

WENTWORTH PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of a Meeting of Wentworth Parish Council which was held at The Mechanic's Institute
Main Street, Wentworth, at 6.30pm on Monday 16th February 2026

PC/198/25

Members present.

Councillor Mr B. McNamara (Chairman)

Councillor Mr S. Peace (Deputy Chairman)

Councillors Mrs J. Annetts, Mr D. Booth, Mr T. Hill, Mr J. Knight, Mr P. Martin, Mrs C Shaw, Mrs V Sykes.

PC/199/25

Absence.

a) To receive apologies for absence.

There were no apologies.

b) To consider the reasons for absence given by Councillors.

There were none received.

PC/200/25

Disclosures of Interest & Dispensations.

To receive declarations of interest in respect of items on this agenda in accordance with the Localism Act 2011 s32 and the relevant Authorities (Disclosable Pecuniary Interests) Regulations 2012 from Members or Officers and to consider any dispensation requests received by the Clerk under the Localism Act 2011 s33.

None were declared.

PC/201/25

Public Participation.

No members of the public present.

PC/202/25

To receive and consider matters raised for and by RMBC.

Cllr Marshall had been due to attend the meeting, but had offered her apologies, as there were limited funding options available. In her email, she suggested that the Parish Council approach the Borough Councillors. Cllr Brent offered to establish more information.

Cllr Brent was pleased to report that Rotherham Borough Council had agreed a budget and that the Council Tax increase was 3.95%.

Cllr Brent provided feedback from the recent surgeries he had attended.

Speed humps in Harley were discussed, which included the issues with noise when lorries go over them. Increase in heavy traffic up to 11pm at night was discussed and the Council considered whether it was the diversion from Thorpe Hesley which had caused the increase. It was agreed that there was no major works going on at night. The speed humps were thought to be causing more traffic on Barrowfields taking a short cut.

Various options were discussed to resolve the issue, including a restriction on heavy goods sign. Chevrons were also discussed at Barrowfields on the corner, of Mill Lane. It was noted that this section of the road was Barnsley and part Rotherham.

Cllr Brent confirmed that there was a fund for small works, with all funding, priorities needed to be considered.

Council discussed whether to arrange a meeting between Rotherham Council and Barnsley. Cllr Brent will look into it.

Concerns were discussed at the surgery's about pedestrians on the carriageway and whether there should be signage.

Cllr Martin raised the issues of flags on lampposts. It was noted that RMBC are offering funding up to £500 for flagpole installation. The meeting discussed whether an application could be made for a flag pole to be erected in the car park. It was noted that permission would be required from the Estate. Cllr Brent will look into the process for flagpole and will report back.

Cllr Brent queried who would be responsible for the flags and what was flown on what

occasion.

The meeting also discussed the poppies that had recently appeared.

PC/203/25

To receive and consider matters raised for and by Fitzwilliam Estate.

Nothing was reported.

PC/204/25

Minutes of previous meetings.

a) To consider any alterations to the minutes of the previous meeting

Amendments were requested to items 183 and 185 for the previous minutes.

b) To accept the minutes of the previous meeting as a true record and authorise the Chairperson to sign accordingly

RESOLVED that the minutes of the Council meeting held on the 19th January 2026 were accepted as a true record and were authorised to be signed by the Chairman.

PC/205/25

Matters Arising from Previous Minutes.

PC/183- The Estate had been in discussion with residents regarding car parking bays in Street.

The issue had been the mix of residents and Estate tenants. The Parish Council had been asked to contribute financially , but were unable to. It was agreed that the residents should be asked to contribute.

One of the issues was cars being parked, which affected visibility accessing Street lane form the square at Street . A mirror had been requested, but highways will not install a mirror for safety reasons. The Estates will deal with tenant properties, as long as the residents contributed. It had been suggested that the Residents attend the monthly surgery's, but they hadn't done so, so far.

It was agreed that anti-social behaviour was a lot worse and the Chair confirmed that he had spoken to the Police, who are going to undertake an ad hoc drive through on Street Lane but ultimately the Parish Council have no powers.

