



YARNFIELD AND COLD MEECE PARISH COUNCIL PARISH COUNCIL MEETING

14 September, 2026 at 7.30pm
Yarnfield Village Hall

Agenda

1. Apologies for Absence
2. Declaration of Interest
3. Councillor Co-option – to approve the co-option of a new parish councillor
4. Public Question Time (30 minutes)
Anyone who wants to ask a question during the public question time session should contact the Parish Clerk by Saturday 12 September, 2026.
5. Reports from Borough and County Councillors
6. Minutes of the meeting held on Monday 13 July, 2026
7. Parish Action Tracker – review of actions
8. Annual Governance and Accountability Return 2025/6 – to receive the auditor's annual report.
9. Parish Clerk's report:
 - a. Budget –schedule of payments
 - b. Update on actions taken
10. Yarnfield and Cold Meece Community Ltd – review of membership
11. Community Action Group – update report
12. Greenside Playground – repair of safety matting
13. Public Space Protection orders – to note the submission to Stafford Borough Council
14. Community resilience – to consider what role the parish council could play to support
15. Neighbourhood Plan - update and next steps
16. Updates from Parish Councillors
17. Forward Plan and Events Calendar
18. Planning – to consider any planning applications in the parish
[Planning applications will be added to the agenda up to Saturday 12 September, 2026]
19. Date and time of next meeting – Monday 12 October , 2026

John Fraser
Clerk to the Parish Council
Date: Monday 7th September, 2026

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YARNFIELD AND COLD MEECE PARISH COUNCIL PARISH COUNCIL MEETING

MINUTES

13 July, 2026

Yarnfield Village Hall

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

Also in attendance: John Fraser, Parish Clerk

Members of the public at the meeting: 11

- 26-185 **Apologies for Absence:** Cllr Kirsty Treen, Cllr Sean Bagguley (SCC), Cllr Roy James (SBC)
- 26-186 **Declaration of Interest:** Received from Cllr. Beeston in relation to agenda item 8.
- 26-187 **Councillor Co-option vacancy:** Having considered the applications, the councillors agreed to invite Helen Williams to be co-opted to the parish council.
- 26-188 The strength of the applications prompted Cllr Margaret Broader to bring forward her decision to not stand for election in May 2027 and she decided to resign her position as a parish councillor at the end of the meeting.
- 26-189 **Resolution:** It was resolved that:
- i. Helen Williams is co-opted as a councillor on to the parish council with immediate effect.
 - ii. The vacancy resulting from Cllr Broaders resignation is reported to Stafford Borough Council.
- 26-190 **Public Question:** - no questions
- 26-191 **Reports from County Councillors Sean Bagguley [written report]:**
- i. Several roads across Staffordshire have had granite dust applied to them where roads have become "tacky" because of the hot weather.
 - ii. Yarnfield Lane Surface Treatment - the contractual defect period for preventative treatments is 2 years. The company responsible for the work is looking at Yarnfield Lane to identify the best way forward to give it a more permanent fix, until it can receive its permanent remedial work next season.
- 26-192 **Resolution:** It was resolved that an email is sent to Staffordshire County Council reminding it of their original commitment to put right the defects before the end of this summer.
- 26-193 **Minutes of the meeting held on 15 June, 2026:** The minutes of the meeting were considered and approval given for the minutes to be signed.
- 26-194 **Parish Action Tracker:** The updated Action Tracker, attached at Appendix 1, was considered and approved.

