

BRANDON & BYSHOTTLES PARISH COUNCIL
MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF THE COUNCIL HELD IN
THE COUNCIL CHAMBERS, 6, GOATBECK TERRACE,
LANGLEY MOOR, DURHAM, DH7 8JJ
ON FRIDAY 20th MARCH 2026, AT 6.30 PM

Present:

Councillor J Jamieson (Chair)

Councillors, D Bell, J S Burt, F Bonner, J C Chapman, P A B Elmer, J Grantham, J E Hirst, D Rowland, S Leckenby, E H Simpson, F D Simpson, C J Smith, P Stoddart, J A Turnbull, and M Wilson.

ALSO PRESENT: Mrs C Dixon (Clerk), Mrs S Cash (Assistant Clerk), and 2 members of the public.

A minute's silence was observed in memory of Cynthia Wilkinson.

216. Apologies for Absence

Apologies received from Cllr P Askell, Cllr A Bonner, Cllr D Hindmarch, Cllr M Wall
There were no apologies received from Cllr D Bregazzi.

RESOLVED: To **RECEIVE** the apologies.

217. Declarations of Interest & Requests for Dispensations

Declarations of interest were received from the following:

Item 204 - Cllr J Grantham Brandon Carrside - Committee Member.

Item 204 - Cllr S Leckenby - Brandon Carrside - Committee Member.

Item 204 - Cllr J Turnbull - Brandon Carrside - Committee Member.

Item 233 – Cllr J Turnbull – Friends of Langley Moor – Committee Member

Item 233 – Cllr John Chapman – Friends of Langley Moor – Committee Member

Item 233 – Cllr John Hirst – Friends of Langley Moor – Committee Member

Item 233 – Cllr P Elmer – Friends of Langley Moor – Committee Member

RESOLVED: To **RECEIVE** the declarations of interest.

218. Public Participation

RESOLVED: There was **NO** public participation.

219. Minutes of the Meeting held on 20th February 2026.

RESOLVED: The minutes of the Meeting held on 20th February 2026 were **CONFIRMED** as a correct record and signed by the Chair.

220. Donations to be presented

a) **Durham Hospitals Radio**

221. Ushaw College Woodland Management Plan

Guest speaker Ady Davis, Head Gardener at Ushaw College gave a verbal update regarding the Woodland Management Plan.

RESOLVED: To **NOTE** the information.

222. Invoices for Payment

Authorisation was requested to pay accounts for £10,622.24.

RESOLVED: To **APPROVE** payment of the accounts amounting to £10,622.24. The accounts to be checked and verified by two councillors before payment.

223. Bank Transfer

To approve a bank transfer of funds from CCLA to the current account.

RESOLVED: To **APPROVE** the transfer of £10,000.

224. Planning Applications

Week ending 27 February 2026

DM/26/00022/FPA, Mr Jonathan Bell, Retention of garden structures. Honey Pot Cottage, Newhouse Road, Esh Winning, Durham, DH7 9LG

Cllr D Simpson informed the meeting that this property is not within the Parish Council boundary. Cllr D Simpson raised concerns regarding the size of the building. Should Councillors have any objections they can object as a member of the public.

RESOLVED: To **NOTE** the information.

Week ending 13 March 2026

DM/26/00390/FPA, Pragmatic Semiconductors, New sprinkler tank, pump house, store and associated works. Pragmatic Semiconductor Limited, St Johns Road, Meadowfield Industrial Estate, Meadowfield, Durham, DH7 8RJ

RESOLVED: It was **NOTED** that no objections were raised to the application.

225. Carrside

The written report was received.

RESOLVED: To **NOTE** the report.

226. Browney Residents Association

To consider the request to use Browney Village Green for an event called the 'Browney Bash'.

RESOLVED: To **APPROVE** the request.

227. Browney Residents Association

To consider the request from Browney Residents Association to paint the front of the Community Garden fence.

RESOLVED: To **APPROVE** the request.

