

**THE MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF
MONK HESLEDEN PARISH COUNCIL
HELD ON 20th OCTOBER 2025**

Present Chairman: G M Crute
Parish Councillors: S Childs, L Davison O Deinali, S Deinali, G Duddin, A Mason,
A Paterson

Officer L Wardle (Parish Clerk)
A Peace (Estates)

mh25-2670 **TO ACCEPT APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE**

Apologies were received and accepted from Parish Councillors' R Bowes,
G Morris & N Thompson

mh25-2671 **DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST IN ITEMS ON THE AGENDA**

Councillor Deinali declared a pecuniary interest in item 12(a)

mh25-2672 **TO APPROVE THE MINUTES OF THE MEETING HELD ON THE
22nd SEPTEMBER 2025**

RESOLVED the above minutes be confirmed and approved as a true record

mh25-2673 **PUBLIC PARTICIPATION**

No members of the public were present

mh25-2674 **POLICE REPORT**

An e-mail showing police statistics had been circulated to members for
information

RESOLVED the information is received and noted

mh25-2675 **MEMBERS REPORTS OF ATTENDANCE AT MEETINGS/EVENTS ON
BEHALF OF THE PARISH COUNCIL**

Councillor Duddin provided a verbal report following his attendance at the
Blackhall ATC meeting.

RESOLVED the information is received and Councillor Duddin thanked for his
attendance at this meeting

mh25-2676 **ESTATES MANAGER REPORT**

The Estates Manager provided a verbal report detailing incidents of anti-social
behaviour and the actions taken.

The Clerk advised a new system is proposed where visitors to the park can report
any incidents/vandalism via a QR code.

Following the tragic loss of a young footballer who sustained fatal injuries after colliding with a concrete perimeter wall on a football field, a review of the Football Association's safety guidelines regarding the recommended distance between fixed structures and the playing area was undertaken. The Estates Manager confirmed the football field exceeds these recommended safety distances. However, as an additional precautionary measure, the width of the pitch has been reduced, now exceeding the FA's minimum recommended clearance by nearly double.

RESOLVED the information is received and noted

mh25-2677 **WELFARE PARK PROJECT**

Work on the new MUGA (Multi-Use Games Area) is nearly complete, and it is anticipated that it will be open to the public on Monday, 27th October. The damage caused by the contractor to the pavement on 11th Street has now been repaired; however, work is still outstanding on the car park repairs. The Parish Council has successfully secured a free bike rack through the Durham County Council 'Park That Bike' scheme. The Clerk then presented a slideshow highlighting the progress and achievements of the entire project.

The Chairman took the opportunity to thank the whole team for their hard work and commitment and requested that a member/employee event is organised

RESOLVED the information is received and **FURTHER RESOLVED** the Clerk organises the event

mh25-2678 **CLERK'S REPORT**

No report presented

mh25-2679 **EVENTS**

The Clerk confirmed all arrangements are in place for the annual fireworks event and two Remembrance Services.

Cllr S Deinali & Cllr Paterson suggested they may be able to bring a choir to the Christmas tree lighting events, the Clerk to liaise.

RESOLVED the information is received and noted

REQUEST FOR FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE

A request for funding from 1932 Blackhall Squadron Air Training Corps had been circulated with the agenda

RESOLVED a funding of total payment of £125.00 is approved

LGA 1972 S137 1932 Blackhall Squadron Air Training Corps

mh25-2680 **FINANCIAL**

a) To endorse invoices for payment & receive income report

To endorse the following invoices for payment, including agreed direct debits and payroll and received details of income received