DRAFT v 3

- 26-195 **Declaration of Interest:** Cllr Beeston declared a pecuniary interest in Agenda Item 8, Labour in Vain and withdrew from the meeting room during the discussion and voting on this item.
- 26-196 **Labour in Vain:** After the June parish council meeting, the directors of Yarnivorous CIC lodged a formal complaint against Cllr Beeston and the Parish Clerk, alleging a failure to follow the council's standing orders during a meeting on 3rd June 2026.
- 26-197 The complaint is currently being reviewed by Stafford Borough Council.
- 26-198 The complaint fundamentally questions the integrity and operational procedures of the Parish Council. A report has been submitted to the Borough Council's Head of Law and Governance, robustly defending the Parish Council's actions and challenging the accuracy of the information provided by the complainants.
- 26-199 **Financial Report, April – June, 2026:** No issues of concern were identified in the Quarter 1 Finance Report [Appendix 2].
- 26-200 The council complimented the work of the Community Action Group for the successful Strawberry Tea which raised £316.59.
- 26-201 The council complemented the work of the Events Working Group for their work hosting the 2026 Summer Picnic recognising that, while this cost the parish council £516.56 the purpose of the event was to build community resilience which it had done.
- 26-202 **Parish Clerk's report:**
- i. Schedule of payment received for approval = £2,408.21
 - ii. Schedule of account transfers required = £3,123.45
 - iii. The reconciled general account balance after deposits, payments and transfers = £2,277.59
- 26-203 **Resolution:** It was resolved that the schedule of payments and transfers attached at Appendix 3 was approved.
- 26-204 **Update on Actions Taken**
- i. Cracked willow tree, village green: Arrangements have been made for Neil Taylor Tree Surgeon to remove the dangerous branch from the tree that had partly broken.
 - ii. Due to the exceptionally dry weather over the last month Trent Ground Maintenance has been instructed to suspend grass cutting in both Yarnfield and Cold Meece.
 - iii. Trent Ground Maintenance has been instructed to remove the Himalayan balsam growing on the bank of Yarnfield Brook on the North Green.
 - iv. Yarnfield Brook – letter to go to residents reminding them that garden refuse is classified as controlled waste and dumping it on parish council land is fly-tipping.
 - v. Pavement Parking: Arrangements have been made for a joint visit with the local PCSO on the afternoon of 16 July, 2026.
- 26-205 **Footpath Connectivity Plan:** A draft plan, set out in Appendix 4, has been prepared. Members of the pavement working group agreed to meet Cllr Bagguley to establish how the plan can be delivered.

DRAFT v 3

- 26-206 **Park Bench Policy:** A request to place a memorial bench in Yarnfield has been received from the family of a resident who recently died.
- 26-207 **Resolution:** It was resolved that:
- i. The draft policy set out in Appendix 5 was approved
 - ii. That the request for memorial benches is dealt with in accordance with the new policy.
- 26-208 **Local Plan Scoping and Participation Consultation:** Stafford Borough Council is carrying out a consultation on the key issues that should be included in the new local plan and their approach to consultation with residents and interested groups.
- 26-209 **Resolution:** It was resolved that the response set out in Appendix 6 is sent to Stafford Borough Council.
- 26-210 **Neighbourhood Plan:** A meeting with the Stafford Borough Council planning officer on 16 June, 2026 identified further work that was needed before the neighbourhood plan could be submitted for regulation 14 screening.
- 26-211 **Updates from Parish Councillors**
- i. Cllr Broader:
 - A very successful defibrillator training event was held on 12 July, 2026 at which 16 people attended.
 - The number of defibrillators that the parish council owns has increased to 5 units. Mr Collins, who maintains these units for the council, is looking for someone to share this work and to transfer his skills and knowledge.
 - ii. Cllr Parkin:
 - The parish council's trailer, which is in a very poor state of repair and has no real monetary value, needs to be disposed of as soon as possible.
 - The Community Action Group is reviewing its work and membership to better support the community and Parish Council. To ensure a comprehensive approach, the Events Working Group will be included in this exercise. Because both groups currently operate under different Service Level Agreements joint review will help align their strategic goals and service delivery.
 - iii. Cllr Simpson presented a note of thanks from the Springfield Parent, Teacher and Friends Association for the loan of the parish council's marquees and support at their Summer Festival on 19 July 2026.
- 26-212 **Resolution:** It was resolved that:
- iv. The Events Working Group make arrangements to dispose of the trailer and that the asset register is then updated.
 - v. A report setting out the future membership and direction of the Community Action Group and Events Working Group is brought to a future meeting of the parish council.
- 26-213 **Forward Plan and Events Calendar:** The plan attached at Appendix 7 was noted.

DRAFT v 3

- 26-214 **Planning: To consider any planning applications in the parish:**
Application 26/42304/LDCPP, 19 Ladybower Way, Yarnfield
Garage conversion and single storey rear extension.
- 26-215 **Resolution:** It was resolved that a no comment response is submitted to the planning officer.
Application 26/41933/FUL, Land at Yarnfield Park, Yarnfield
Construction of 38 affordable homes, new access off Hayeswater Grove, landscaping and associated works.
- 26-216 **Resolution:** It was resolved that the comments set out in Appendix 8 be submitted to the planning officer.
- 26-217 Application 26/42033/FUL, Land Adjacent to the White House, Ash Lane, Yarnfield.
Construction of four detached three bedroom bungalows together with access road and Biodiversity Net Gain area. (previous related application 25/40456/PIP)
- 26-218 **Resolution:** It was resolved that the comments set out in Appendix 9 be submitted to the planning officer.
- 26-219 **Date and time of next meeting:** 14 September, 2026