Safeguarding Policy- Cllr Martin is looking at the policy and has sought advice. Will speak to Cllr Shaw and amend the policy if necessary. Cllr Brent confirmed that members of Parish Councils were entitled to free DBS checks.

PC/185- It would be the Estate that would have put the new signs up.

PC/187- first 3 invoices have come through for the work on Wentworth Pavilion.

The Parish Council newsletter will be released at the end of the week.

Cricket Club- Cllr Booth updated the meeting. There had been correspondence from the Cricket Club concerning the increased rent. The Cricket Club will discuss the increase with their committee. There had been no changes to rules regarding sub letting, with written permission. It was noted that the weekends fixtures were all outside teams, and the wicket/field was only used in the week by the T&W Cricket Club.

The meeting agreed that if the Parish Council cancelled the games, that there would be chaos in the leagues as so many teams would have nowhere to play.

Cllr Booth will send template of a formal letter to the Clerk for CDM Regulations to pass onto Brendan J McNamara .

The meeting discussed gov.uk email addresses and it was agreed that all should use gov.uk from 1st April. The Chair will send out new website details.

Cllr Brent will investigate whether there was funding available for the skips. (which have been arranged form the 9am on the 18th April)

There was a discussion about the precept increase.

PC/189- There was no update concerning the planning applications.

PC/194- The Tax officer confirmed that there were no rateable fees on the Wentworth Pavilion. Cllr Knight suggested that the discussion was whether the building was owned by the Parish Council or not, as it was situated on leased land. It was agreed that it needed to be established whether the Pavilion was a rateable building. Cllr Knight and McNamara will approach the Rates Office of RMBC and arrange a meeting with them.

PC/206/25

Financial Matters

a) Approval of Payments for February

Code	Description	Supplier	Net	VAT	To
Subscriptions & Memberships	Scribe	Starboard Systems	12.00	2.40	
Utilities	Electricity- Harley Pavillion	EON	26.76	1.34	
Utilities	Electricity- Wentworth	EDF	43.24	2.16	
Utilities	Water- Wentworth Pavilion	Everflow	31.72	0.00	
Open Spaces	Recreation Ground- Harley	Milton (Peterborough)	402.50	0.00	
Open Spaces	Playing Field- Wentworth	Fitzwilliam Wentworth	435.00	0.00	
Other/Miscellaneous	Wentworth Pavilion	GM Jones	10,750.00	2,150.00	1
Communications (Phone, Website)	Website	Parish Online	250.00	50.00	
Other/Miscellaneous	Wentworth Pavilion	GM Jones	6,500.00	1,300.00	
Staff Costs	Salary	Rebecca Maindonald	348.82	0.00	
Other/Miscellaneous	Bank Charge	Lloyds Bank	4.75	0.00	
			18804.79	3505.9	2

The Clerk advised the meeting that payments had already been processed by the Chair and Vice Chair for the £402.20 for the Estate, £435.00 for the Estate, £12,900 for GM Jones.

RESOLVED that the Council approved payments to be processed.

b) Bank Reconciliation for January

Current Account- £20507.62

Savings Account- £0.00

Trade Account- £35,235.42

c) Financial Report for January

The Clerk ran through the report for January. There were no questions.

Receipts-£140.75

Payments-11126.38

PC/207/25

To consider Planning applications.

None had been received.

PC/208/25

Correspondence and emails received.

The meeting discussed an email received from a group wanting a field to use for rugby, and it had been proposed that the Harley Playing Field might be suitable.

Following discussion, it was agreed that the Clerk should contact the enquirers and request dates for their availability, so that they can meet with the Chair and discuss whether the field would be suitable.

Cllr Brent suggested that the land be registered as a sporting venue with Sports UK as funding might be available. He will investigate what was required. There was discussion concerning the possibility of this, as the land was not owned by the Parish Council.

PC/209/25

Parish Councillors areas of Responsibilities and Parish Council Plan.

Cllr Peace ran through the areas of Responsibilities.