Date	Payee	Description	Amount
01.10.2025	Grenke	Photo copier Lease	£123.19
01.10.2025	Amazon	Lights	£30.99
06.10.2025	Right Fuel Card	Fuel	£68.24
08.10.2025	Amazon	Gravel Resin	£29.89
08.10.2025	Amazon	PPE	£107.67
08.10.2025	Hermex	Road Signs Sandbags	£209.98
09.10.2025	Coop	BACS Fees	£7.82
13.10.2025	EE	Mobile Phones	£111.05
13.10.2025	A1 Trophies	Signs	£115.20
13.10.2025	Affordable Landscapes	Grass Cuts Tree Removal	£1,670.40
13.10.2025	Aitkens	Fertiliser Grass Seed	£1,131.36
13.10.2025	Blackford's Nurseries	Bulbs Topsoil	£126.00
13.10.2025	J T Dove	Timber	£329.83
13.10.2025	KCS	Cleaning	£729.60
13.10.2025	Mazars	External Audit	£1,260.00
13.10.2025	NWG Wave	Water Supply	£1,564.33
13.10.2025	Wel Medical	Defib Pads	£158.70
13.10.2025	Standard Security	CCTV Repair	£245.82
13.10.2025	CK Electrical Services	Lamppost Refurb	£926.00
13.10.2025	Right Fuel Card	Fuel	£93.00
15.10.2025	Durham County Council	Bus Rates Bhall Cem	£289.00
15.10.2025	Durham County Council	Trade Waste Blackhall Welfare	£113.93
15.10.2025	Durham County Council	Bus Rates Hes Cem	£52.00
15.10.2025	Durham County Council	Bus Rates Council Office	£324.00
15.10.2025	Durham County Council	Trade Waste Blackhall Cem	£113.93
15.10.2025	Durham County Council	Dog Bins Grass Cut	£1,210.52
18.10.2025	DCC	HMRC LGPS	£7,280.64
20.10.2025	IHL Group	Waste Removal Muga Site	£5,970.00
20.10.2025	Turfcare	Cricket Loam	£386.40
20.10.2025	L A Wardle	Reimbursement	£28.46
20.10.2025	Cathedral Turfcare	Turf	£193.00
20.10.2025	Right Fuel Card	Fuel	£59.16
20.10.2025	Corona Energy	Electric Tree Lights	£112.53
20.10.2025	Corona Energy	Electric Pit Wheel	£24.72

20.10.2025	Corona Energy	Council Offices	£103.74
20.10.2025	Corona Energy	Changing Rooms	£77.81
20.10.2025	Corona Energy	Welfare Park	£169.39
21.10.2025	Eon	Blackhall Cem Electricity	£54.11
24.10.2025	Durham County Council	Monthly Salaries	£12,926.94
24.10.2025	Cathedral Turfcare	Turf	£553.00
26.10.2025	Corona Energy	Electricity	£822.92
27.10.2025	Right Fuel Card	Fuel	£30.08
30.10.2025	Document Solutions	IT Support	£197.66
		Total	£40,133.01
Income			
05.10.2025	Durham County Council	Precept	£172,120.50
05.10.2025	Co-operative	Bank Interest	£1,935.27
06.10.2025	Stars Community LE	Storage Hire	£150.00
07.10.2025	HMRC	VAT	£38,131.20
14.10.2025	L A Wardle	Paid in error to MHPC	£28.46
15.10.2025	Scott Memorial	Memorial Fees	£165.00
26.10.2025	Durham Police	Room Hire	£250.00
		Total	£212,780.43

b) To receive bank reconciliation @ 30th September 2025 & bank transfers

The Clerk had distributed a bank reconciliation as of 30th September 2025 which showed combined bank balances of £564957.69 as of 30th September 2025, Councillor A Paterson checked and signed the reconciliation.

Co-op Bank inter account transfer £130,000 – 8/10/2025

Co-op Bank account transfer to Barclays Bank £30,000 – 9/10/25

RESOLVED the information is received and noted

c) To receive Income & Expenditure report @ 30th September 2025

RESOLVED report received and noted

mh25-2681

PLANNING

Durham County Council Applications Received

DM/25/02695/FPA	Mr A Newhouse 13 Oak Avenue Blackhall, TS27 4HZ	1.8M Boundary Fence
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Durham County Council Applications Approved

DM/25/02025/FPA	Kiras Kebab House Ltd 75 Middle Street Blackhall, TS27 4ED	Replace the existing timber shop front with new powder coated frame and installation of roller shutter.
DM/25/02026/AD	Kiras Kebab House Ltd 75 Middle Street Blackhall, TS27 4ED	Signage – backlit 3D lettering on aluminium composite sign tray

RESOLVED the Parish Council has no comment to make with regards to the above application

The Clerk had distributed the proposed Parish Council comments with regards to their objections to -

DM/25/01964/FPA

Land to the East, South and West of Benridge Farm, Fillpoke Lane, Blackhall Rocks

Proposed installation of solar farm together with associated works, equipment and necessary infrastructure including battery storage

RESOLVED the comments are approved and submitted to the Durham County Council planning

mh25-2682

CORRESPONDENCE

E-mail - change of command at Blackhall Air Cadet squadron

E-mail – Durham County Council information re new advice contracts

RESOLVED the information is received and noted and **FURTHER RESOLVED** the Clerk thanks Flt Lt Yarrow for his hard work and commitment to the squadron and the community

mh25-2683

DATE AND TIME OF NEXT MEETING

RESOLVED the next meeting will be held on Monday 17th November 2025 at 6pm in Council Office 68 Middle Street, Blackhall Colliery, TS27 4EA.

CERTIFIED AS A TRUE RECORD

Chairman

Date