Meeting closed: 8:50pm

Signed:

Chairperson of the Parish Council
Date: Monday 14 September, 2026

Action Tracker

[Note: bold text provides this month's update]

Minute	Resolution	Action	RAG
Ambition 1 - Environment			
SP3	Environmental project	Instructions issued to Trent Ground Maintenance to clear Yarnfield Brook of litter, obstructions and overgrown vegetation from the playground to the edge of the village green. Himalayan balsam removed from Yarnfield Brook. Area of the grass around the playground reseeded and donation of snowdrops planted along Yarnfield Brook.	●
Ambition 2 - Safety			
23-296	Homes Plus Estate Management	Letter to Homes Plus drafted for approval by the parish council meeting in September 2026. Request asking for a meeting sent to Homes Plus Estate Impact Officer to discuss on and off street parking, hedges and pavements.	●
21-499	Severn Trent work Highlows/Yarnfield Lane	Meeting scheduled [30/09/26] with MP's case worker. No evidence of flooding reported during recent bad weather. Request from MP's office staff for further information. Letter sent to Dr. Gardner, MP Meeting with Dr Allison Gardiner MP's office staff offered to follow up complaint on behalf of the Parish Council before entering a formal complaint to STWCo Resolved to send formal complaint to STWCo with copy to MP. [09/03/26]	●
26-177	Pavement Parking	Meeting with Cllr Bagguley (Staffordshire County Council) to establish approach to new legislation which is due to be introduced later this year. [27/08/26] Review of impact of the new legislation on pavement parking prepared, copy sent to Cllr Bagguley. Parish council leaflet on pavement parking to be amended to include impact of new legislation. Meeting request with PSCO to develop a better understanding of assessing whether a badly parked car constitutes an actionable obstruction.	●
SP5	Cold Meece road safety scheme (SIDs)	Meeting with Cllr Bagguley – the review of the County Council policy on SIDs has not been finished and has therefore put on hold delivery of the parish council project. [27/08/26]	●

Monthly Progress Tracker – Update 13/09/2026

Minute	Resolution	Action	RAG
		SPCA has written to County Council about the delay in resolving the SID policy. Staffordshire County Council are now insisting that as SIDs are paid for from public funds they must first be satisfied that the purchase and siting of any units represents evidence based value for money for rate payers. Raised concern over the delay cause by Staffordshire County Council review of their policy on SID sites with SPCA. New contact at SCC identified. New policy on siting of SID still being prepared. No date given as to when this will be completed. Request for action to complete this work sent to the SCC Community Highway Officer [08/12/25]	
SP7	Yarnfield Park – road safety Traffic Regulation Orders (TRO)	Meeting with Cllr Bagguley - no date agreed for completion of this work. Continue to monitor. [27/08/26] SCC confirm that “until the TRO notices go out to statutory consultation, we cannot formalise the existing or amended markings or speed restrictions.	●
SP9	Bus shelter (Cold Meece) Renovation	Notice board installed in the shelter. [9/9/26] Shelter painted, renovation work completed. [10/9/26] Local information received that the D&G 102 service has been reduced . Published timetable for the service has last reviewed 29 March. Clerk hasn’t received any information from Staffordshire County Council about changes to the service. Enquiries to be made with Staffordshire County Council and D&G buses. Direction of travel of the bus changed – shelter no longer used. New timetable sign to be purchased for the shelter.	↑ ●
SP10	Road Safety – dropped kerbs	Meeting with Cllr Bagguley [27/08/26]. Site visit with highways officer to be arranged. [27/09/26] Staffordshire County Council has quoted for dropped kerbs across the junction of Highlows lane and Yarnfield Lane. Meeting needed with officer and Cllr Bagguley.	●
Parish Ambition 3 - Community			
25-299	Yarnfield Park Public Open Space & Football Ground	Meeting scheduled with MP’s case worker. [30/09/26] Response received from Stafford Borough Council to FOI Request. Follow up FOI drafted. Request from MP’s office staff for further information. Letter sent to Dr. Gardner, MP FOI response from Stafford Borough Council received confirm failure to comply with planning permission No progress made with SBC legal services or planning. Complaint sent to Cabinet lead for planning.[30/04/26] Email sent to lead officer at Stafford Borough Council asking for support. [09/03/26]	●

