

NORTH LODGE PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of the Meeting of North Lodge Parish Council held at Park View School, Lombard Drive, Chester-le-Street on Tuesday 16th September 2025.

PRESENT Chairman: Councillor Craig Martin.

Councillors: Suzanne Brown, Margaret Caygill, Jackie Gregory, Maureen May, Patrick Driscoll, Dennis Hall, Darren Hawkes, Chris Veitch.

County Councillor: Craig Martin.

Clerk: David Murrell.

The Chairman commenced the meeting by welcoming everyone back after the summer recess.

Item 1. 25/93 Apologies for Absence

Apologies for Absence were received from Councillor Graham Watson.

Item 2. 25/94 Declarations of Interest

Councillor Craig Martin declared interests as a County Councillor and as a Trustee of Park View Academy. Councillor Chris Veitch declared an interest as Chairman of the North Lodge Remembrance Group. Councillor Jackie Gregory declared an interest as a member of the North Lodge Remembrance Group.

Item 3. 25/95 Appointment of a Planning Portfolio Holder

The position of Planning Portfolio Holder was currently vacant but had been filled on a temporary basis by Councillor Hawkes. The Chairman proposed that Councillor Hawkes should be appointed on a permanent basis until the next Annual Meeting when all Portfolio positions would be reviewed as usual. All Councillors signified their agreement to this. Councillor Hawkes advised that he was happy to accept the position.

(Resolved Unanimously - to appoint Councillor Hawkes as Planning Portfolio Holder).

Item 4. 25/96 Report of the County Councillor

The County Councillor's report included the matters contained in his written report below -

£640,000 Transferred from Chester-le-Street to Bishop Auckland Leisure Centre

At one of the first cabinet meetings of the new Council, cabinet approved spending an additional £640,000 funding on Bishop Auckland's new build leisure centre. This money came from funding earmarked from improving the facilities at Chester-le-Street's Riverside sports facilities.

There is currently a proposal to build a specialist sports stadium on the Riverside site that would be open to community use. Working Durham women's football club and the county women's cricket team. But as of yet there have been no firm commitments of funding to get this project off the ground.

Parking Improvements Barley Mow Village Hall

I've been working alongside Councillors in Birtley to improve the parking situation outside Barley Mow Village Hall. Quite often cars park directly on Vigo Lane, causing an increased risk for those that use the road.

Following pressure from ourselves, advisory white lines have been placed to discourage parking in this area. Durham County Council have promised that further measures will be put in place if the situation doesn't improve.

Having spoken to the Village Hall's leadership, they discourage parking on Vigo Lane. While promoting there is alternative parking not located on a major road.

In addition, a) Councillors discussed the transfer of funds to Bishop Auckland. The County Cllr declared an interest as his employment principal and chief executive was the Chairman of the Bishop Auckland Stronger Board. Councillors expressed their disappointment at this transfer of funds and the County Cllr advised that he considered it unlikely that funds would be returned or replaced, b) Cllr Caygill commented that, despite the recent decision of the County Council that the apple tree on North Road was not in a dangerous condition, the fallen apples were creating a dangerous situation on the footpath. The County Cllr kindly agreed to make a further request to the County Council that work be carried out to the tree. Cllr Hall hoped that there would be a change in responsibilities that would delegate such functions as tree care and maintenance from County Councils to Parish and Town Councils.

Councillors thanked the County Councillor for his report.

Item 5. 25/97 Adoption of Minutes of Council Meeting

The Minutes of the Meeting of the Parish Council held on Tuesday 15th July 2025, draft copies of which had been previously circulated, were adopted as a true and accurate record of the Meeting and were duly signed by the Chairman.

Item 6. 25/98 Chairman's Report

The Chairman's report included the matters contained in his written report below -

Chair's Summer Social

Thank you to everyone that attended and took part in my summer BBQ. These events are important in allowing all of us to bond, socialise, and actually have a good time in each other's company. Something I believe promotes better decision making as a group by all of us interacting in an informal setting.

Such occasions allow myself as chair, to demonstrate that my role is to serve the parish council, as opposed to being perceived .

