

## High Coniscliffe Parish Council Meeting

Wednesday 17<sup>th</sup> December 2025

18.30 hours

St. Edwin's Church Hall, High Coniscliffe

### MINUTES

#### **Attendance**

Simon Atkinson  
Paul Branch  
Ian Calvesbert (Chair)  
Rebecca Knowles  
Anne Llewellyn (Clerk)  
Michael Ramsay  
Chris Simmonds

#### **Apologies.**

Duncan Laidler

#### **Matters arising.**

The Xmas tree has been erected and decorated. The lights have been amended due to complaints from some High Coniscliffe residents. Thanks were extended to all who helped. It was agreed that the tree will be taken down on Sunday 4<sup>th</sup> January 2026.

#### **Brass Band Concert 13<sup>th</sup> December 2025.**

Residents from the parish enjoyed a very entertaining night of festive carols, mulled wine and mince pies with Aycliffe and Brancepeth Brass Band in St Edwin's Church on Saturday 13<sup>th</sup> December 2025. It was agreed that the event had been a resounding success and that we will repeat it next year on 12<sup>th</sup> December 2026. The date has been provisionally booked with the band and AL will liaise with relevant people from the church and Spotted Dog.

#### **Correspondence**

AL has received the monthly email from Regional Economic Crime Coordination Centre, which she will upload to the website.

#### **Finance**

The current balance is £6519.52. There has been a considerable amount of expenditure in November and December, including maintenance of the Wellfield, hosting the Christmas Brass Band concert, development of the website and purchase of the Christmas tree. It was agreed however that the balance remains healthy and that the Parish Council will donate £40 to St Edwin's Church church to cover costs from the concert on Saturday 13<sup>th</sup> December.

Precept. AL has applied for the precept of £8000 as agreed at the last meeting.

## **Business**

- a. Update on bus stop refurbishment. We need to wait for the weather to be more conducive before any further work can be done.
- b. Update on lighting between Church Hall and Lych Gate. AL to see if Rev Debs can recommend a contractor to do the work
- c. Local green space designation. MR reported that the main green spaces in the village (the Wellfield and the village green in front of the church) are already protected green spaces. The only other green space that could be considered for protected status is the field that wraps around the school. This was assessed as part of local green space designation in 2017 and it was deemed to be not available and not suitable. It was agreed that no other spaces in the village are relevant for designated green space protection.
- d. Update on gravel on church path. IC to follow up with Martin Nicholson. Materials to be approved by MR prior to work being commenced.
- e. Speed cameras. Councillor Gerald Lee has asked that a traffic survey be completed on Ulnaby Lane with a view to installing a speed visor. AL has the details of the company who installed the speed visors in Merrybent and will contact them for a quote to replace the existing speed visors.
- f. Street Trading Policy Consultation. It was agreed that this was not relevant to our parish council.
- g. Beadlam and Nawton Neighbourhood Area Consultation. It was agreed that this was not relevant to our parish council.
- h. Darlington Boundary Commission Consultation. AL to respond saying that High Coniscliffe Parish Council are happy for the boundaries to stay as they are at present.
- i. The Big Spring Clean. This is an initiative by County Durham between March and May. It was agreed that we are already organising litter picking and will look to do this in the new year

## **Any Other Business.**

IC has had conversations with one of the Wellfield Trustees about concerns about the number of fallen trees in the Wellfield and surrounding woods. It was agreed that the Parish Council will help to clear these.

Concerns were also raised about the quality of the fencing around the Wellfield. Councillors were asked to think of other Ideas about how we can improve the Wellfield. To be discussed at the next meeting in January.

## **Community Garden quarterly update.**

AL shared the community garden quarterly update, which will be circulated to members and the Wellfield Trustees.

## **Date and Time of Next Meeting**

21.1.26 at 18.30 hours in St Edwin's Church Hall.

Signed as accurate record:  
pp Ian Calvesbert