Monthly Progress Tracker – Update 13/09/2026

Minute	Resolution	Action	RAG
		Email sent to R Estate Ltd to establish if they are still willing to work with the Parish Council. [09/12/25]. No response received. Contact Stafford Borough Council Planning Service over breaches of the section 106 agreement.	
25-406	Footpath connecting Yarnfield and Cold Meece	Site visit with highways officer to be arranged. Request to cut back the hedges on Yarnfield Lane from Meece Road to the entrance to Yarnfield is be sent to farmer.	●

Parish Ambition 4 - Good Governance			
23-540	Business Continuity Plan	Cllrs invited to review plans. Continuity Plan Template prepared Cllrs invited to comment on the template before it is populated [18/03/24]	●
25-354	Community Resilience	Following extreme weather conditions in 2026 resulting in wildfires in some parts of the country letter sent to Staffordshire Fire Service and Stafford Borough Council asking for advice on the role the parish council might play. Meeting with community resilience lead from Stafford Borough Council and Support Staffordshire. [15/04/26]. Action plan to be prepared.	●

Special Projects

Reference	Project	Actions/Progress	RAG
SP2	Neighbourhood Plan	Additional work to be undertaken to the Neighbourhood Plan before Stafford Borough Council carry out Reg 14 screening. Meeting with Stafford Borough Council – 16 June SBC confirm receipt of the draft plan, request for further information to support their screening assessment. Final draft of the plan produced, copy sent to Urban vision to offer advice on any further changes. Draft plan sent to Stafford Borough Council for Reg 14 assessment. Plans to be prepared for Reg 14 consultation with the residents and other interested parties. [see Agenda item 12]	●
SP4 & 6	Community Action Group & Events Working Group	Combined meeting of the working groups arranged [08/10/26] Ford Drive Defibrillator Project - defibrillator training project delivered – well supported by residents.	●

Monthly Progress Tracker – Update 13/09/2026

Reference	Project	Actions/Progress	RAG
		Strawberry Tea – raised over £316 Defibrillator project completed. Training in the use of a community defibrillator has been arranged. 12 July 2026 Lease agreement signed and returned to Stafford Borough Council. Contracts awarded. <u>Summer picnic</u> Delivered – details of the event will come to the July 2026 meeting Plan for the event on Sunday 14 June well advanced. Orders placed with suppliers. Application for TENs submitted to Stafford Borough Council.	

- Warning
- In progress
- Achieve

Action Tracker Completed

Minute	Resolution	Action	RAG
Ambition 1 - Environment			
22-376	Yarnfield Lane Lay-by litter and fly tipping.	Meeting with Stafford Borough Council enforcement [18/03/25] – new littering signs in place. Lay-by included on list of sites to have camera monitoring. Meeting with Staffordshire County Council highways arranged [22/04/25]	●
25-381	AGAR Assertion 10	Work completed to support 2026 AGAR submission	●

Report Prepared by Cllr. James, Stafford Borough Council

National Scheme of Planning Delegation:

I would like to take this opportunity to update you on some changes that government have brought in – and are now reflected into Stafford Borough Council's constitution - that limit the ability of Borough Councillors to call in planning applications to be heard by Planning Committee.

Currently – until decisions taken after 31st October 2026 – if a Ward Councillor would like a Planning Application heard and determined by the Planning Committee, then they can do this by Calling It In (to go to Planning Committee). This is the mechanism by which Planning Committees determine Applications, rather than solely a planning officer. There is another alternative in that 3 members of the Planning Committee can register their own 'call in'. This ability has also been removed.

The current system dates back to the 1990s and has worked well in Stafford Borough, during the years that I have represented the area, in my personal opinion.

In sending an Application to Committee it allowed wider scrutiny of the decision (by Planning Committee Members, made up of other elected Councillors) and it allowed a member of the community to speak either as an objector or as a supporter, so that communities felt that they had a stake in the decisions being taken.

In my experience, planning decisions were often improved through this process of refinement and through having more eyes and 'critical friends' looking at the Applications.

Going forward, under the latest Scheme of Delegation from government, those rights are being removed and in future, for decisions after 31st October 2026, for Applications to be determined by Planning Committee *both* the Chair of the Committee and the Head of Development Management must jointly agree for an Application to be determined by Committee, against a tight range of criteria.

This is a significant change and removes the right for local members to determine, based on their knowledge and experience, what should be decided by Committee.

