

YARNFIELD AND COLD MEECE PARISH COUNCIL

COMMUNITY ACTION GROUP

MINUTES OF THE MEETING HELD ON 20.1.26. IN YARNFIELD VILLAGE HALL AT 7.30P.M.

PRESENT: Cllr. Margaret Broader, Mr. Stan Collins, Ms. Karen Chapman, Mr. John Smee, Cllr. Stella Hughes

1. APOLOGIES: Mrs. Tina Collins.
2. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST: None.
3. APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES OF THE PREVIOUS-MEETING: The minutes of the previous meeting were proposed as a true record by Mr. Stan Collins, seconded by Mr. John Smee, and duly signed.

CAG-26-1 The pads of the village hall defibrillator have been replaced. Because the battery appears to be draining more quickly than expected, Mr. Collins continues to monitor the situation.

CAG-26-2 The tender for electrical work associated with the installation of the new defibrillator from AED is over £900. As this was higher than anticipated, the parish clerk approached other electricians to tender for the work.
The Committee unanimously agreed to accept the cheapest tender for £718.30 excluding VAT.

CAG-26-3 There is a further delay to the installation of the new defibrillator. SBC had informed the Parish Clerk that they would levy a charge of £515 for administrative work associated with providing a licence to locate the defibrillator on land owned by SBC. At no point during discussions with SBC had there been mention of a charge for this work. The Parish Clerk and Cllr. Hughes believed that this was unacceptable.

CAG -26-4 Cllr. Hughes and the Parish Clerk agreed on the following actions:

Initially the Parish Clerk would enquire if SBC had made an error by charging for the work. He would point out that no mention of a charge had been raised during his discussions with the Borough. Furthermore, the document required was identical to one already prepared by SBC for the defibrillator already installed in Ashdale Park.

CAG-26-5 The Parish Clerk was told that charging an administration fee is now SBC's standard practice and that he would have to write to the Head of Law and Administration to object. Hence, he sent a letter of objection to the Head of Law and Administration.

CAG-26-5 If the above actions prove unsuccessful then we would involve the press. The residents of Yarnfield and Cold Meece had raised the money for

the benefit the local community and an additional unfair burden was being placed upon them.

CAG-26-6 To avoid further delays Cllr. Hughes proposed that if SBC did not withdraw the charge of £515, CAG should pay for the licence from its funds. The alternative would be to try to raise further funds from the community. This was rejected by the committee, as the project would be subject to further unacceptable delays.

Cllr. Broader explained that the CAG would be low on funds until the new budget was available in April 2026. No substantial expenditure was expected during this period unless one of the defibrillators required a new battery during this period. Cllr. Broader generously offered to cover the cost of the latter should such a situation arise. * The Committee thanked her for her generous offer.

The committee agreed unanimously that the funds should be made available from the CAG funds, if necessary.

Post meeting note*

When Cllr. Hughes reported to the Parish Council, Cllr. Broader was thanked for her generous offer but Councillor Parkin, Chair of the PC, said that the Parish Council would cover these costs from its contingency fund, if necessary.

CAG -26-7 As more than 90 days had passed since tenders were sought for the cost of installing a new defibrillator, new tender were required. There had been some small price increases. The Parish Clerk also made contact with AED.

CAG -26-8 The Clerk has written to the electrician informing him that his tender has been accepted but that work on the defibrillator has been delayed.

CAG-26-9 The Clerk has asked our Borough Councillors to investigate why a charge has been levied for the siting of a new defibrillator. He also asked them to intervene on our behalf, if necessary.

CAG-26-10 Defibrillator training will be arranged when the defibrillator is in situ.

CAG-26-11 Cllr. Hughes asked Mr. Collins to prepare a list of predicted expenses during 2026 for the existing defibrillators in Yarnfield and Cold Meece.

CAG-26-12 Cllr. Hughes proposed that those members of the committee who are able should take part in a litter pick in Yarnfield once the weather has improved. She had already cleared litter from her home to the end of Yarnfield Lane. Ms. Chapman offered to clear litter from her home to the Yarnfield Park roundabout. Mr. Collins offered to clear The Furlong and part of the north green. Cllr. Hughes would clear Greenside and the rest of the north green. Cllr. Broader offered to clear Ash Lane. Litter could be disposed of in the large bins on the village green or at home in the green bins.

CAG-26-13 The date of the CAG meetings for the next month were as follows:

The date of the next meeting had been moved to 28th April.

Tuesday, 7th July, 2026.

Tuesday, 20th October, 2026.

Tuesday, 19th January, 2027.

Tuesday, 20th April, 2027.

CAG-26-14 This year's spring-clean of the village is to be held on 29th March. Cllr. Hughes would send out a reminder beforehand. Mr. and Mrs. Collins would provide refreshments in the village hall from 10-12 noon. Cllr. Broader would provide refreshments during the afternoon session from 2pm-4pm. Cllr. Hughes would arrange advertising with the Parish Clerk and ensure that all necessary equipment was available during the two sessions.

The dates for other activities later in the year are as follows:

Summer bedding planting with Walton Hall Academy - Wednesday, 10th June.

Strawberry Tea - Sunday, 28th June.

Autumn Clean Up and bulb planting - 4th October.

CAG-26-15 Cllr. Hughes proposed that we replace some of the small pots used for summer planting. The small pots dry out very quickly meaning that they require more frequent watering during hot weather. She suggested replacing these with troughs and matching trays. The trays would help conserve water. **The committee agreed unanimously to seek permission from the Parish Council to obtain replacement troughs and trays.**

CAG-26-16 Fund-raising ideas were discussed. The committee believed that the most successful idea would be to organize a quiz.

The meeting closed at 8.35p.m. The next meeting will be held on Tuesday, 28th April, 2026.

proposed by M. Broader
seconded by Sven Collins

S. Hughes -
28.04.26