If anything, I enjoyed the chance to BBQ some interesting food for you all. But I'll make sure there's metal cutlery next time around.

Resignation of Cllr Batey

I have passed on our thanks to Cllr Batey for their service to North Lodge Parish Council. They provided a positive contribution for the brief period they were a member.

With this comes a vacancy, I recommend all Councillor's to spread the word and encourage competent, community minded residents to put themselves forward.

Newsletters

From my conversations with residents, our newsletter has been warmly received. Many thanks to Cllr May pulling this together and the team effort of parish councillors in getting them through letterboxes.

Anyone that hasn't distributed their newsletters, please do this as soon as possible. These leaflets are important part of how we communicate to those we represent.

Councillors thanked the Chairman for the summer social event and for his report.

Regarding outstanding matters -

- a) Re Minute 25/85 section 4c). Re sightlines at the junction of Lombard Drive and Leander Avenue, the Chairman advised that he has not yet had a discussion with Cllr Watson but would seek to do so in the near future.
- b) Re Minute 25/87. Re information from the County Council re existing advertising signage around the County, the Chairman will chase this up. The Chairman advised that the press had not published the press release re the advertising sign at the Barley Mow "Prince Bishops" sign. However, the press release was to be published on the Parish Council's social media.
- c) Re Minute 25/87 section a). Cllr Caygill advised that the smaller posters from the Art Society had now been received and were a welcome addition to the noticeboards. Councillors agreed that a letter of thanks and appreciation should be sent to the Art Society.
- d) Re Minute 25/92 section c). Cllr Gregory advised that the Police were pleased that the play area at Low Flatts was a suitable site for the use of their drones.

Item 7. 25/99 Portfolio Holders' Reports

a) Communications and Media Development

Cllr Veitch's report included the matters contained in his written report below -

Since the July Meeting there has been posts relating to the following placed on our social media:

- Notification of Vacancy
- CAP Job Club at parish Centre CLS
- Chimney Fire Safety Week
- DCC Kids travel Free on Go North East (Summer Holidays)
- CLS Police Counter temporary close
- Fire Safety Advice
- Make the right Call 999, 101 or Online
- Activity Week
- Emergency Alert on mobile phones 7th September
- Newsletter distribution
- Remembrance Artwork Engagement at Lombard Drive
- High Handenhold Fire Station Car wash
- Online Fraud
- World Drowning Prevention
- Flower Bed damages due to wildlife
- Northlands Roundabout
- Bird Feeding issues in North Lodge
- Durham Fringe Festival

Litter Pick

The next date can be discussed and agreed at the meeting on 16th September and then arranged accordingly.

In addition, a) Councillors agreed unanimously that the group photo of Councillors and the Clerk, taken just before the meeting, should be posted to the Council's social media, b) Councillors thanked Cllr Veitch for all his work in arranging and carrying out litter picks.

b) Crime and Community Safety

Cllr Gregory's report included the matters contained in her written report below -

Durham Constabulary

Crime

Please refer to Police.uk for recorded crimes in the North Lodge parish area.

Graffiti on the stone entrance sign and the bridge wall at Picktree Lodge.

You can report crimes anonymously through Crimestoppers

Community Safety

Lombard Drive junction with North Road, North Lodge

Parking on the road markings and near to road junctions in the vicinity of Park View Lower School, at the end of the school day have increased.

A walkabout of this area and other nearby roads with North Lodge's PCSO Paige, and the Neighbourhood wardens to be arranged.

Speed Monitoring

The police speed monitoring vehicle continues to attend Blind Lane on a regular basis. Data once obtained, is published on the parish council's social media accounts.

Traffic counting measures in situ at Blind Lane.

Scams

Pensions

Cold calling about pensions is illegal and likely a sign of a scam.

If you're thinking about changing your pension arrangements, seek financial advice beforehand.

Report pension scams to [Action Fraud](#) online at actionfraud.police.uk or by calling 0300 123 2040.

Telephone calls

Don't let scammers target you or your loved ones.

If you get a call from someone claiming to be your bank or the police asking you to:

Transfer or withdraw money

Hand over your bank card

Have cash ready for collection

Hang up immediately. Your bank or the police will **NEVER** ask you to do this.

