

# DRAFT



## YARNFIELD AND COLD MEECE PARISH COUNCIL PARISH COUNCIL MEETING

### MINUTES

9 February, 2026

Yarnfield Village Hall

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

**Also in attendance:** John Fraser, Parish Clerk; Gareth Higgins, PCSO.

**Members of the public at the meeting:** 4

26-33 **Apologies for Absence:** Cllr Bagguley, Cllr James

26-34 **Declaration of Interest:** none

26-35 **Public Question Time:** Two questions were asked about parking of vehicles on the pavement and dangerous parking on Greenside. This has been made more difficult because of people coming to the playground, parking as close as possible to the entrance. Possible ways of resolving the problem would be to paint double yellow lines on Greenside in the vicinity of the shop and playground or encourage people to park on the Labour in Vain carpark.

#### **Response**

26-36 The police approach to pavement parking is primarily focused on obstruction and dangerous parking, as there is no nationwide ban in England outside of London.

26-37 The police are responsible for dealing with vehicles causing an "unnecessary obstruction" or being left in a "dangerous position". This applies where no other parking restrictions (like yellow lines) exist. Examples include blocking a pavement so a wheelchair or pram user must enter the road to pass.

26-38 The police will be visiting the parish to record details of vehicles parking on the pavement and an information leaflet left with the vehicle.

26-39 The use of the Labour in Vain car park would be difficult as this is not a public car park and would not provide a permanent solution.

26-40 **Reports from Borough and County Councillors:** none presented.

26-41 **Minutes of the meeting held on 12 January, 2026:** the minutes of the meeting were considered and approval given for the minutes to be signed.

26-42 **Parish Action Tracker:** the updated Action Tracker, attached at Appendix 1, was considered and approved.

26-43 **Traffic Regulation Consultation:** the Parish Council support the proposal to formalise the 20mph limit on the Yarnfield Park estate roads.

26-44 **Resolution:** it was resolved to submit a response to the consultation. Details of the council's response is set out in Appendix 2.

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- 26-45 **Staffordshire County Council Bus Services – review of services:** the consultation has been directed at county councillors to establish what requests they have received. While the network review is across the entire county it is only a high level consultation to ensure the limited funds available can deliver value for money.
- 26-46 The Parish Council wants to see bus services for the parish continue, as they provide the principal form of transport to and from the parish for some residents, and the loss of the service would undermine the resilience of the community.
- 26-47 The Parish Council believe that the unsustainable price per passenger of the existing service is in part due to the bus being idle for up to 30 minutes every hour. If the route could be extended in some way to reduce, or better still removed, the "down time", passenger numbers would increase thereby improving both the viability of the route and the level of service provided.
- 26-48 **Resolution:** It was resolved that an email is sent to Cllr Bagguley and the lead officer at the County Council setting out the Parish Council's concerns.
- 26-49 **Grant Application:** an application has been received from St. Mary's Messy Church for funds to pay for the 2026 Easter egg hunt.
- 26-50 **Resolution:** it was resolved that a grant of £115.50 is paid to St. Mary's Church.
- 26-51 **Yarnfield Village Green:** Stafford Borough Council are preparing an application to the Land Registry to have the village green registered. This will then clear the way for the preparation of a new lease for the village green.
- 26-52 **Parish Clerk's report:** the schedule of payments includes the part payment of the Kompan Ltd work on the Greenside Playground.
- Schedule of payment since the last meeting = £54,742.72
  - Schedule of account transfers since the last meeting = £54,255.69
  - The reconciled general account balance after deposits, payments and transfers have been made = £1,255.58
  - Reserve account balance after transfer = £41,511.68
- 26-53 **Resolution:** That the schedule of payments and transfers attached at Appendix 3 were approved.
- 26-54 **Update on Actions:**
- i. The 2026/7 precept requirement has been sent to Stafford Borough Council.
  - ii. The Government has started a period of statutory consultation on local government reorganisation which will last until 26 March, 2026. A report will be brought to the next parish council meeting.
  - iii. A £2,500 grant application has been submitted to GEM Road Safety Charity to provide match funding for the Highlows Lane dropped kerb project.
  - iv. A successful application has been made to the Wildlife Trust for hedging to be planted on the village green adjacent to Yarnfield brook and the playground.
  - v. A successful application has been made to the Sakura Cherry Tree Project to receive two trees to be planted on the public open space on Ashdale Park.

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- vi. The blocked road gully on Yarnfield Lane near to the junction of The Furlong has been reported to Staffordshire County Council.
  - vii. A request has been sent to Streetscene Cleansing to clear the leaf litter on the road by the Telephone Exchange.
  - viii. A proposal has been received from Evolvepad UK Ltd to build houses on land next to the Conference Centre. A meeting between representatives of Evolvepad Ltd and the parish councillors will be held on 13 February, 2026 at 3pm in the village hall.
- 26-55 **Playground Project – Update:** a meeting with the lead contractor from Kompan Ltd has agreed work will need to be done to the rubber safety matting once the weather improves.
- 26-56 An approach has been made to the Royal Life Saving Society Ltd for advice on water safety which will be reported to the next meeting of the Parish Council.
- 26-57 The grass surrounding the playground is in a very poor condition and work needs to be done to rejuvenate the strip of land between Yarnfield Brook and play equipment.
- 26-58 **Resolution:** It was resolved that:
- i. A 90% payment to Kompan Ltd is approved.
  - ii. Up to £100 is spent on grass seed for the village green.
- 26-59 **Neighbourhood Plan:** the latest draft Neighbourhood Plan has been sent to the Planning Service at Stafford Borough Council.
- 26-60 **Updates from Parish Councillors:** Cllr Mrs. Hughes provided a report on the January meeting of the Community Action Group. The members of the group have unanimously agreed to use existing funds in the Community Bank Account to pay for any shortfall in the funds raised to pay for the defibrillator on Ford Drive.
- 26-61 **Forward Plan and Events Calendar:** the plan attached at Appendix 4 was noted.
- 26-62 **Planning: to consider any planning applications in the parish:** Nil
- 26-63 **Date and time of next meeting:** Monday 9 March, 2026.

Signed:

Chairperson of the Parish Council

Date: Monday 9 March, 2026

Meeting closed: 9.04pm