I can think of many of the decisions taken by Planning Committee, which were fundamentally good decisions and were not overturned by Appeals, which would otherwise have gone through and been built out, as planning is a subjective art rather than a pure science. The same can be said of applications supporting small business and the rural economy that have brought benefits and no demonstrable harm to local communities that have really added value to our area, which otherwise might not have happened.

Whilst 90 - 95% of Stafford Borough Councillors who spoke at last night's Council meeting see this as a regressive step by government and oppose it. However, the Council still managed to vote by a majority to bring these changes into the Council's Constitution.

This is clearly not great news, from my perspective.

This will inevitably weaken the role of Councillors (and local communities) in what is often a critical element for local residents, where whatever is – or is not – built will be there for many years / a generation or more.

The discussion from last night's meeting can be heard back on the Borough Council's website [here](#):

staffordbc.gov.uk/sites/default/files/cme/DocMan1/Committee-Recordings-26-27/Council/Council-8-September-2026-Recording.mp3

The relevant item starts at 1:13:06 into the meeting, although the sound is not the greatest.

This will clearly not only be disappointing / frustrating for residents where I have already called in the Planning Application and will going forwards remove one layer of scrutiny on Planning Applications, in the government's attempt to achieve their 1.5m house building target across England during this Parliament.

Cllr Roy James, Stafford Borough Council

Yarnfield and Cold Meece Parish Council

Schedule of Payments - 31 August, 2026

Date	Ref/Chq no	Payee	Description	NET	VAT	Payment
28/07/26	DD	HMRC	PAYE & NI payment	726.90		726.90
09/08/26	DD	Talkmobile	Mobile phone	4.17	0.83	5.00
28/08/26	BACS	Taylors Tree Works	VILLAGE GREEN tree removal	200.00	40.00	240.00
31/08/26	BACS	Staffordshire Parish Council's Ass	Training event	40.00	8.00	48.00
31/08/26	BACS	Clerk	Salary	696.80		696.80
31/08/26	BACS	Clerk	Office expenses	28.99		28.99
31/08/26	BACS	Yarnfield Village Hall	Room hire	174.00		174.00
31/08/26	BACS	Support Staffordshire	Annual membership fee	25.00		25.00
31/08/26	BACS	Trent Ground Maintenance	Grounds maintenance contract	699.40	139.88	839.28
31/08/26	BACS	Cllr Parkin	Lunch Club provisions	56.40		56.40
31/08/26	BACS	Parish Online	Mapping Software annual fee	96.00	19.20	115.20
				2,747.66	207.91	2,955.57

[Finace Regulations para 5.6 annually approved payments - to be reported to September 2026 meeting]

Account Transfers - 31 August, 2026

From		To				
31/08/26		Reserve Account	General account			1,000.00
						1,000.00

Income - 31 August, 2026

From					
21/07/26		Lunch Club monthly income			75.00
					75.00

Chairperson:

Date: 14-Sep-26

Bank payment authorisation		
Cllr Parkin		Clerk

Yarnfield and Cold Meece Parish Council

Schedule of Payments - 14 September, 2026

[illegible]

Account Transfers -14 September, 2026

		From	To			
14/09/26		General account	Reserve Account			10,000.00
						10,000.00

Income - 14 September, 2026

From						
03/09/26		HMRC	VAT refund for 2025/26			10,734.81
						10,734.81

Chairperson:

Date: 14-Sep-26

Bank payment authorisation		
Councillor		Clerk

Yarnfield and Cold Meece Parish Council



Clerk's Report for the period 17 July – 12 September, 2026

1. **Planning applications** considered at the July meeting, parish council response prepared and submitted:
 - Ladybower Way – 18 July
 - Hayeswater Grove – 23 July
 - Ash Lane – 28 July
2. **YCM-PC.Gov.uk website and email accounts** – site updated to reflect changes to councillors, annual finance and meeting papers [14/07/26]
3. **Fly tipping on Yarnfield brook** – monitor no further activity , possibly due to hot weather.
4. **Stafford Borough Council Local plan** - Parish Council response prepared, circulated to Cllrs and sent to the borough council. [27/07/26]
5. **Yarnfield Parkway** - estate management company arrangements:
 - Stafford Borough Council FOI submitted about section 106 agreement compliance.
 - Letter to Dr Allison Gardner [29/07/26] asking for her to raise parish council's concern about the failure of Stafford Borough Council to enforce their section 106 agreement with the developer which requires the creation of a management company. Meeting with case worker scheduled for end of September.
6. **Himalayan Balsam** – instructions issued to Trent Ground Maintenance to remove this year's growth of Balsam [30/07/26]
7. **Damaged accessibility swing seat** - replaced under warranty by Kompan. [7/08/25]
8. **Public Space Protection Order Consultation** – sent to Stafford Borough Council [15/08/26]. Follow up sent to Community Safety Team asking for details of their response – appendix 1
9. **Event's trailer** – all rubbish removed apart from the fridge freezer. SCC amenity site is not currently accepting fridges and freezers. [26/08/26]
10. **Yarnfield Brook** – instructions issued to Trent Ground Maintenance to undertake up to 10 hours work clearing debris and overgrown vegetation [27/08/26]

