

MICKLETON PARISH COUNCIL

Notes of a meeting of Mickleton Parish Council, held on Monday 21 July 2025 at 19:00 in Mickleton Village Hall.

PRESENT: D Shepherd (Chairman), Mrs R Fowler, Mrs C Hartas, J Lonsdale, D Hancock and P Anderson.

One Parishioner was also present

25.99 APOLOGIES: None

25.100 DECLARATION OF INTEREST: Mrs R Fowler made a Declaration of Interest regarding the planning application for Cobblersgate Lane.

25.101 MINUTES OF THE MEETING HELD ON 16 JUNE 2025 – These had been circulated, taken as read, agreed as a true record and signed.

25.102 TO CONSIDER ANY MATTERS ARISING FROM THE MINUTES NOT INCLUDED ON THE AGENDA – None

25.103 PUBLIC PARTICIPATION – Mrs Stewart outlined her concerns regarding the housing development on Cobblersgate Lane and the effect the development was having on residents of Garth Cottages. To supplement her concerns, photographs were provided to detail her concerns, Mrs Stewart asked for the Parish Council's support to oppose the current VOC application and gave permission for the Parish Council to forward the photographs to DCC.

25.104 PLANNING MATTERS

DM/25/0967/FPA – Erection of an agricultural building - awaiting the planning decision.

DM/25/0555/FPA - Grassholme Plantation – awaiting the planning decision.

DM/25/01318/PN56 – Land south of Carlton House – planning application has been withdrawn

DM/25/01715/PNA – Prior notification for the construction of a forestry road – this is an additional planning application that has been submitted for the new forest road – no concerns raised regarding the proposed road. It was noted that an osprey had been seen flying over the reservoir and woodland plantation. D Shepherd to make enquiries as to who to notify of this osprey sighting.

DM/25/01724/VOC – Land at Cobblersgate Lane, - variation of Condition 2 pursuant to planning permission DM/22/03357/FPA (erection of 3 detached dwellings) to allow design changes and loss of garaging to Unit 1.

It was agreed to object to this VOC on the grounds of the impact that this would have on the residents of Garth Cottages owing to the height and levels of the development overshadowing the Cottages. From the photographs provided was there room for 2 parked vehicles, as shown on the documents. It was also agreed to ask the Planning Officer to make a site visit to check the non compliance issues brought to the Parish Council's attention regarding the upstairs windows of Plot no.2. It was also agreed to forward the photographs provided by Mrs Stewart onto the DCC Planning Officer

25.105 HIGHWAY MATTERS

Flooding at Icaron Lodge – work still outstanding

Yarker Lane – Salt bin – still outstanding.

Bus Stop Markings B6277 junction with Cobblersgate Lane – DCC had carried out this work.

Additional Dog Bins for the Railway Walk – Clerk to contact DCC.

Road Closure – Bail Hill Road 21/22 July – road currently closed .

25.106 PLAYGROUND

Boundary Fencing – Clerk reported that she had spoken to A Atkinson and the fencing panels had been ordered.

ROSPA Inspection – D Shepherd reported on the minor faults that had been identified during the inspection and they will be looked at rectified.

25.107 BUS SHELTER - The replacement guttering still outstanding.

25.108 FINANCE

25.108.1 Current Financial Statement – This had been circulated.

25.108.2 Payments: The following payment was authorised:

Playsafety Ltd (ROSPA Inspection) £110.40

25.108.3 PAYE – Clerk to investigate as to whether the Parish Council requires to re-register for PAYE

25.108.4 Bank Card – The application form was completed.

25.108.5 Bank Account Signatories – Mrs C Hartas agreed to become the third signature for the Bank Account. Clerk to contact Virgin Money for the Bank Mandate Form.

25.109 REVIEW OF COMMON LAND WITHIN THE PARISH – Awaiting a reply from Mickleton Moss Committee.

25.110 MICKLETON FIXERS

Swift Boxes – It was noted that none of the swift boxes that had been erected were currently being used this year.

Christmas Lights – D Shepherd reported that he had met with a representative from Staindrop Christmas Lights Committee. An example of a hanging light globe with battery operated lights was examined. To be discussed in more detail at our September meeting. D Shepherd agreed to contact DCC regarding attaching lights to the street light poles.

25.111 WEST PASTURE ROAD POST BOX – Clerk reported that she had been contacted by Royal Mail and they were going to follow up the Collection Information Plate that was missing from the box.

25.112 .GOV.UK website – Clerk to investigate further, together with costings.

25.113 CORRESPONDENCE – The correspondence list had been circulated.

Durham County Standards Committee – currently there are 2 vacancies for Parish Councillors to sit on this committee. Mrs C Hartas stated that she was interested in the vacancy and was considering putting her name forward,

25.114 DATE AND TIME OF NEXT MEETING: 19:00 Monday 15 September 2025.

There being no further business, the Chairman declared the meeting closed at 20:15

Signed Date

APPROVED