This is called courier fraud, and it's left victims thousands of pounds out of pocket.

Durham Constabulary is supporting a national campaign by City of London Police to raise awareness and stop these scams. Recently, four people in County Durham lost a total of £6,000, with each person losing an estimated £1,500 to fraudsters.

If you think you've been targeted or scammed, call your local police force or [Action Fraud](#) on 0300 123 2040, or report it online at www.actionfraud.police.uk

If in doubt or you feel threatened, call 999 immediately.

Children's On-Line Safety

Do you know what your child is doing behind closed doors?

For the first time, Counter Terrorism Policing, MI5, and the National Crime Agency are jointly calling on parents and carers to support their children to be safer online.

The authorities concerned are increasingly seeing children being routinely exposed to the most serious harmful online content.

This includes sexual violence, self-harm and suicide content, extreme gore, animal cruelty, indecent images of children, and terrorist content.

This bombardment of online harms can quickly become normalised. Worryingly, some of the children who come to attention are completely desensitised to extreme and obscene content.

Read more about this joint statement <http://counterterrorism.police.uk/counter-terrorism...>

If you're concerned that someone might be taking a dangerous path, get advice and support by visiting the ACT Early website.

September is suicide awareness month

In August, Durham Constabulary received 229 missing person reports.

Sadly, not all of these people came home.

These charities are here to help, they don't judge they just listen, even if you don't know what to say.

Samaritans: 116 123

SANEline: 0300 304 7000

National Suicide Prevention Helpline UK: 0800 689 5652

Campaign Against Living Miserably (CALM): 0800 58 58 58

SHOUT: If you would prefer not to talk but want some mental health support, you could text SHOUT to 85258

The Mix. If you're under 25, you can call The Mix on 0808 808 4994

Clare's Law

It allows you to request information from police about whether a current or ex-partner has a history of domestic abuse or violence. It allows you to request information from police about whether a current or ex-partner has a history of domestic abuse or violence.

A disclosure can provide potentially life-saving information to help people make a more informed decision about whether to continue the relationship they're in.

Anyone can make an application for information if they are worried their current or ex-partner may have a history of abuse and are a risk to them.

Applications can be made online here <http://www.durham.police.uk/.../request-information.../>

Domestic Abuse

If you are suffering domestic abuse, please tell police- call 101, or 999 if you are in immediate danger.

Reports can also be made online at <http://www.durham.police.uk/.../a1/report-domestic-abuse/>

If you don't want to speak to the police, there are other helplines available:

The National Domestic Abuse Helpline is available 24 hours a day on 0808 2000 247.

Local charity, Harbour, is also available 24 hours a day on 03000 20 25 25.

The Rape and Sexual Abuse Counselling Centre (RSACC) offers free, specialist support to anyone who has experienced any form of sexual violence at any time in their lives. Call 01325 354119, email info@rsacc-thecentre.org.uk or visit www.rsacc-thecentre.org.uk

The above services support both men and women.

Recruitment and Vacancies

In August, police welcomed 23 new constables into Durham Constabulary.

Police currently have 10 police staff vacancies open across the force, ranging from detention officers to IT technicians.

Find out more information about the roles on Durham Constabulary website.

For more information on any of the above issues and other other incidents, please check Durham Constabulary social media accounts.

For all emergency telephone calls to police, please use telephone number 999.

For non- emergency telephone calls to police, please use telephone number 101

Parish Council

C2C cycle route/path, North Lodge.

The use of motor cycles on this route in North Lodge parish has been an issue over a number years. The parish council has met on occasions with the Police and Neighbourhood wardens to discuss this. Sustrans charity (responsible for this route) has also been informed.

Whilst the police and the neighbourhood wardens are aware of this issue, they have received comparatively few reports over the years. Therefore, their resources have been directed elsewhere.

Merely placing views and comments regarding this issue on the parish council's Facebook or other community Facebook accounts will not help to resolve the issues of motorcycles using this route.

