilet support needs refixing. <p>Hall bookings</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The Clerk would circulate the latest version of the hall opening rota. POST MEETING NOTE: Done 26th March 2026. 	Clerk
98.25	<p><u>Whessoe Parish Social Committee</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Charity Donation – Quiz Nights have raised £1,586.38 for the Darlington Samaritans. Fiona is arranging for the donation to be made at the next quiz night. 	

Signed..... Date.....
Chair of the Parish Council

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Quiz night hosts – for the next year. <table border="1" data-bbox="472 253 1182 640"> <thead> <tr> <th>DATE</th> <th>HOST</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td>24th April 2026</td> <td>Caroline Stewart</td> </tr> <tr> <td>5th June 2026</td> <td>Bill</td> </tr> <tr> <td>10th July 2026</td> <td>Suzanne</td> </tr> <tr> <td>4th September 2026</td> <td>Fiona</td> </tr> <tr> <td>9th October 2026</td> <td>Ian Thomas</td> </tr> <tr> <td>6th November 2026</td> <td>Trevor</td> </tr> <tr> <td>4th December 2026</td> <td>Suzanne</td> </tr> <tr> <td>15th January 2027</td> <td></td> </tr> <tr> <td>19th February 2027</td> <td></td> </tr> <tr> <td>19th March 2027</td> <td></td> </tr> </tbody> </table> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Parish Council Charity for 2026-27 – The Council considered four worthy causes (St Teresa’s Hospice, British Heart foundation, Alzheimer’s Society and Northern Cancer Voices). The Council unanimously RESOLVED to support the local Alzheimer’s Society. 	DATE	HOST	24 th April 2026	Caroline Stewart	5 th June 2026	Bill	10 th July 2026	Suzanne	4 th September 2026	Fiona	9 th October 2026	Ian Thomas	6 th November 2026	Trevor	4 th December 2026	Suzanne	15 th January 2027		19 th February 2027		19 th March 2027		
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99.25	<p><u>Date and Time of Future Meetings</u></p> <p>Meetings of Whessoe Parish Council:</p> <p>Annual Meeting – Thursday 21st May 2026 – 7.00 pm</p> <p>Annual Parish Meeting:</p> <p>Annual Parish Meeting – Thursday 21st May 2026 – 6.30 pm to 7.00 pm</p>																							

Signed..... Date.....
Chair of the Parish Council