

GUNTHWAITE AND INGBIRCHWORTH PARISH COUNCIL

MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF THE COUNCIL HELD ON WEDNESDAY, 25TH JUNE 2025, 7.30 PM, FOUNTAIN VILLAGE PUB FUNCTION ROOM

PRESENT; Councillors Berry, Hazeldine, Ackerley; Clerk.

2025/028. TO RECEIVE APOLOGIES AND APPROVE REASONS FOR ABSENCE.

Noted - Councillors Ogden and Edmondson gave apologies as they could not attend, Councillor Ogden due to provision of childcare and Councillor Edmondson was on holiday.

Resolved – Council approved reasons for absence.

2025/029. TO RECEIVE DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST IN ITEMS ON THE AGENDA.

Noted – no Declarations of Interest were received.

2025/030. TO CONFIRM AND SIGN THE MINUTES OF THE ANNUAL MEETING HELD ON 21ST MAY 2025.

Resolved – minutes agreed as true record and signed by the Chairman.

2025/031. TO REPORT ANY MATTERS ARISING FROM THE MINUTES NOT ON THE AGENDA – FOR INFORMATION ONLY.

Noted – Councillor Ackerley noted that works are ongoing at Summerford to do with road drains and surface level changes. Conroy Brook is doing the roadworks and residents have raised concerns about lack of timely communication about the works. Barnsley MBC have not yet adopted the road.

2025/032. TO NOTE THAT COUNCILLORS NEED TO COMPLETE A NEW REGISTER OF INTEREST FORM FOR THE ELECTORAL MONITOR, THESE CAN NOW BE COMPLETED IN DIGITAL FORM INSTEAD OF REQUIRING A PAPER COPY.

Resolved – Clerk to forward on the attachment to Councillors. These can be filled in digitally if preferred, a signature added and then returned to the Clerk by email. The Clerk will send them all to BMBC Electoral Services.

2025/033. TO ADJOURN THE BUSINESS OF THE MEETING TO RECEIVE COMMENT AND QUESTIONS FROM MEMBERS OF THE PUBLIC ON AGENDA ITEMS.

Noted – no members of the public present.

2025/034. TO RECEIVE AND CONSIDER ANY PLANNING APPLICATIONS SINCE THE LAST MEETING.

Noted – no planning applications received.

2025/035. TO RECEIVE AND CONSIDER MATTERS RELATING TO PURCHASING A NEW PICNIC TABLE AND A NEW BENCH FOR SANDBEDS.

Noted – Clerk and Councillor Hazeldine had provided examples of picnic benches and benches made from wood and recycled products, with the associated costs. Items made from recycled material were more expensive initially, but due to longevity (one company offered a 25-year maintenance free guarantee) and lower maintenance costs, were likely to have a lower lifespan cost. Items identified by Councillor Hazeldine came to £1256.93 inc. VAT, the recent donation from Ingbirchworth Community Group Fun Day funds will cover the costs of these.

Resolved – Councillors agreed to purchase a picnic table and bench made from recycled material. Clerk to find out what guarantee period is offered from the companies. Purchase to be made using the s137 Local Government Act 1972 power, Community benefit.

2025/036. TO APPOINT A REPRESENTATIVE TO THE SOUTH YORKSHIRE BRANCH MEETINGS ARRANGED BY THE YLCA.

Resolved – Councillors Hazeldine and Edmondson will represent the Parish Council at Branch meetings, although other Councillors can attend as well if they want to.

2025/037. TO RECEIVE AND CONSIDER ALIGNING THE PARISH COUNCIL ELECTION CYCLE WITH THE NEW BARNSELY COUNCIL ALL WARDS ELECTION SYSTEM STARTING IN MAY 2026 TO BENEFIT FROM SUBSIDISED ELECTION COSTS.

Noted – Clerk had attended the Parish Liaison meeting with BMBC staff where this was discussed. The cost of a contested by-election, held outside the borough Council election, for a Town or Parish Council is substantial – recent example given was £5000 – whereas a contested by-election being held at the same time as the borough Council election will incur no cost. If the Parish Council wishes to align with BMBC then next by-election will be in 2026 instead of 2027.

Resolved – Clerk to contact BMC to confirm that the Parish Council wishes to align with the Borough council electoral cycle.

2025/038. TO CONSIDER MATTERS RELATING TO PUBLIC RIGHTS OF WAY AND PUBLIC OPEN SPACES.

2025/038.1 TO NOTE THAT THE AMENITY GRASS AT INGS WAY IS BEING MOWED BY THE GARDENER

Noted – the Ings Way amenity grass had already been cut back.

2025/038.2 TO RECEIVE AND CONSIDER MATTERS RELATING TO MANAGEMENT OF BROWSEEDGE WOODLAND.