11. **VAT Return** – 2025-26 VAT claim submitted [29/08/26]. £10,734.01 paid into parish council account [03/09/26]
12. **Damaged bench fixings** – repairs to the bench on Yarnfield Parkway completed. New plaque ordered. [31/08/26]
13. **Motor sport events, Baden Hall** – letter to planning enforcement asking them to consider whether there has been a breach of the permitted development rules and whether the proposed event in October should be allowed to go ahead [29/08/26]
14. **Yarnfield and Cold Meece Community Ltd** – Company Tax arrangements – confirmed the company was not trading. [30/08/26]
15. **Deer, Yarnfield Lane** - FOI request sent to Staffordshire Police and Staffordshire Highways requesting data on the number of deer related incidents on Yarnfield Lane since 2019. [05/09/26]
16. **Parish council notice board Yarnfield Park** – new front panel fitted [08/09/26]
17. **Cold Meece bus shelter** – a timetable notice board has been fitted [09/09/26]
18. **Bank signatory arrangements** - updated to include new signatories.
19. **Bankline account** – Cllr Simpson and Whitfield added .
20. **Yarnfield Lane, resurfacing** – emails to Cllr Bagguley and highways Officer about delays in the warranty repairs to the surface dressing work and danger caused by lack of central white lines.
21. **Pavement Parking** – approach to new regulation raised with Staffordshire County Council highways [01/09/26]
22. **Woodland Trust** - increased order to receive a second pack of hedging plants. Due date early November [09/09/26]
23. **Village Green Pavements** - Homes Plus – complaint about state of the pavement and obstruction by hedges. Letter of complaint drafted to be considered by the September meeting. [11/09/26]

Yarnfield and Cold Meece Parish Council – Greenside Playground

Inspection date	Notes
8 April 2026	Some cracks between the wet pour play surface and concrete edging. Little movement or increase in size of gaps. Some litter removed from site.
20 May 2026	Accessibility swing seat broken. Warranty replacement claim sent to Kompan. Damaged seat removed.
11 June 2026	Hot weather causing shrinkage of grass areas away from concrete edges on the playground. Wet pour surface also affected by the heat.
7 August 2026	Accessibility swing seat replaced. Wet pour shrinkage on multi play equipment. Contact Play Inspection Company for advice. Litter bins not emptied – monitor frequency of collection by Stafford Borough Council.
2 September 2026	Damaged slide chute – continue to monitor. Wet pour - prepare report for next meeting with possible solution.

	April	May	June	July	August	Sept	October	Nov	Dec	Jan	Feb	March
Site and ancillary items												
Is the site free of litter /any dangerous object?	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓						
Are the benches secure and undamaged?	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓						
Are the litter bins secure and undamaged?	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓						
Have they been emptied?	✓	✓	✓	✓	✗	✓						
Surfacing												
Is all safety surfacing undamaged?	✓	✓	✓	✗	✗	✗						
Equipment												
All items – general condition	✓	✗	✓	✓	✓	✓						

Yarnfield and Cold Meece Parish Council – Greenside Playground

	April	May	June	July	August	Sept	October	Nov	Dec	Jan	Feb	March
Are all supports present?	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓						
Is all timber work undamaged?	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓						
Swings												
No broken swing chains?	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓						
Are the seats fixed on securely and undamaged?	✓	✗	✗	✗	✓	✓						
Slide												
Are the steps undamaged?	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓						
Is the chute undamaged?	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✗						
Is it clear of foreign objects?	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓						
Roundabouts		✓	✓	✓	✓	✓						
Does it revolve smoothly and noiselessly?	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓						
Is it undamaged?	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓						
Rocking items												
Does the item move smoothly and noiselessly?	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓						
Doesn't strike the ground?	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓						

