



**YARNFIELD AND COLD MEECE PARISH COUNCIL
PARISH COUNCIL MEETING
MINUTES**

**3 November, 2025
Yarnfield Village Hall**

Councillors in attendance: David Beeston, Margaret Broader, Stella Hughes, Sally Parkin (Chairperson), Una Simpson, Ed Whitfield

Also in attendance: John Fraser, Parish Clerk, Cllr Sean Bagguley (Staffordshire County Council), Cllr Roy James.

Members of the public at the meeting: 2

- 25-332 Apologies for Absence: Cllr Kirsty Treen
- 25-333 Declaration of Interest: none
- 25-334 Public Question Time: none
- 25-335 Reports from Borough and County Councillors
- i. Cllr James reminded the parish council about the next Parish Forum to be held by Stafford Borough Council, the single topic of the meeting to be on local government reorganisation.
 - ii. Cllr Bagguley provided an update on work being done in the parish by County Highways.
- 25-336 **Pavements – Working Group update:** Cllr Whitfield provided a review of the work undertaken by the Working Group, set out in Appendix 1.
- 25-337 **Resolution:** It was resolved that a meeting with staff at Staffordshire County Council highways be organised, which Cllr Bagguley undertook to arrange.
- 25-338 **Minutes of the meeting held on 13 October, 2025:** the minutes of the meeting were considered and approval given for the minutes to be signed.
- 25-339 **Parish Action Tracker:** the updated Action Tracker, attached at Appendix 2, was considered and approved.
- 25-340 **Community Action Group** – Cllr Hughes provided an update on the work of the Group and the issues discussed at the meeting held on 21 October, 2025.
- 25-341 **Ford Drive Defibrillator:** sufficient money is now available within the Community Account to fund the Ford Drive defibrillator project. The cost of the electrical installation of the defibrillator has not been received from AEDdonate but is not expected to cost more than £700.
- 25-342 **Resolution:** It was resolved that Cllr Hughes and the Clerk arrange for the completion of the project and to place orders with:
- i. National Grid to provide the unmetered supply.
 - ii. AEDdonate to provide the defibrillator, cabinet, mounting board and associated electrical work.

- 25-343 **Parish Clerk's report**
- i. The Stafford Borough Council contribution to the cost of the Greenside Playground project amounting to £48,195.09 has been received.
 - ii. The schedule of payments and transfers, attached at Appendix 3, were presented to the meeting.
 - Schedule of payment since the last meeting = £1,675.63
 - Schedule of account transfers since the last meeting = £48,546.70
 - iii. The reconciled general account balance after deposits, payments and transfers have been made = £3,095.81
- 25-344 **Resolution:** That the schedule of payments and transfers attached at Appendix 3 were approved.
- 25-345 **Update on Actions:** Meece Road, Yarnfield Lane junction broken manhole: report sent to National Grid, who have confirmed the manhole will be repaired.
- 25-346 **Playground project:** Kompan Ltd has confirmed the project will start on 14 November, 2025 (weather permitting).
- 25-347 The Working Group has agreed changes with Kompan Ltd about the equipment to be supplied. A revised quotation of £47,909.95 (+VAT) has been received.
- 25-348 The original arrangement was for Kompan to arrange for the post installation inspection. This has now been removed from the contract, and this work will be arranged by the parish council together with the annual inspection of the playground. This change represents a small saving to the council
- 25-349 The site visit with Kompan identified work that will need to be done to cut back the trees on the edge of the playground.
- 25-350 **Resolution:** It was resolved that:
- i. The revised contract price and associated change of works was accepted.
 - ii. An order be issued to the Play Inspection Company to undertake the annual inspection of the playground and the post installation inspection.
 - iii. The clerk contacts the company used by Stafford Borough Council, Neil Taylor Tree Surgeons, to issue instructions to carry out work on the trees running along the length of the playground.
- 25-351 **Baden Hall:** a complaint has been sent to the Head of Planning at Stafford Borough Council asking that steps are taken to investigate the parish council's complaints about the operation of the motocross and 4x4 events at Baden Hall.
- 25-352 Also included in the complaint were planning issues associated with the Blue Iris establishment on Yarnfield Lane and the Garden Centre on Swynnerton Road, Cold Meece.
- 25-353 **Neighbourhood Plan:** work on the local green spaces supporting evidence and revisions to the draft Neighbourhood Plan are still being prepared.
- 25-354 **Updates from Parish Councillors:** Cllrs Simpson and Whitfield reported on an event organised by Support Staffordshire on social resilience which they attended.
- 25-355 **Resolution:** it was resolved that further work should be undertaken by the Parish Council to enhance the resilience of the community in the event of a major incident or weather event.

- 25-356 **Forward Plan and Events Calendar:** attached at Appendix 4 was noted.
- 25-357 **Planning application:** 25/41229/OUT - Land Off Eccleshall Road, Stone: Outline planning application with all matters reserved (except for principal means of access), for development comprising up to 510 residential dwellings.
- 25-358 **Resolution:** that an objection to the application is sent to the Borough Council for the following reasons:
- Traffic
- 25-359 Yarnfield and Cold Meece Parish Council already believe that the Walton Roundabout on the A34 in Stone is no longer fit for purpose. The proposed developments will only add to what is already a desperate situation at this junction.
- 25-360 Yarnfield Lane is already being used as an alternate route for commuter traffic, resulting in an increase in the number of vehicles passing through Yarnfield, which the parish council believe is linked to the existing traffic problems in Stone.
- 25-361 Yarnfield Lane along its entire length, but particularly in the village where there are blind bends with narrow or no footpaths, is not suitable for the number of vehicles using the lane.
- 25-362 The proposed developments will only add to this problem.
- Essential Services
- 25-363 The residents of Yarnfield and Cold Meece parish rely on the primary care provision and schools in Stone. The construction of 890 new houses would result in considerable pressure on existing services.
- Developer Contribution
- 25-364 If the borough council is minded to approve these applications, a condition of the approvals should include a provision to require developer contributions for:
- i. a road improvement scheme undertaken on the Walton Roundabout that will address the traffic congestion on the A34 and associated roads. This work should be undertaken before the housing developments on the sites.
 - ii. to ensure additional primary care facilities and school places are provided to mitigate the impact from the developments.
- 25-365 **Date and time of next meeting** – Monday 8 December, 2025 at 7.30pm



Signed:

Chairperson of the Parish Council

Date: 8 December, 2025

Meeting closed: 9:30pm