Noted – Councillor Edmondson had shown the Penistone Community Development Officer (Rebecca Battye) around the parcels of land the Council owns and asked for help finding suitable firms to create a management plan for Brownsedge woodland for the ash dieback problem plus any woodland improvement.

Resolved – Clerk to discuss with Councillor Edmondson about getting surveys and necessary work done on trees in poor condition, especially those near the roads. Grant funding can be sought afterwards if necessary but works should not wait for this.

2025/038.3 TO RECEIVE AND CONSIDER MATTERS RELATING TO VOLUNTEER LITTER PICKING.

Noted – Clerk had received confirmation from the insurer that the activity can proceed if a risk assessment is provided and there is adult supervision.

Resolved – Clerk to review the risk assessment with the volunteers so they know what can and cannot be litter picked (for example roads with no pavement) before the activity starts.

2025/039. TO CONSIDER MATTERS FOR REFERRAL TO BMBC HIGHWAYS AUTHORITY.

Noted – nothing raised.

2025/040. TO CONSIDER MATTERS FOR REFERRAL TO NEIGHBOURHOOD SERVICES.

Noted – nothing raised.

2025/041. TO RECEIVE AND CONSIDER CRIME AND SAFETY MATTERS.

2025/041.1 TO RECEIVE AND CONSIDER MATTERS RELATING TO THE TWO DEFIBRILLATORS MAINTAINED BY THE COUNCIL.

Noted – Councillor Hazeldine confirmed that since the last meeting the temperature and humidity readings were in the acceptable range for both machines. He also noted that a new battery will soon be needed for the Huddersfield Road defibrillator.

Resolved – Clerk to purchase one new battery for the Huddersfield Road defib.

2025/041.2 TO RECEIVE AND CONSIDER OTHER CRIME AND SAFETY MATTERS.

Noted – Councillor Hazeldine had attended the South Yorkshire Branch meeting where the deputy mayor of South Yorkshire, who leads on police and crime matters, gave a talk. She noted that South Yorkshire police are starting to target rural crime, that neighbourhood Police numbers are being increased, and Doncaster are trialling having police officers based in fire stations (for example) in remoter areas where there are no police stations.

Also discussed was ensuring that Parish Councils have up to date land registry documents for all land or property ownerships they have.

2025/042. FINANCIAL AND INTERNAL CONTROL MATTERS

2025/042.1 TO RECEIVE AND NOTE ACCOUNTS FOR PAYMENT AND INCOME RECEIVED.

Accounts for payment

25.06	#799	BL Lonestar Ltd	Function room hire fee (June 2025 meeting)	£30.00
25.06	#800	Liz Charlesworth	Village gardening tasks May 2025	£56.00

Income received

30.05	NatWest Bank	Interest	£7.47
-------	--------------	----------	-------

Debit card account payments made by Clerk

13.06	Force 36 Limited	Monthly Microsoft Exchange Online Plan 1 (webmail) subscription	£25.80
-------	------------------	--	--------

2025/042.2 TO RECEIVE AND NOTE THE BANK RECONCILIATION REPORT TO MAY 30TH, REPORT TO BE CHECKED WITH BANK STATEMENTS AND SIGNED BY A COUNCILLOR.

Noted – a bank balance of £16,964.02 was reported.

Resolved – the bank reconciliation report was checked and signed by a Councillor.

2025/042.3 TO RECEIVE AND CONSIDER THE BUDGET MONITOR REPORT TO JUNE 25TH INCLUDING EXPLANATION OF SIGNIFICANT VARIANCES FROM PREVIOUS BUDGET MONITOR REPORT.

Resolved – budget monitor report accepted.

2025/042.4 TO RECEIVE AND CONSIDER ACCOUNTS PAID BY DEBIT CARD BY THE CLERK, COUNCILLORS TO SIGN AND DATE THE PAYMENT CONFIRMATION SLIP TO CONFIRM NO DOUBLE PAYMENTS MADE BY CHEQUE.

Resolved – Councillors checked the debit card payment list and signed to confirm no double payments made.

2025/043.TO NOTE CORRESPONDENCE RECEIVED.

2025/043.1 YLCA WHITE ROSE UPDATES/LAW AND GOVERNANCE BULLETINS (MAY/JUNE).

2025/043.2 FROM SOUTH YORKSHIRE WOODLAND PARTNERSHIP ABOUT FUNDS TO CREATE NEW WOODLANDS.

2025/043.3 SOCIAL PRESCRIBING NEWS FROM THE PENISTONE TEAM.

2025/044.TO CONFIRM THE NEXT COUNCIL MEETING DATE AS WEDNESDAY JULY 30TH, 2025.

Resolved – next meeting confirmed as July 30th.