Anyone using this path and **without putting themselves in immediate danger**, should contact the

police at the time of witnessing any illegal incident or antisocial behaviour. Any other information regarding non emergency incidents on this route should be reported to Police using telephone number 101 and also report to Durham County Council Neighbourhood Wardens (03000 260000). This course of action may help to catch the perpetrators.

There is only a limited amount of space in the newsletter for my annual report. Therefore, information for inclusion has to be assessed and prioritised.

Concerned residents are asked to check the council monthly minutes for any update on the C2C cycle route/path issue.

It should be noted that the parish council has no legal powers to intervene over individuals breaking the law.

Co Durham and Darlington Fire and Rescue Service (CDDFRS)

Recruitment of On-Call Firefighters

Being an on-call firefighter means you can continue to go about your daily routine, but when the call comes you drop everything to respond to the incident.

If you would like you find out more about the paid role and apply, please visit:

<https://orlo.uk/RbDOa>

Applicants must live or work within five minutes of a fire station and only individuals aged 17 years and six months or older are eligible to apply.

Fire Alarms

Check your smoke alarms are working!

Smoke alarms save lives and CDDFRS recommend you have one on every floor of your home. To check they are working, press the test button until the alarm sounds. If it doesn't go off it may need new batteries.

If you need smoke alarms installing or replacing, CDDFRS will fit them for FREE.

Call CDDFRS on 0345 223 4221.

Lines are open Monday to Friday from 8.30am to 4.30pm, or leave a voicemail out of hours.

Chimney Fire Safety

CDDFRS key message is to have your chimney swept before lighting the first fire of the winter and also ensure that any appliances which haven't been used for a while are given a safety check.

(Approved chimney sweeps operating in your area can be found at: <https://orlo.uk/eNjKg>)

Also check that your smoke alarms are working so you have early warning should the chimney catch alight and consider fitting a carbon monoxide detector.

When the fire is on make sure to do the following:

Place a fireguard in front of the fire at all times.

Extinguish all fires before going to bed or leaving the property unattended.

Do not burn paper or rubbish on fires in the grate.

Check for smoke from cracks in the chimney breast.

Animal Rescue

CDDFRS firefighters are trained to carry out a range of animal rescues.

Whether its a dog that's fallen down a rabbit hole, a horse trapped in mud, or even a bull stuck in a river - CDDFRS is ready to help save your beloved pet.

Focus Group Sessions

CDDFRS is inviting residents of County Durham and Darlington to take part in focus group sessions to share your views and experiences of their service.

Your feedback will help shape the future of the service and ensure they are meeting the needs of our communities.

Three sessions are taking place across September.

Tuesday September 23rd

Durham Community Fire Station 6.30pm - 8pm

Wednesday September 24th

Darlington Community Fire Station 10am - 11.30am

Thursday September 25th

Online - 6.30pm - 8pm

Whether you've interacted with the Service before, have thoughts on fire safety, or simply want to help improve local services – CDDFRS want to hear from you!

Sessions taking place at stations will include a post session tour of fire stations, tea, coffee and snacks

Please register your interest and CDDFRS will be in touch soon to confirm attendance:

<https://orlo.uk/mDUsl>

His Majesty's Inspector of Constabulary and Fire & Rescue Services report

CDDFRS has been rated as one of the best performing Fire and Rescue Services in the country in a new report.

In an inspection report published by His Majesty's Inspectors of Constabulary and Fire & Rescue Services (HMICFRS), CDDFRS have been recognised as 'Outstanding' for ability to protect the public through fire regulation.

Meanwhile, CDDFRS have been rated as 'Good' across nine other key areas including culture, ability to manage and develop future leaders and our approach to money management, both now and in the future.

For all emergencies calls to the CDDFRS, please use telephone number 999

For more information on CDDFRS refer to their Social Media accounts.

Durham County Council (DCC)

Scams

DCC is urging drivers across County Durham to be on their guard against parking scams after being made aware of a potential new scam which has occurred in a neighbouring authority area. Someone claiming to be a civil enforcement officer, approached members of the public and falsely issued parking fines and request they be paid to them in person.

Enforcement officers would never ask for payments to be made directly to them and always carry ID on their person, as well as having numbers on the shoulders of their uniform.

