

Minutes of the Meeting of Wadsworth Parish Council

7.00pm Hebden Bridge Town Hall 22 September 2026

69 APOLOGIES AND REASONS FOR ABSENCE

In attendance: Cllrs Kimber (Chair), Delahoy, Fowler, McKelvey, Salt, Shepherd and Walsh.

Apologies for absence: None

Members of the public: None

70 PROCEDURAL MATTERS:

a) **Members Interests** - to remind members of the need to declare any interests they might have in relation to items on this agenda: None

b) **Cllr vacancies:** 1

c) **Cllr email addresses**

It was noted that one Cllr was still using their personal email address.

Resolved that before the next meeting Cllr Fowler contact P3 Computers to facilitate the switch to the new government domain email and that all other Cllrs make sure they have resolved any issues, speaking to P3 Computers as necessary.

d) **Bank mandate**

Resolved to note that no Cllrs had received the information from the bank and that the bank be re-contacted to resolve this.

71 RESOLUTION TO RE-ORDER REMAINDER OF THE AGENDA: None.

72 PUBLIC DISCUSSION TIME: None.

73 APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES OF THE MEETING HELD ON: 25 August 2026

Resolved that the minutes be approved as a true and accurate record.

74 MATTERS ARISING FROM THE ABOVE MINUTES: All covered under existing agenda items.

75 LOCAL PLANS:

a) **Climate Action Plans** update:

i) Calderdale Climate Action Plan

Resolved to note that:

- i) the following Reform UK led motion would be discussed at Calderdale's 25.09.26 full council meeting 'Rescind the Climate Emergency Declaration and Reallocate Resources to Deprived Communities'.
- ii) Wadsworth Parish Council expressed their concern that this motion had been put forward stating it was a misguided and backward step.

ii) Greening Wadsworth Initiative:

Resolved to:

- i) receive the update.
- ii) note the following activities:
 - Friday 09.10.26 7.00pm People's Emergency Briefing film
 - Saturday 10.10.26 11.00am till 03.00pm Apple pressing and children's activities.
- iii) note Cllr Kimber was in conversation with the head of Calderdale Planning re the route to the potential lease of the triangle of land between Billy Lane and Old Town Mill Lane, in relation to a local growing initiative or replacement allotments.

76 CLERK'S REPORT:

It was noted that the proposed 2027 meeting dates had been sent to Hebden bridge Town Hall for confirmation.

77 FINANCIAL MATTERS:

a) Receipts – Previous month	
i) Garage/Parking space/Allotment rent	£32.52
b) Items for payment:	
i) Salaries/PAYE (gross) <i>including 5 months back pay</i>	£1012.65 *
ii) Employer national insurance	£89.35
iii) Allowance and reimbursement:	
- computer allowance	£20.83
- home working allowance	£18.58
- Travel	£2.70
Total:	<u>£42.11</u>
iv) PKF – external audit 2025-26 (inc VAT)	£252.00
v) Defibshop – battery and pads pack (inc VAT)	£119.94
vi) J Peterken – bench and other maintenance works	£476.00
vii) Land Registry – WCC property deeds (DC)	£36.00
viii) Land Registry – property alerts service (DC)	£36.00
ix) Printing paper (DC)	£6.99
x) Indigo Cube – website hosting	£180.00
xi) HMRC VAT due Q1	£339.40

*see NALC pay Settlement 2026-27

c) **Financial reporting**

- i) Bank reconciliations (monthly)
- ii) To agree/note bank transfer
- iii) Budget monitoring (quarterly)
- iv) VAT Return (quarterly)

Resolved to receive the reports and approve the payments.

d) **Grants:**

i) **Community Grants:**

Resolved to note the thank you from the Environment group re covering the cost of insurance.

ii) **WPC grants:**

Resolved to check the natural flood management grant completion and payment of funds dates.

78 **CORRESPONDENCE:** All covered under existing agenda items.

79 **PLANNING:**

a) **New Applications:**

- i) **26/56011/CLAS3Q** Prior approval application for change of use from agricultural building to dwellinghouse (Class C3). Land Southwest of 4 Wool Croft, Old Town Mill Lane Old Town

Resolved to object to the application on the following grounds:

- i) that it was an inappropriate development for the site as it was part of the green belt that separates Old Town from Hebden Bridge.
- ii) that it was not an appropriate building for conversion as it is a delapidated corrugated iron structure not a stone building.
- iii) that the parish council would be more sympathetic to the application if it were the conversion of an existing stone farm building.

b) **Applications received after agenda issue:** None

c) **Decisions made by Calderdale Council:**

Resolved to note the decisions and in relation to the following application further note:

Agenda item iv)

26/00001/NSIP Calderdale Energy Park development consent order - Walshaw Dean Widdop Road (related to previous application 25/06014/EIA Environmental Impact Assessment Calderdale Energy Park) **PENDING**

