HEDLEYHOPE PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of the Parish Council meeting held on 28 April 2026
at 7.30 pm in the Village Hall, East Hedleyhope

Present

Chair: Sarah Woodroffe (SW)
Cllrs: Pete Ayling (PA), Sarah Stuart (SS), Jean Thorburn (JT), Deb Warde (DW)
Officer: Gillian Bell (Clerk)

1. **Apologies for Absence**

   Cllrs Judith Partick and Tony Reeve

2. **Declarations of Interest**

   None to declare.

3. **Public Participation**

   No members of the public present.

4. **County Councillor's Report**

   No report received.

   PCSO briefing

   No report received.

6. **Minutes and recommendations therein agreed from previous meeting on 24 March 2026**

   Proposed by PA, seconded by SS.

7. **Budget update**

   Balance as of 27 April 2026:

   Income: £13943.59
   Expenditure: £15595.57

   Earmarked project expenditure:
   Seat repair and installation: £1000
   Windfarm Community Fund (seating project): £1803

   The bank reconciliation for March 2026 had been circulated, together with a summary of the 2025/26 accounts.

8. **Matters relating to the village hall, village green and nature reserve**

Upgrading the kitchen

The kitchen fitter had provided a quote of £5200 for the units and would match the Howdens price for the flooring. Fitting would be an additional £3700. This would be the most expensive option, and it was agreed to go ahead with the Howdens units and DCBS fitting. SW agreed to write the National Lottery Awards for All application.

Windfarm Community Fund projects - update

DW reported that JT had printed off the photographs and one of the photo frame collages had been assembled. As there were insufficient photos to complete all three, she had ordered craft paper to fill the gaps. SW suggested asking Dorothy Appleby if she had any old photos of the village which had not already been scanned. Makepeace Landscapes were planning to work on the paving outside the hall on 5 May. The exact location of the paving was discussed and agreed.

New Windfarm Community Fund application – furniture for the village hall

The Tow Law windfarm community fund was not yet open for applications.

Seat restoration

The restoration work on the seats would cost around £500 + VAT each and Makepeace Landscapes had quoted £900 + VAT for the bases. This project could also be included in the new windfarm community fund application. The sites for the seats would need to be confirmed and permission obtained from DCC.

S106 play area project

Makepeace Landscapes had treated the play area surface, and the pressure washing was to take place on 29 April. SW agreed to contact Paul Raine regarding a date to repaint the multi play unit.

New S106 play area project – replacement equipment

A representative from Playdale Playgrounds had visited the play area and provided a plan and quote for new equipment. The plan included replacing the springer but removing the seesaw and installing a small slide in its place. In addition, the picnic table would be moved to allow the installation of a new piece of equipment, a small climbing wall. The projected work would cost £15,626.98. It was agreed to submit a new application for Section 106 funding for this project.

9. **Future Projects**

SS

10. **Members' reports**

None to report.

11. **Clerk's report**

Financial

Payments made in March and April 2026:

Lloyds	£ 4.40	Service charge
CoOp	£ 4.43	Village hall supplies
G Bell	£ 461.28	Clerk's March salary & IT costs
TalkMobile	£ 6.95	Village hall WiFi
20i	£ 12.00	Website hosting – March 2026
Octopus Energy	£ 95.95	Village hall electricity charges: March 2026
Lloyds Bank	£ 4.40	Service charge
Wave	£ 80.01	Village hall water charges
Total:	**£ 669.42**	

Payments received:

DCC	£ 6215.23	Precept 2026/27
Total:	**£ 6215.23**	

Petty cash float: **£1.88**

- As the use of the Lloyds Bank debit card had replaced the need for petty cash, it was agreed that the remaining petty cash balance would be paid into the bank.
- Tammy Morris-Hale, Senior Ecologist, had replied to the initial request for information about the future of the meadow. DCC's estates team were in the final stages of putting out a grazing tender for the site. This will be conservation grazing with sheep over the autumn and winter months. The tender document would also make clear that the meadow is accessible to walkers and dog walkers.
- The RoSPA play area inspection had been booked for June 2026.

15. **Date of next meetings:** Tuesday 19 May 2026 at 7.15 pm (Annual Parish Meeting) and Annual General Meeting at 7.30 pm

The meeting closed at 8.25 pm.

Signed

Cllr Sarah Woodroffe
Chair
19 May 2026