Yarnfield and Cold Meece Parish Council – Greenside Playground

	April	May	June	July	August	Sept	October	Nov	Dec	Jan	Feb	March
Spring items												
Is the spring undamaged?	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓						
Climbing frames												
Are all the bars in place?	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓						
Are they securely fixed?	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓						
Ropes												
Are the ropes secure and undamaged?	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓						
Are the connectors present?	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓						

Yarnfield Playground Wet Pour Review

Wet Pour shrinkage issues - 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 7

Soil shrinkage - 6, 9, 10

Soil level in need of raising - 8

Weed growth - 11, 12

Over flowing litter bins 13

Some signs of shrinkage between the old and new surface - 14

Damage to the surface of the stainless steel slide - 15

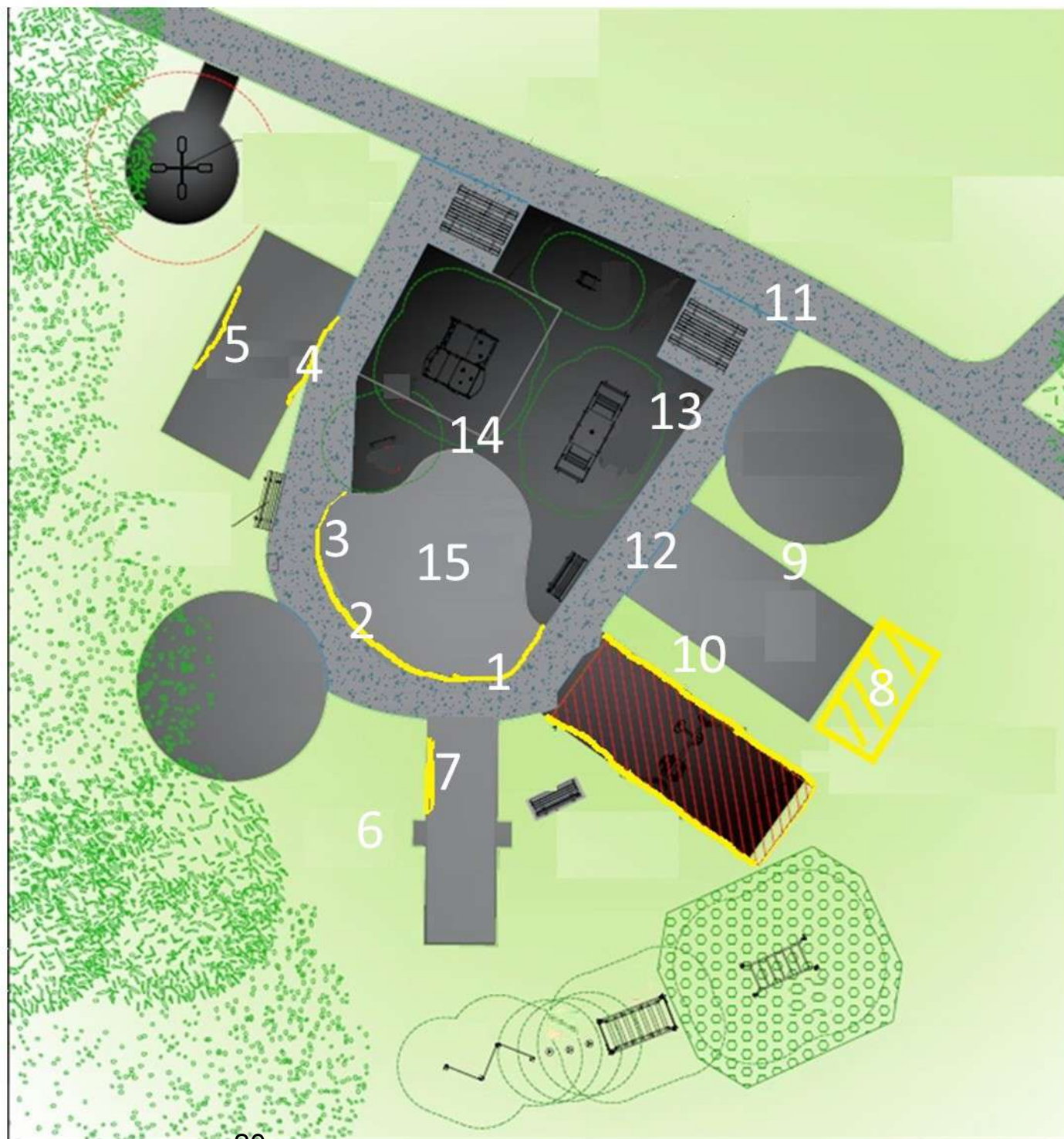
Kompan / RTC Surfaces - The main issue with the existing arrangement is the number of interfaces, with the wet pour meeting PCC edging, tarmac, and separate pads.