Resolved to note that Cllrs Kimber and Shepherd had met with the Head of Calderdale Planning and the Planning Officer with overall responsibility for Calderdale's response to the proposed application. A detailed update was provided.

d) **Other:** None

80 ROAD, FOOTPATH, TRANSPORT AND DIGITAL COMMUNICATION MATTERS:

a) **Damage caused by Norse (Calderdale's waste and recycling contractors) at a Yorkshire Water manhole on the track between Old Town school and the post office**

Resolved to report the incident to Calderdale Highways, checking the procedure for action on a non-adopted road, to further speak to Norse (Calderdale's waste and recycling contractors) to check if the incident was reported and ask what action was taken. To thank Cllr Fowler for their prompt and resourceful action to temporarily remedy the situation.

b) **Old Town Mill Lane closure without notice**

Resolved to speak to Calderdale Highways re provision of notice on unadopted roads and to as appropriate relay this information to Yorkshire Water requesting adequate notice to residents, even when the road is unadopted.

c) **Blocked drains at Walker Lane**

It was noted that the drains had now been cleared.

d) **Dangerous parking at Pecket Well**

It was noted that the Safer Cleaner Greener meeting had been cancelled but that this issue would be raised at the next meeting.

e) **Continued Speeding at Old Town**

Resolved to report this to Calderdale Highways and ask what could be done.

81 ALLOTMENTS, PARKING SPACES AND GARAGES:

a) **Allotments:**

i) Cllrs report re allotments state and size at Carr Head and Pecket Bar incl. allot 6b

Resolved to carry out an allotment holders survey.

ii) J Peterken quote for tyre removal at Pecket Bar 1

Resolved to approve the quote to remove 16 tyres and other items.

b) **Garages and parking spaces:** No issues reported.

82 PLAYGROUNDS:

a) **Bi-weekly inspections**

Resolved that Cllrs Kimber and Heyworth carry out the bi-weekly checks.

b) **Old Town Play area:**

i) Annual inspection report

Resolved to note the report and the discussion re on-going maintenance and/or replacement. To further note a bolt on the roundabout was missing again and that one of the benches had a loose leg. Cllr Heyworth to send a photo. To request quotes for these works.

c) **Pecket Well play area:**

i) Annual inspection report

Resolved to delay the decision re the basketball hoop and backboard until it was flagged as high risk.

ii) New playground finger posts.

Resolved to note the new finger posts.

83 COUNCIL LAND AND ASSET MATTERS

a) Wadsworth Community Association - lease update

Resolved that once Cllrs had received and reviewed the answers to the outstanding queries and any further amendments made the lease could be updated, the signing procedure confirmed and the final version of the lease sent to Wadsworth Community Association for signing.

b) WCC Land Registry documents - address update.

Resolved to arrange for the proprietor address to be changed to the parish council's town hall address.

c) Use of council land - forms and procedure.

Resolved to use the amended existing simpler one-page form for smaller community events.

d) Defibrillators update

Resolved to note that the battery pack had been ordered but delivery had been delayed.

e) Smeeken Hill annual maintenance

Resolved to request a quote for the annual maintenance.

e) Grass cutting at Old Town Green

Resolved to request quotes for twice-yearly strimming, raking and disposing of the grass cuttings at the bottom of the green.

84 REPRESENTATIVES AT OUTSIDE MEETINGS:

a) Meeting reports:

i) Joint Parishes meeting 14.09 .26 The Space, Hebden Bridge Town Hall.

Cllrs McKelvey, Delahoy, Fowler and Shepherd in attendance.

Resolved to receive Cllr McKelvey's report and to note that the meeting included a Wadsworth Parish Council presentation, by Cllr Shepherd, concerning the state of play of Calderdale Energy Park (CEP) planning process including how best to respond to the removal of the statutory consultation requirement.

ii) Joint Parishes Cllr Training 17.09.26 Hebden Bridge Town Hall.

Resolved to:

i) note that the meeting was switched to on-line and that Cllrs Delahoy, Heyworth and McKelvey attended.

ii) Cllrs Delahoy, Heyworth and McKelvey to put forward any queries and/or requests for information to the clerk.

iii) Old Town School Governors meeting

Cllr Fowler attended. It was reported that each year there were fewer primary age children in the upper valley.

b) Upcoming meetings:

i) Wadsworth Community Association: Cllr Walsh reported:

25.09.26 AGM with talk and supper

24.10.26 Wadsworth Environment group: Litter pick

09.10.26 People's Emergency Briefing film

08.11.26 Walking Market

31.10.26 Wadsworth Environment Group: Bulb planting

Resolved to receive the reports and updates.

85 DATE OF NEXT COUNCIL MEETING & APOLOGIES IN ADVANCE:

Monthly council meeting 7.00pm Hebden Bridge Town Hall: 27.10.26

Advance apologies: None

Meeting ended: 9.05pm