Minutes of the Full Council Meeting held at Hayloft Barn, Field House, Carsington on Monday 28th September 2026 at 7.00pm

Present: Cllr N. Edmiston (Chair); Cllr M. Wilson and Cllr N MacPherson
In Attendance: Frank Horsley (Parish Clerk)

FC/0926/01 Apologies for Absence

None.

FC/0926/02 Variation of the Order of Business

None.

FC/0926/03 Declaration of Members Interests

None.

FC/0926/04 Public Participation

No members of the public were in attendance so no matters raised.

FC/0926/05 Ward Councillor Reports

None received.

FC/0926/06 Minutes of Previous Meeting

Cllr MacPherson noted that the venue for the proposed working group meeting had been confirmed as Hopton Hall subject to confirmation. Members agreed to amend the minute FC0726/08 accordingly.

Subject to the agreed amendment, the Council **resolved** that the minutes of the Full Council meeting held on Tuesday 28th July 2026 were a true and accurate record.

FC/0926/07 Councillor Vacancies

Cllr Edmiston outlined the recent process to seek two new Members following recent resignations and proposed the Council send a bouquet of flowers to former Councillor Bex Cole-Morgan to thank her for her valued service to the Council and the parish. The proposal was seconded by Cllr MacPherson and all Members agreed. Cllr Wilson offered to arrange the order. **ACTION: Cllr Wilson to arrange the order of bouquet and provide receipts to Frank Horsley for reimbursement.**

Cllr Edmiston stated that co-option applications had been received from two candidates and the personal statements had been circulated prior to the meeting. It was noted that neither were able to attend the meeting due to other commitments.

Members considered the application submitted by Mrs Libba Jones and following discussion Cllr Edmiston proposed approval. Seconded by Cllr MacPherson and unanimously approved.

Members considered the application submitted by Mr David Potts and following discussion Cllr Edmiston proposed approval. Seconded by Cllr MacPherson and unanimously approved.

ACTION: Frank Horsley to contact both candidates and seek the signing of Declaration of Acceptance of Office forms and completion of Register of Interests prior to next meeting. Frank Horsley to provide relevant information by way of induction.

FC/0926/08 Local Plan Review (Public Consultation)

Cllr Edmiston noted the Council's submission to the Derbyshire Dales DC Local Plan Review and thanked Members and the Clerk for their input. Referring to Minute FC0726/08 of the previous meeting, Cllr MacPherson stated his dissatisfaction that the working group meeting agreed had not taken place and how the matter had been handled. Cllr Edmiston stated that, due to circumstances, the meeting had not been possible and the Clerk had written to Members accordingly. Cllr Edmiston stated that the submission had not suffered for the lack of a working group meeting and that all comments received had been incorporated. Councillor MacPherson reiterated his dissatisfaction that the working meeting had been cancelled by the Chair as he would have expected to have been consulted prior to this decision being made.

A written statement from Cllr MacPherson was provided to the Clerk to minute as follows:

"It is profoundly disappointing that Cllr Edmiston chose to cancel the working meeting agreed by the whole Parish Council in July 2026 to review the Derbyshire Dales Local Plan consultation document. As the decision to hold such a working party was one made by the whole Parish Council, it was not appropriate for the Chair to cancel it without consulting the remaining councillors" (Cllr Neil MacPherson 24 September 2026).

The Chair acknowledged his comments.

FC/0926/09 St Margaret's Church Roof Repair

Cllr Edmiston noted his thanks to the owners of Hopton Hall and the owners of Field House for their hospitality in hosting Council meetings whilst the Church was being repaired. Members approved the purchase of bouquet of flowers and donation to MacMillan Cancer Support respectively. **ACTION: Cllr Wilson to purchase the bouquet and Cllr Edmiston to make the donation and provide receipts/evidence of expenditure to Frank Horsley for reimbursement.**

Cllr MacPherson who has a dual role as Church Warden gave an update on the church roof repairs following its reopening in August 2026.

Although the church has now reopened Cllr MacPherson stated that modern materials had been used in the repair, contrary to the Invitation to Tender (ITT) specification and that he had been misled by the contractor Hopton Hall Ltd who claimed they would use authentic materials

as the Church is a grade 2 * listed building. Cllr Edmiston questioned if the quotation was actually not in fact submitted by Mr Spencer Tallis (HH Estate Manager) acting independently of Hopton Hall, however Cllr MacPherson confirmed the quotation was by email from the Hopton Hall email address.

Cllr MacPherson stated that he believed the intent was always to use modern materials and that he believed this was concealed from him by the contractor but noted there were no original materials on site, only modern types. He noted that he believed it to be an offence to use modern materials in such a way and that this had now been reported to the Diocese.

