

BLAXTON PARISH COUNCIL

**MINUTES OF THE ANNUAL PARISH MEETING HELD ON WEDNESDAY 15 APRIL 2026
AT 19:00 IN BLAXTON VILLAGE HALL**

PRESENT: Councillors R Johnson (Chair), J Hill, J Steventon and I Collett

APOLOGIES: None

IN ATTENDANCE: E Lear- Clerk and Responsible Financial Officer

MEMBERS OF THE PUBLIC: One

1) APOLOGIES – None

2) MINUTES OF ANNUAL PARISH MEETING HELD ON 16 APRIL 2025

The minutes of the Annual Parish Meeting held on 16 April 2025 were agreed at the Parish Council meeting on 21 May 2025. – **Noted**

3) MATTERS ARISING FROM THE MINUTES – None

4) CHAIR'S REPORT FOR 2025/26

The Chair read his report which was received and noted and is appended to these minutes.

5) BUDGET AND PRECEPT 2026/27 – Noted

The Chair confirmed that there had been a 0% increase in the Precept. As the budget is higher than the precept, funding will be taken from the reserves.

6) ISSUES RAISED BY RESIDENTS OF THE PARISH –

One member of the public was in attendance and continued to ask about the flooding of the pavement opposite the post office. It was reported that CDC had said the drains had been cleared and investigation work was to be undertaken. The resident suggested using the CDC complaints procedure and approaching the Ward councillors if progress is not made using the current method.

He suggested that the vertical drains were still full even though they had been cleared and it was suggested by operatives on the ground that this was due to no horizontal flushing.

The member of the public asked about how the audit process worked and who they report to. It was explained that there are two levels of audit- an internal audit and external audit. He suggested making a complaint to the external auditor regarding the ongoing situation with FPC regarding the joint playing field. It was explained that the council couldn't complain to the auditor, it would be up to the auditor to make comment, which they have when the funds were shown on the AGAR- this was explained by FPC.

BPC have continued to dispute the acquiring of the funds by FPC and have issued an invoice to FPC for half of the funds.

BPC can't use the small claims court due to the amount disputed and have been advised that legal action would be costly.

Meeting closed at 19:30

Chair: _____

Date: _____

ANNUAL PARISH MEETING APRIL 2026

CHAIRS REPORT

I'm sad to report that despite our best efforts throughout the year this is the third consecutive year we have been unable to resolve issues relating to the Joint Playing Field with our neighbours Finningley Parish Council. The facility is important to both communities so we will continue to try and engage with them to reach some agreement on its future management and use.

We did however work together in November 2025 to re-instate, for the first time since Covid, the Remembrance Sunday parade from Blaxton War Memorial to St Oswald's Church for the formal remembrance service. Blaxton Parish Council organised the road closures, the War Memorial event and the parade. Finningley Parish Council contributed to the road closure costs. The event was very well attended. We are happy to continue this cooperation.

We conducted a survey in January 2024 which told us that your preferred improvement to the Blaxton Playing Field would be a nature trail. I am happy to report that the trail was completed at the end of March. We have secured additional Lottery funding and are currently looking to install items of interest around the trail to make it a nice family experience. My thanks to members for their attendance at site meetings and checking progress during the work. Particular thanks to both Jacob Hill who designed the trail and to Emma our Clerk who with Jacob guided us through the process.

As indicated in last year's report, in our attempt to reduce the carbon footprint of the village, we have now installed a cycle repair station next to the Blue Bell, and a sharing station at the Village Hall for unwanted re-usable books, puzzles, produce and plants. We will continue to look at more opportunities over the next year and are happy to consider resident's suggestions. Our thanks also to the Village Hall Committee who have recently overseen the installation of solar panels on the Village Hall which will both reduce running costs and improve its carbon footprint.

We welcomed Luke Watson as a new member in May 2025 and he along with Jacob Hill, Janet Steventon, Ian Collett and our Joint Clerks Emma Lear and Philip Dennis made up our team. My thanks to them all for their hard work and support over the past year.

We continue to represent the village on various committee's and at meetings. With the proposed re-opening of the Airport the "Airport Consultative Committee (ACC)" was recently reformed. Our representative is Ian Collett. If you have any questions or concerns you would like Ian to take to the meetings, please contact our Clerk. We will do our best to get your question or concern raised and try to ensure that you get a response.

We continue to raise resident issues and concerns with City of Doncaster Council (CDC) through Public Participation at our meetings, consideration at meetings of issues raised with members directly or through emails via our Website to our Clerk, through attendance at the

Parish Council Joint Consultative Committee (PCJCC), and with our Ward Councillors. We are also attentive to Planning Applications within the village. We review, discuss and comment as necessary, raising our own or resident concerns with CDC Planning.

Finally, a word about the Precept. This year, for the fourth consecutive year, we have set a precept that results in a zero-percentage increase in the Parish Council element of your Council Tax.

If you want to know what we are doing on your behalf you are welcome to attend our meetings, check up on our website, notice board, or on our social media pages. You can raise issues or ask questions by contacting our Clerk; we will do our best to get a resolution to your problem or an answer to your question.

Richard Johnson. 15th April 2026.