We're also aware of three other scams circulating. These include:

- Text messages being sent asking people to pay a parking fine.
- People being asked to pay for parking via a QR code: If anyone witnesses a QR code in a council car park, they should contact the parking team, who will investigate and inform the police.
- A text message asking people to pay an outstanding parking fine of £20, with a link to a 'gov' phone number.

DCC would never issue a parking fine or contact a vehicle owner by text message and if anyone has paid a fine following one of these scams, they should contact their bank to seek a resolution. Small battery operated card readers have been placed on machines and tariff boards in the Bishop Auckland area.

Please be vigilant when paying for parking. Check machines for anything unusual or loose before inserting your card.

More information on current frauds and scams circulating in County Durham can be found at

www.durham.gov.uk/currentscams

Rubbish Collection

DCC had another two fires in bin lorries across the county recently. Thankfully there were no injuries to the crew, but these incidents are becoming more frequent.

Please don't put batteries or vapes in your rubbish or recycling bins.

They contain lithium and other materials that can ignite when crushed inside our trucks.

Here's how to dispose of them safely:

Batteries - Take them to recycling pods at most supermarkets & community venues.

Vapes & small electricals - Drop them at any Household Waste Recycling Centre and WEEE (see below website)

Let's keep DCC's crews safe and protect our environment.

Find your nearest drop-off point & more info:

www.durham.gov.uk/weee

Vacancies

Do you have an interest in finance and local government?

DCC is looking for five members to join their Independent Remuneration Panel, which reviews and makes recommendations on their Members' Allowances Scheme.

Request an application form or for more information, please contact democraticservices@durham.gov.uk

Durham County Council has vacancies for a wide range of jobs.

You can find details of all current vacancies and how to apply on the website:

<https://ow.ly/IHk450W0VP9>

To contact DCC general switchboard use telephone number 03000 26 0000

For more information please see DCC 's social media accounts

The Chairman thanked Cllr Gregory for her report.

c) Finance

Cllr Veitch's report included the matters contained in his written report below -

I have inspected the financial information supplied to me by the clerk and can confirm that everything appears correct.

The Chairman thanked Cllr Veitch for his report.

d) Highways and Community Assets

Cllr Driscoll's report included the matters contained in his written report below -

The monthly bus shelters inspection was completed on Monday the 8th of September. All the shelters seemed to be in good order, with just some leaf clearance needed as a necessary task. The Ambleside Court shelter needed foliage clipping beneath the "Parish Council" sign. All glass cabinets were cleaned, and the biggest bonus was the lack of seat cleaning, due to the exceptionally dry Summer.

In addition, Councillors discussed the instances of graffiti in the Parish. Re graffiti on the Picktree Lodge plinth, Councillors agreed that Cllr Gregory should report this to the Police as criminal damage. Cllr Veitch kindly agreed to obtain a quote for cleaning of the various sites of graffiti. The Chairman thanked Cllr Driscoll for his report.

e) Horticulture

Cllr May's report included the matters contained in her written report below -

SUMMARY

SUMMER BEDDING

The summer bedding eventually flourished well due to the improvement in the weather conditions. However, there is some concern over the damage to some plants particularly in the Lombard Drive area including the Jubilee tree - query rabbit or vandalism damage? These areas will be given consideration regarding their future in the next financial year.

WINTER BEDDING

In early October the summer bedding will be replaced with winter bedding.

QUEEN'S CANOPY TREES

The Queen's canopy trees (3) have been given full permission for planting and this will happen very shortly.

LONGDEAN PARK SHRUB BED

Longdean Park shrub bed was once again earmarked for refurbishment but unfortunately again

has now been put on hold for the foreseeable future.

In addition, a) re the Queen's Canopy Trees, the Chairman will carry out a consultation with those households in the immediate vicinity of the proposed site, b) Councillors discussed a proposal for a plaque for the Trees and the Horticulture group is to provide further details for consideration, c) Cllr Caygill advised that her consultations with residents had established that there was a preference for colourful planting rather than sustainable planting, d) the Chairman thanked the Horticulture group for their work during the summer recess on budgeting matters.