Cllr Edmiston questioned whether the reopening of the Church signified the Church was content with the repair as safe and fit for purpose. Cllr MacPherson rejected this suggestion claiming the Church had only opened following pressure from the general public although he did conclude the roof was now safe. Cllr MacPherson further stated that retrospective planning permission was being sought from the Diocese to approve the use of modern materials but that the Church may need to close again in the future if such permission was not granted.

Cllr Edmiston asked how many members of the Parish Church Committee (PCC) supported the use of modern materials and how many were against but the Councillor declined to answer this question and referred the Chair to speak with the Chair of the PCC if the Council required this information.

Cllr Edmiston also asked if any previous roof repairs had been undertaken using similar modern materials. Cllr replied that they had. Cllr Edmiston thanked Cllr MacPherson for the update.

FC/0926/10 Council Action Plan

Projects

- Community Resilience Projects – it was agreed to wait the Diocese decision on the church roof matter prior to booking proposed St Johns Ambulance training.
- Hopton Bus Shelter – Frank Horsley noted correspondence from EMCCA regarding a bus shelter consultation. **ACTION: Frank Horsley to clarify which Authority is responsible prior to any further action.**
- Replacement interpretation boards – Frank Horsley noted that he had yet to investigate but would look at what action would be feasible after taking advice from appropriate bodies. Cllr Wilson suggested the inclusion of local artists in any future project and to ascertain what the residents would like. Cllr MacPherson suggested that any such project be tied into the Rose Project. Cllr Edmiston suggested that we may also approach Longcliffe for input.

Village Green

- Play Area Refurbishment - Cllr Edmiston noted that installation of the stepping logs had been delayed until early October due to a supplier issue. Cllr Edmiston asked whether the church toilet could be available for the contractors during installation. Following discussion it was agreed that this would be difficult.
- Slide - Cllr Wilson stated that she had yet to contact the grounds maintenance contractor regarding rectifying the soil adjacent to slide and confirmed she would follow this up.

Highways

- Main Street Planters – Members noted the recent email from DCC Highways circulated with the agenda. Cllr Edmiston noted that the advice represented a workable compromise to progress. He summarized that the advice was to approve three planters with DCC suggestion applying for a cultivation licence where a planter was not suitable.

Cllr MacPherson queried the assumptions made by DCC based upon his own measurement of the area. However, Cllr Edmiston suggested that it was probably not worth a further appeal and to progress as advised. Cllr MacPherson stated that it would be advisable to have a plan for ownership of areas maintained by the Parish Council through the GM contract and other verges if possible. Cllr Edmiston noted an area of broken ground adjacent to the Miners Arms and it was agreed that the GM contractor could reseed.

ACTIONS:

- **Frank Horsley to progress the OITH licence with DCC Highways based on the advice proposed and investigate a potential cultivation licence application.**
- **Frank Horsley to request plan of land ownership from Highways if feasible.**
- **Cllr Edmiston to contact GM contractors regarding reseeding of broken ground identified.**

- Double bend sign (Hopton) – Cllr MacPherson noted continued correspondence with the DCC and Divisional Councilor without response to date. He confirmed he would continue to lobby.
- Parking on School Lane- Frank Horsley confirmed he would follow up previous request via Highways Hub.
- The Dene/Hopton Triangle – Frank Horsley confirmed that he had raised a case on Highways Hub regarding the reported overhanging trees.

FC/0926/11 Village Matters Arising (not on Action Plan)

a) CPWF Grant Report – Rose Project
Cllr Edmiston noted the report from Heather Tooms-Moore and noted the Councils thanks to her and the Carsington Gardening Club for an excellent project.

b) New Projects
Members agreed that any consideration of further bus shelters in the parish would await information on which body is now responsible as discussed earlier in the meeting.

FC/0926/12 Financial Matters

a) Members noted accounts for payment for July-August 2026. Signed.
b) Members noted no income had been received for July-August 2026.
c) Members reviewed the bank reconciliation for July-August 2026. Signed.
d) Appointment of Internal Auditor – following consideration of the proposed terms of engagement, **Members resolved to appoint Emma Smith Accounting as internal auditor for FY 2026/27**.

FC/0926/13 Planning

Members noted the latest planning log. Cllr Edmiston noted planning application 26/00970/FUL and outlined the history of the property and the proposal. He suggested that the Council support the application. Members agreed**. ACTION: Cllr Edmiston to draft comment for submission by the Clerk.**

FC/0926/14 Correspondence

Members noted the correspondence on MS OneDrive file circulated prior to meeting. Cllr MacPherson asked whether the school required any further support for the anniversary celebration event. Cllr Wilson noted that all arrangements seemed to be in place.

FC/0926/15 Any Other Items

None.

FC/0926/16 Date & Time of Next Full Council Meeting

Monday 30th November 2026 at 7pm.

The meeting ended at 8.25 pm.

DRAFT