

CARHAM PARISH COUNCIL

Parish Council website: <https://carhamparish.org>

Minutes of the Parish Council Meeting held on Monday 12th January 2026 In St Cuthbert's Church Carham at 6.30p.m.

PRESENT: Chairman P Feerick, Vice-Chairman M De Fusco,
Parish Councillors J Chubb, (during Min 679) J McGregor, & D Wells
Clerk I Hunter
2 Members of public

Public Question Time: No questions

Community Police: Parish Councillors noted following report:

Since 10th November there have been no relevant recorded crimes or issues of anti-social behaviour. There has been a recent report of unidentified trespassers on land, but this has not resulted in any subsequent crime. I would ask that residents remain vigilant and report any suspicious persons or vehicles via the appropriate means. There have been no other specific nearby crime trends that I think should affect the Carham residents at this time.

Min 671- Chairman's Welcome- The Chairman gave a vote of thanks to Parish Councillor V Poland for preparing the latest newsletter, and to Parish Councillors for delivering the newsletter.

Min 672- Apologies for Absence: Parish Councillor V Poland & County Councillor M Mather

Min 673- Declaration of Interest: Parish Councillors J McGregor & D Wells declared a personal & prejudicial interest in Agenda item No 11- Play Area as Trustees of Wark on Tweed Charity.

Min 674- Request for Dispensation- None

Min 675- Minutes of the Meeting: The Minutes of the Parish Council meeting held on 10th November 2025 previously circulated were amended Min 662 "with" should be "will". Parish Councillors now agreed the minutes as a true record, The Chairman signed a hard copy.

Matters arising from the minutes if not already on the agenda- None

Min 676- County Councillor report- The Clerk informed the meeting that the only update she had received was the revised bus service is progressing as per the previously circulated timetable.

1 member of the public joined the meeting at this point

Min 677- Financial Statement

- Current Account £1211.31
- Instant Access Savings A/c £3000.20

Min 678- Accounts

Receipt

- Instant Access Savings A/c £ 0.20 Interest

Transfers

- Current A/c to Instant Access Savings A/c £1000.00
- Current A/c to Instant Access Savings A/c £2000.00

Payments

- Bank of Scotland £ 8.50 Bank charges – 2 months
- E I Hunter £ 79.35 Salary 9.5 hours @ £13.91 per hour
- HMRC £ 52.80 PAYE

Min 679- Right of Way

- Parish Councillors noted the refusal for the Public Footpath No 37, in the Parish of Carham.
- Parish Councillors noted the submission of the appeal by the Chairman on behalf of Carham Parish Council to the refusal for the Public Footpath No 37, in the Parish of Carham.

Parish Councillor J Chubb joined the meeting at this point

Parish Councillors gave a vote of thanks to the Chairman for preparing and submitting the appeal.

The Chairman advised the meeting that the Planning Inspectorate had acknowledged receipt of the appeal, however it had not been registered yet.

Min 680- Play Area

- Parish Councillor J McGregor spoke as Chairman of the Wark-on-Tweed Charity. 2 of the trustees are undertaking research into what type of play equipment would be suitable considering the size of the parish & population along with the demographics of the parish.
The Community facility- There will be a meeting on 13th January to consider a revised plan. The Project Manager will submit the planning application after the meeting.

Min 681- Defibrillator- Parish Councillors considered the information received from Parish Councillor V Poland and agreed that the Parish Council would provide the 2nd £500 donation to the project as was originally promised.
Parish Councillors agreed the donation would be made when the funds are required.

Min 682- Wark Telephone box

- The Chairman advised the meeting that Gordon Laing hoped to be onsite in the next week or so to gravel & pave the area behind the telephone box.
The Chairman asked the meeting if there were any volunteers who would be willing to undertake the ground maintenance of the area.
Parish Councillor J McGregor advised the meeting that the Wark gardening team will take the lead on tidying up the area, which will include organising laying down bark and removing weeds.

Min 683- Correspondence

- **Destination Tweed-** Email- Information on footpath project

- **NCC- Email- Joint Town & Parish Council Spring Conference 5th March.** The Vice-Chairman agreed to attend the Conference.

Min 684- Parish Council gov.uk website & email addresses-

- The Clerk advised the meeting that Northumberland County Council will provide the gov.uk website & gov.uk email address for each Parish Councillor + the Clerk. However, Northumberland County Council would like to know if Carham Parish Council would be retaining the current website.
Parish Councillors agreed that the current website is to be retained.
- The Clerk read out the 2 options Northumberland County Council had provided on how the 2 websites could be linked.
- Parish Councillors agreed to accept the advice of Northumberland County Council IT Department on the preferred option as they have the expertise.

Min 685- Parish Council budget & precept 2026/27

- Parish Councillors considered the previously circulated draft budget for 2026/27.
- Parish Councillors agreed to add the following expenditure to the draft budget for 2026/27.

Wreath	£ 25
Donations	£100
Website	£ 62.40 (for the current website)
- Parish Councillors agreed to increase the budget for 2026/27 to £3k.
- Parish Councillors agreed the precept for 2026/27 would be £3k.

Any Other Business.

Min 686- Local trades directory- The Vice-Chairman advised the meeting that there had been an issue lately with scam traders in the area and was investigating if a local trades directory could be collated listing local businesses, however, it would still be up to the person engaging the trades person to undertake the necessary checks ahead of agreeing to any works and expenditure.
The Vice-Chairman agreed to provide an update at the March meeting.

Date of the next Parish Council Meeting will be on 9th March 2026 at 6.30p.m.
in St Cuthbert's Church Carham

Chairman _____

Date _____