The Chairman thanked Cllr May for her report.

f) Meetings of Partnership Organisations

Following the resignation of Cllr Batey from the Council, no report was made.

g) Picktree Village

Cllr Brown's report included the matters contained in her written report below -

Picktree Village has been relatively quiet since my July report

I visited new Estate manager Harvey Lee at the Estate Office in early August.

He was keen to hear about issues that concern residents and was keen to respond to any that we highlight in future. I look forward to a very positive relationship with him regarding any issues we raise.

Speeding vehicles are still a worrying concern on the lane. Police monitoring has been observed in August at both ends of the village but a couple of hours is no way near a true reflection of this serious problem

Monitoring cable has been placed recently across the lane at both ends. I presume to record volume of traffic. I have no idea where any information goes or how it may be used

I would like to record my thanks to the DCC workmen who picked up my cat from the side of the lane and informed me via his identity implant. He had been missing for 3 weeks and local residents had been alerted. I am so pleased that my son was able to bring him home and bury him in his/my garden while I was away on holiday. It was a sad return

Darren from DCC was extremely kind when he phoned me He said he hated this part of his job. Apparently it happens most days. Perhaps another reason to curb speeding motorists !! I have thanked the Team but feel it is worthy of note to mention it in my report

In addition, Councillors discussed possible traffic calming measures and the County Cllr kindly agreed to approach the Highways Department re this. Cllr Gregory will provide to Cllr Brown contact details to approach the Police re a Community Speed Watch.

The Chairman thanked Cllr Brown for her report.

h) Planning

Cllr Hawkes confirmed that he would continue to receive and examine the weekly and monthly reports from the County Council Planning Department and would advise Councillors of any matters of significance.

The Chairman thanked Cllr Hawkes for his report.

i) Play Areas

Cllr Caygill's report included the matters contained in her written report below -

MERLIN DRIVE

All equipment appears to be in good order.

DCC have fitted a new basket swing in the last few weeks.

LOW FLATTS

All equipment appears to be in good order.

Considerable damage has been caused to the playing field by, presumably, a motorbike or cycle churning up the grass.

Tom Forster has replaced James Young as DCCs Play Area Manager and has confirmed that DCC is currently in the process of standardising signage across its play areas. Our request for additional directional signage for Low Flatts has been welcomed and we need to discuss funding and a site meeting to take this forward.

In addition, a) re damage to grass, Cllr Gregory advised that incidents needed to be witnessed and reported directly to the Police with descriptions of the perpetrators, b) the Clerk is to arrange a site meeting re direction signs, c) the footings of the old goalposts are now protruding and could cause a tripping incident. The Clerk is to ask the County Council to remove these. The Chairman thanked Cllr Caygill for her report.

j) Policy and Governance

Cllr Hall advised that there were no matters to report. The Chairman thanked Cllr Hall.

k) Project Development, Business and External Relations

Cllr Martin's report included the matters contained in his written report below -

Remembrance Artwork Update

Thank you for everyone that took part in the community feedback session. The response from the public is ridiculously positive (almost unbelievable). With 100% of returns being positive. Durham County Council Assets still haven't formally signed it off yet. I am pursuing this with vigour as this is the last piece of the legal puzzle. But I do not see this as being an issue.

In addition, Cllr Veitch provided a further update on the expected completion time for the Artwork. Councillors thanked Cllr Martin for his report.

Item 8. 25/100 Correspondence

- 1) From the Society of Local Council Clerks
Local Government Services Pay Agreement 2025/26.
- 2) From Royal Mail
Advice of change of postcodes for Harraton Terrace and Fatfield Lodge.
- 3) From Durham County Council
Approval of grant for Tree Planting in Vigo Lane.
- 4) Various planning applications, approvals and refusals from Durham County Council, of which the following applications were within North Lodge Parish:-
 - a) Application for tree works, at 1A North Lodge.
 - b) Application for two-storey front extension to create a new entrance area and accommodate a platform lift providing access to the first floor, at 19 Longdean Park.

