

**Minutes of Hart Parish Council Monthly Meeting
held at 6.45pm on Monday 13th October 2025 in Hart Village Hall**

Present: Councillors John Littlefair, Tom Britcliffe, Keith Brown, Stuart Brookes, Joanne Quarmby, John Wilson, Frank Lancaster

In Attendance: Councillors Rob Darby, Aaron Roy, Mike Young

1. Police Report

It was noted PC Bennett has been replaced by PC Marty Ashley (No 2628). Councillor Britcliffe to email the Police and ask for the contact details for the new Police Officer.

2. Councillor Vacancy

Frank Lancaster was welcomed to the Parish Council and signed the Acceptance of Office and completed the Register of Interests Form

3. Public Forum

There were no members of the public in attendance.

4. Apologies

There were no apologies.

5. Declarations of Interest

There were no declarations of interest.

6. Minutes of the Meetings held on 8th September 2025

The minutes from the previous meetings were accepted as a true record.

7. Matters Arising

- a) **South View Car Parking** - Clerk to ask Peter Frost
- b) **CCTV** - A discussion took place regarding the best way to provide CCTV. It was agreed to write to Matt Storey advising the purchase of the camera can be funded, but would like to discuss and understand the process to ensure any footage can be used as evidence to combat ASB and fly tipping. Cc Johnathan Brash, Councillors Littlefair and Britcliffe
- c) **Car Park Gate** - The Clerk has instructed the architect to design option 2 and is awaiting the updated drawings.

8. A179 and petition

It was noted 1000 signatures had been received and a draft letter requesting a meeting was discussed. It was agreed the letter will be sent to Councillor Carole Thompson, Mayor of HBC and cc'd to Councillor Pamela Hargreaves, Leader of HBC, Councillor Karen Oliver, Chair of Neighbourhood Services, Ms Denise McGuckin, Chief Executive, Mr Keiran Bostock, Director of Neighbourhoods and Regulatory Services.

9. Tree Protection Order (TPO)

A discussion took place regarding applying for a TPO to protect an established tree on the south east corner of the Nine acres site owned by HBC. All Councillors were in support of the application, Councillor Britcliffe to advise HBC of the Parish Council's support.

10. Chairman's Report

Councillor Littlefair advised he had attended the Parish Council Liaison meeting where the following items were discussed:

- Issued with A179, but were advised improvements could be difficult in terms of ownership between HBC and Durham County Council.
- Fly tipping, HBC are in support of clearing up the town and have been responding to fly tipping
- The road along Back lane (Chicken Lane) is deteriorating even more and has been raised as a concern. Councillor Littlefair to send pictures

11. Ward Councillor's Report

It was noted several complaints had been made around HBC's garden waste collection service. Due to staffing issues some of the garden waste had been mixed in with the general waste and incinerated rather than composted. It was agreed to write to Hayley Martin, HBC and ask if people will receive a refund as they haven't received the service they have paid for.

12. Maintenance Committee Report

- Prepare a list for maintenance and send to Councillor Brookes to take over the responsibility.
- GIS mapping equipment was discussed
- The hedges nr Nine acres have been reported to Peter Frost
- Awaiting the results of the traffic calming measures proposed - Clerk to email Peter Nixon and ask for an update.
- It was noted the lamppost light near Nine Acres is still to be replaced. Clerk to chase up.

13. Financial Report

The following payments were made:

100968	F Ford wages (September 2025)	£245.20
100969	HMRC (September 2025)	£61.40
100970	Affordable Landscapes	£1,000.44
		£1,307.04

14. Correspondence

There was no correspondence to discuss.

15. Planning Applications

There were no planning applications to discuss

16. Matters of Concern to Councillors

There following items were noted:

- The charity that oversees the defibrillators is proposing another defib in the village at the Raby Arms
- Welly Hill development, awaiting outcome of appeal
- Councillor Brookes attended the Rural Planning Committee on 2nd October a second representative would be useful

17. Date of next Meeting

The next meeting will be held on Monday 10th November 2025 at 6.45 pm

Signature _____