These junctions create more opportunities for movement and edge failure. Creating one continuous wet-pour area would reduce the number of exposed edges and joints and, therefore, reduce the likelihood of further separation and repairs being required in the future due to shrinkage.

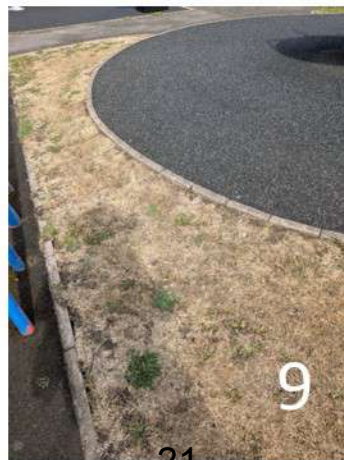
Kompan's proposal is to remove the PCC edging where practical and use trench edging to form the perimeter of the new continuous wet-pour area is also a sensible approach. It gives the wet pour a defined, robust edge and avoids relying on the interface between the wet pour and another surfacing material, as long as the backfilling is carried out correctly and maintained.

Most modern playground designs and installations, tend to be more compact, with the wet pour forming one continuous area.

This approach has been adopted by designers have over the years to help tackle these issues and reduce the number of potential weak points within the surfacing.



Yarnfield Playground Wet Pour Review



Yarnfield and Cold Meece Parish Council



Public Space Protection Order Consultation Response

The draft PSPO proposals include a number of borough wide proposals relating to the control of dogs and also one specific proposal for the play area on Greenside, Yarnfield. The parish council having considered the draft PSPO set out in the Cabinet report [CAB 18/06/2026] make the following proposals.

Recommendation

Yarnfield and Cold Meece Parish Council:

- I. Supports the proposed borough wide order relating to dog fouling.
- II. Supports the proposed borough wide order relating to a maximum of 4 dogs walked at any one time.
- III. The proposed order excluding dogs from The Green, Yarnfield should be amended to be a "no dogs off lead" area.
- IV. Recommends that the following two locations are designated as "no dogs off lead" areas:
 - Children's Play Area, Worthington Grove, Yarnfield
 - Multi-Use Games Area (MUGA), Yarnfield Parkway

Justification

The Parish Council supports the Borough Council's objective of protecting children while using play facilities. However, in relation to Greenside Playground, we believe that a complete exclusion of dogs goes further than is necessary to achieve that objective.

Greenside Playground is one of the village's most popular family destinations. Its central location means that many residents walk to the playground with their children, often accompanied by the family dog. It is common for parents or guardians to supervise their children while keeping a well-controlled dog with them.

Under the proposed dog exclusion, a parent or guardian who enters the playground while accompanied by their dog would be committing an offence, even if the dog remains under close control. We do not believe this is the intended outcome of the PSPO.

A "no dogs off lead" designation would provide an appropriate and proportionate solution. It would:

- protect children by ensuring dogs remain under effective control;
- allow families to continue using the playground without unnecessary restriction; and
- avoid creating situations where parents are forced to choose between supervising their children and complying with the PSPO.

The Parish Council therefore considers that a “no dogs off leads” requirement achieves the desired public safety outcome while being more practical, proportionate and enforceable than a total dog exclusion.

Additional Play Areas

The Parish Council would also recommend that new "no dogs off lead" orders are put in place for the two other children's play areas in Yarnfield:

- Children's Play Area, Worthington Grove – plan supplied.
- Multi-Use Play Area, Yarnfield Parkway – plan supplied.

The justification for these two areas mirrors that for Greenside Playground. The Parish Council considers that requiring dogs to be kept on leads provides an effective means of protecting children using the play facilities, while allowing parents and guardians to supervise their children without being required to leave a family dog unattended outside the designated area.

A consistent "no dogs off lead" approach across all three children's play areas would therefore provide a clear, proportionate and practical arrangement for residents, while still achieving the Borough Council's objective of protecting children from uncontrolled dogs.

Consultation

The Cabinet Report [CAB 18/06/2026 para. 5.9(iii)] refers to consultation with partners when drafting the proposed orders. It is therefore disappointing that Yarnfield and Cold Meece Parish Council, having made proposals that were not adopted in 2023, were not included in the latest round of consultation that led to the drafting of the latest proposals.

John Fraser
Parish Clerk
Yarnfield and Cold Meece Parish Council