Item 9. 25/101 Proposals, Reports and Requests for Consideration

a) Planning Complaint - Low Flatts Stables

Cllr Gregory outlined the present situation. Councillors discussed this and agreed that there was a need to monitor the site for any further anti-social behaviour.

b) Condition of the Seat at the Lambton Worm Bus Stop

Cllr Driscoll advised on the present condition of the seat and that it was only during the bird nesting season that it was in worse condition than any others. Cllr Driscoll was happy to agree, as a resident, to clean the seat more often during bird nesting. Councillors also agreed that consideration should be given to budgeting for planned replacement of seats becoming life expired.

c) Traffic Incidents at Northlands Roundabout

Councillors discussed the present situation, having regard to the recent email received from the County Council Team Leader, Traffic Signals. Councillors considered that it was unlikely that the County Council would take any significant action towards improvements to the traffic flow at the roundabout. The County Cllr is to pursue the County Council for the early replacement of the many temporary barriers at the roundabout.

d) Donation to the British Legion for Two Poppy Wreaths

Councillors agreed to make a donation of two hundred pounds for the purchase of two poppy wreaths.

Item 10. 25/102 Payment of Accounts

TO	AMOUNT	REASON	VAT
Salaries	£ 667.24	Salaries August 2025	
Expenses	£ 115.00	Expenses August 2025	
Back-Dated Salary Increase	£ 82.84	Back-Dated Salary April-July inc	
Salaries	£ 664.56	Salaries September 2025	
Expenses	£ 115.00	Expenses September 2025	
Makepeace Landscapes	£ 1976.51	Horticulture August 2025	£ 329.42
Makepeace Landscapes	£ 1976.51	Horticulture September 2025	£ 329.42
Durham County Council	£ 729.25	Christmas Lighting	£ 121.54
Craig Martin	£ 203.00	Chair's Quarterly Allowance	
Total of Above Payments	£ 6529.91		

Payments Made by Debit Card and Direct Debit

TO	AMOUNT	REASON	VAT
ANS Group Ltd	£ 46.25	Monthly Subscription - August 2025	£ 7.71
ANS Group Ltd	£ 46.25	Monthly Subscription - Sept 2025	£ 7.71
Post Office Ltd	£ 10.44	Postage Stamps	
Jak HQ Ltd	£ 506.00	Newsletters	£ 16.00
Costco Wholesale Ltd	£ 17.98	Copier Paper	£ 2.99
HM Revenue & Customs	£ 600.80	P.A.Y.E.	
HM Revenue & Customs	£ 263.42	Employer's N.I.C.	
Richardsons Photographers	£ 102.00	Group Photograph	£ 17.00
Total Card and D/D Payments	£ 1609.14		

(Resolved - the payments be approved as submitted).

Item 11. 25/103 Other Matters for Information

Cllr Gregory had observed new road markings being put down in Blind Lane.

The Chairman closed the meeting at 8.12pm.

North Lodge Parish Council

Accounts for the month as submitted to the Meeting of North Lodge Parish Council held on Tuesday 21st October 2025.

	TO	AMOUNT	REASON	VAT
Salaries		£	Salaries October 2025	
Expenses		£ 115.00	Expenses October 2025	
Makepeace Landscapes		£	Horticulture October 2025	
Total of Above Payments		£		

Payments Made by Debit Card and Direct Debit

	TO	AMOUNT	REASON	VAT
ANS Group Ltd		£ 46.25	Monthly Subscription - Oct 2025	£ 7.71
Poppy Shop		£ 199.98	Wreaths and Donation	£ 6.66
Total Card and D/D Payments		£		

Balance to 30th September 2025

Balance b/f	£60882.97	Balances at Bank:-	
Deduct Payments - Sept 2025	<u>£ 6529.91</u>	Community Account	£ 625.75
	£54353.06	Commercial Instant Access	<u>£53599.69</u>
Deduct Card and D/D Payments	<u>£ 1609.14</u>	Total	£54225.44
	£52743.92		
Add Bank Interest Received	<u>£ 69.52</u>	Deduct cheques not yet presented	<u>£ NIL</u>
	£52813.44		
Deduct Bank Charges	<u>£ 13.00</u>		
	£52800.44		
Add Grant Received	<u>£ 1425.00</u>		
	£54225.44		
Balance c/f	£54225.44		£54225.44