



Hawthorn Parish Council

Clerk to the Council: Mrs Lesley Wilkinson BA(Hons)
64 Rothbury Road, Newton Hall, Durham DH1 5PG
Email: clerk@hawthornparish.co.uk



The Monthly Meeting of **HAWTHORN PARISH COUNCIL** was held on
MONDAY 18th May 2026 at 7.15pm in the
HAWTHORN COMMUNITY CENTRE

MINUTES

Present

Cllr Sheila Irving – Chair

Cllr George Vest – Vice Chair

Cllrs Robert Adcock-Foster, Alan Askew, Barry Curran, Sheila Wilson,

Durham County Councillor – Julie Griffiths

Parish Clerk – Lesley Wilkinson

Members of the Public - 1

1 Notice of Meeting

Cllr Sheila Irving gave Public Notice of the Meeting in accordance with Sch 12 paragraph (10)2 of the Local Government Act 1972

2 Apologies

Cllr Carolyn Winter

3 Declarations of Interest

None

4 Minutes of the last meeting held on Monday 20th April 2026

Approved

5 Matters of Information

Current Matters of Information sheet attached

Julie Griffiths to chase some of these ongoing requests up with DCC

6 Reports

Durham County Council

County Councillor Julie Griffiths in attendance – she will report back after her initial meeting.

County Councillor Mark Rowney has had 3 previous surgeries held at Hawthorn Community Centre but the invoice for these has still not been paid despite a reminder – Cllr Julie Griffiths to try and chase this up

Police

PCSO Jane Bradley-Harding had been invited to this meeting but there had been no response. Cllr Julie Griffiths informed the meeting that the PCSO is absent from work currently. Cllr Julie Griffiths said she would inform Sergeant Martin Thursfield of the requirement of attendance at the monthly coffee morning in Hawthorn to discuss PACT issues

Community Centre

Cllr Sheila Wilson updated the meeting. The recent coffee morning for Danielle to fundraise towards a ventilator for Sunderland Royal Hospital raised in the region of £1100 – it was well attended and the family were delighted

Coffee Mornings are the last Saturday of month and 3rd Wednesday with the Summer Fair being held on the afternoon of 4th July 2026. Cllr Sheila Wilson asked the meeting for access to the Village Green for this – Agreed

Membership figures are the same at 137

Any Other Reports

None

7 Public Participation: Comments on Agenda items

1 member in attendance

The member of the public asked if the Parish Council had made a submission to the Bellway Appeals Panel – the Parish Council confirmed that they had

The member of the public also raised concerns about speeding on High West Lane – Cllr Julie Griffiths agreed to ask for Community Speed Watch to be deployed on a morning around the school run time

8 Correspondence

Email from The Circuit.uk reminding the Parish Council to check status of defibrillator Parish Clerk to email 'Guardian of the Defibrillator' Dr Chris Carr to inform him

Email from Clear Councils with invitation to renew insurance for 1st June 2026 Parish Clerk to email Cllr Sheila Irving with last year's policy price to compare

Email from RoSPA Play Safety to inform Parish Council that the play park will be inspected in June at a cost of £83

9 Website and email addresses update

The Parish Clerk requested a new website and email addresses be procured to update the Parish to a .gov.uk secure domain

Agreed

10 Financial

To endorse the monies paid by the Clerk since the last meeting

Hawthorn Parish Council

Instant Access Account

Apr-26

DATE	PAYEE	DESCRIPTION	AMOUNT	BALANCE
01/04/2026	BROUGHT FORWARD		£8,700.00	£8,700.00
07/04/2026	Durham County Council	Precept	£16,030.00	£24,730.00

DATE	PAYEE	DESCRIPTION	AMOUNT	BALANCE
01/04/2026	BROUGHT FORWARD		£1,192.86	£1,192.86
07/04/2026	HMRC	Vocational Training Relief	470.42	£1,663.28
30/04/2026	Unity Bank	Monthly Service Charge	-£7.00	£1,656.28
01/05/2026	Information Commissioner's Office	Yearly Subscription	-£52.00	£1,604.28
01/05/2026	Durham County Association of Local Councils	Yearly Subscription	-£142.91	£1,461.37
01/05/2026	Gordon Fletcher	Audit Payment	-£100.00	£1,361.37
01/05/2026	Parish Clerk	Reimbursement for McAfee Virus Protection for Parish Laptop	-£14.99	£1,346.38
01/05/2026	Parish Clerk	Reimbursement for Microsoft 365 for Parish Laptop	-£84.99	£1,261.39
08/05/2026	Parish Clerk	Reimbursement for stapler and hole punch - Amazon UK	-£10.41	£1,250.98
11/05/2026	Parish Clerk	Reimbursement for Postage	-£1.80	£1,249.18

Resolved

11 Training

Parish Clerk to attend 'New Clerk's Finance Course' on Teams online on 21st May 2026

12 Planning

Current planning applications

No new applications

Update on Solar applications

No new applications

Sheila Irving informed the meeting that she is to attend East Durham Action Group on 2nd June

13 Any Other Business

The Parish Council agreed to purchase a small gift for Ian Forster, former Planner for his help with the submission to the Bellway appeal

Parish Clerk to purchase and deliver

14 Date of Next Meeting

Monday 15th June 2026 at 7pm in Hawthorn Community Centre