228. Internal Audit Report

To consider the internal audit report.

RESOLVED: To **APPROVE** the report and the actions taken.

229. Review of the Effectiveness of Internal Controls

To review the effectiveness of the internal controls for 2025/26.

RESOLVED: To **APPROVE** the Review of the Effectiveness of Internal Controls 2025/26.

230. Risk Management Review 2025/26

To review the strategic and financial risk management for 2025/26.

RESOLVED: To **APPROVE** the strategic and financial risk management for 2025/26.

231. Anti-Fraud and Corruption Policy

To consider the policy.

RESOLVED: To **APPROVE** the policy.

232. Publication Scheme

To consider the report.

RESOLVED: To **APPROVE** the report and the updated Publication Scheme.

233. Goat's Beck Bridge

The report was considered, and concerns were raised that the current Community Highways Worker is not qualified to carry out inspections of the bridge. Members also queried why the Parish Council had been asked to take responsibility for the bridge, noting that it should remain the responsibility of Durham County Council as it is located on their land.

RESOLVED: To **RESCIND** motion 172. To **APPROVE** the Clerk to arrange a meeting/site visit with Durham County Council and Members to discuss this matter further.

234. Brancepeth Neighbourhood Plan

To consider the report.

RESOLVED: To **NOTE** the report and to **SUPPORT** Brancepeth Parish Council.

235. Planning Consultation Land to the North East of Brandon United Football Club

To consider a response to the amendments.

RESOLVED: To **APPROVE** to support the amendments.

236. Draft Order Sawmills Lane/Lowland Road

To consider a response.

RESOLVED: To **NOTE** the order and that members do not wish to provide respond.

237. New Premises Licence Meadowfield and District Social Club

To consider a response.

RESOLVED: Members approve and do not wish to respond.

238. 106 Monies Application

Discussion took place and members supported the application.

RESOLVED: To **APPROVE** and **SUPPORT** the section 106 funding application.

239. TRO's Langley Moor, Meadowfield, Brandon and Browney

Discussion took place and Cllr Turnbull raised concerns with the yellow lines at Browney Village Green and the length of the lines proposed at Midhill Close.

RESOLVED: To **NOTE** the TRO'S.

240. Letter of support Brandon Village TRO

To consider the letter of support.

RESOLVED: To **APPROVE** the letter of support.

241. Parish Paths application for funding

To consider the funding application.

RESOLVED: To **APPROVE** the funding application. No amendments were made.

242. School Art Competition

To approve a theme and arrangements for the competition.

RESOLVED: To **APPROVE** the theme of 'My Village'. Chairman Cllr J Jamieson to discuss further details with the Clerk.

243. Annual Parish Meeting

To consider a date for the Annual Parish Meeting.

RESOLVED: To **APPROVE** Monday 18th May 2026, 7pm, New Brancepeth Village Hall.

244. Friends of the North East War Memorials

To consider a response.

RESOLVED: To **APPROVE** the council to become a Friend of the North East Memorials Project and to provide a donation of £30 from Community Support.

245. Exclusion of the press and public

RESOLVED: To **APPROVE** Exclusion of the press and public.

246. Community Highways Worker

The Clerk provided Members with an update regarding the Community Highways Worker role and the appointment of the new employee.

RESOLVED: To **APPROVE** a letter of thanks from Members to be sent to the previous Community Highways Worker.

247. Grounds Maintenance

Members discussed the ground’s maintenance tenders received.

RESOLVED: To **APPROVE** the tender received from DK Horticulture at a cost of £33,414.84 per annum until March 2029, subject to satisfactory performance within the first year.

248. Grass Cutting

Members discussed the grass cutting tenders received.

RESOLVED: To **APPROVE** the tender received from DK Horticulture. Members advised that they still require areas to continue receiving the cut and collect service instead of the cut and mulch service. Refer to Appendix A.

The meeting closed at 19.41 PM

Signed

Date