Traffic- Cllr Peace had been on holiday during the last meeting and no one from RMBC attended. The Traffic meeting had discussed ideas, including a standalone camera, however the cost was thought to be in the region of £30,000.

Cllr Brent queried what the metric was for measuring value for money and reduction of incidents. He suggested that information and data should be provided to indicate that a camera would not resolve the traffic issues.

The Council agreed that the speed was not a problem, it was perception, and police would need to be involved with cameras.

The meeting discussed the issues caused by cars mounting and driving down the footpath, on the main street, which was primarily caused by cars being parked on the road. It was discussed whether railings or bollards could be installed, but the footpath wasn't wide enough.

Cllr Peace agreed to contact RMBC and obtain data for Main Street.

The meeting went on to discuss the issues that would be raised by having double yellow lines along the roads.

Cllr Martin agreed to double check the grit bins.

Cllr Annetts discussed the park at Harley. She had obtained rough quotes for play equipment with an estimate of £18k-£26k without installation or delivery included.

The meeting discussed grant application and whether there could be issues applying for grants as the land isn't owned by the Council, but hoped that there may be other grants available.

It was agreed that certain pieces of equipment may need to be taken out of commission if they are deemed unsafe .

Cllr Annetts was concerned that having increased prices, and the Precept, it was a shame to take the playground out of commission, as it was the only recreation space in the Parish.

The Chair suggested getting a working party together to look at options.

It was acknowledged that there had been no maintenance plan in place.

The meeting discussed play equipment having been removed across the Borough in general.

Cllr Annetts feels decision should be made as in spring, the playground will be used more and so more equipment could require repair.

Cllr Martin suggested approaching other Parishes to see if they have experience applying for grants.

Cllr Annetts reported that the newsletter was nearly ready, and would be produced quarterly. She invited any important dates for inclusion, which would be for the current quarter and the following quarter. She also invited Councillors to send details of any key projects. Copies would be printed for notice boards, shops, pubs and the mission rooms. It would also be placed on the website and Facebook.

Cllr Hill reported that he had been focussing on the footpaths in Harley.

Cllr Shaw raised that people have complained about exiting Occupation Road turning right and how difficult it was. It was discussed by the meeting.

PC/210/25

To receive an update on the building progress work at Wentworth Pavilion.

This had already been covered.

PC/211/25

To receive an update concerning T and W CC

This had already been covered.

PC/212/25

Additional Items Authorised by the Chairperson.

The Chair stated that the noticeboard needed to be revarnished in spring.

PC/213/25

To start discussions on new issues (Council members only) No decisions can be passed during this item.

No matters were raised.

PC/214/25

To note diary dates.

PC/215/25

To receive an update concerning The Clerk for Wentworth Parish Council.

The Chair informed the meeting that the Clerk had resigned. The clerk's final day would be the 9th March 2026. The clerk will be completing the minutes for this meeting, then the agendas for the March meeting. The Chair and the Vice Chair have been working very hard to maintain the running of the Parish Council, both behind the scenes and at the meetings.

The meeting thanked the Clerk for all her hard work during the clerk's 14 months with the Parish Council.

The Chair confirmed that the Council would need to advertise for a new Clerk. In the meantime, the Chair would take over the clerk's role.

Mrs Sharon Peace had offered to do the Minutes and the Agenda from March on a voluntary basis. The councillors had no objections.

The Finances would be managed by the Chair and Vice Chair, who were now making the majority of payments.

It was raised by a councillor that could the Chair be paid for the clerk's role, the chair responded by saying that he could not be paid to act as the clerk as the rules and legislation state that payment cannot be made to act as clerk to the Parish Council.

It was agreed to review the hours and the hourly rate when a new clerk is appointed .

Cllr Martin asked whether it would be worth reaching out to other Clerks.

PC/216/25

Date and time of the next meeting- Monday 16th March 2026

The next Parish Council meeting would be held at 18.30.

The Chair declared the meeting closed at 20.37

Signed as a True Record... *Brendan J McNamara* CMIOSH MIIRSM

Cllr B. McNamara, Chair of Wentworth Parish Council