

MICKLETON PARISH COUNCIL

Notes of a meeting of Mickleton Parish Council, held on Monday 8 December 2025 at 19:00 in Mickleton Village Hall.

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

APOLOGIES: None.

DECLARATION OF INTEREST: None.

MINUTES OF THE MEETING HELD ON 17 NOVEMBER 2025 – These had been circulated, taken as read, approved and signed.

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

PUBLIC PARTICIPATION – None

PLANNING MATTERS:

DM/25/0555/FPA; DM/25/01715/PNA and DM/25/00248/PA56 – New forest road for Grassholme Plantation – still pending a decision.

DM/25/01724/VOC – New houses on Cobblegate Lane – still pending a decision

DM/25/02667/VOC – Land to the South West of Dale View – still pending a decision

DM/25/02588/FPA – Belle Settle – still pending a decision

HIGHWAY MATTERS

Flooding at Icaron Lodge – work still to be undertaken.

Yarker Lane – Salt bin installation has been completed and a thank you had been received.

Dog Bins – No further information from DCC.

Vehicles speeding through the village – Whilst Councillors had been installing the lights, they had witnessed a number of vehicles speeding through the village. D. Shepherd had investigated the cost of some solar panel operated speed awareness signs. Councillors to look at what signs are available for discussion at the next meeting.

Clerk to contact Staindrop PC to enquire who had installed the speed cameras, the Parish Council or Durham CC.

PLAYGROUND – No issues raised.

FINANCE

Current Financial Statement – This had been circulated.

Payments to be Authorised: The following payments were authorised:

Festive Lights Ltd (£1100.37. Less a Credit Note £220.07 = £880.30)

HMRC - £44.05

K Towler - £178.40

Butler & Gee - £120.00

C Hutchinson £665.00

Mickleton Village Hall Grant - £500.00

E Parkin - £50.00

D Shepherd – £119.79

P Aldrich - £19.76

Setting of the 2026/27 Precept

The Clerk had circulated the draft budget information.

The proposed budget figures totalled £10,192.00

Clerk reported that the current laptop was obsolete and to meet the current standards needed to comply to procedures, a new laptop was required. It was agreed to include a figure of £600 towards a new laptop.

It was also agreed to include a figure of £2000 towards the purchase of speed awareness signs.

Total proposed expenditure = £12792.00

After discussion it was agreed to raise the precept to £80 per Band D property, giving a precept request for £15832.00. Proposed by D Hancock, seconded by J Lonsdale and agreed by all Council members.

REVIEW OF COMMON LAND WITHIN THE PARISH – Still awaiting a reply.

CHRISTMAS LIGHTS/SWIFT BOXES

A number of Councillors and helpers had installed the Christmas Lights on various poles throughout the village. The lights purchased for the village hall trees had also been installed and a Christmas Tree had been donated and installed in the Community Garden. Various residents have also installed various trees and lights to their properties, which are now making the village looking very festive.

Cllr C Hartas proposed a vote of thanks to the Councillors and their helpers, who had taken time to prepare and install the lights, which residents were appreciating.

Swift Boxes – the additional boxes are to be made in the coming months and would be installed for the return of the swifts next year.

GOV.UK Website

The Clerk gave an update on the progress on the move over to a .gov.uk address.

The domain of mickletondurham-pc.gov.uk has been approved.

Councillors gave their preferred names for the setting up of their individual email addresses.

CORRESPONDENCE LIST – This had been circulated.

DATE AND TIME OF NEXT MEETING; 19 JANUARY 2026 AT 19:00

There being no further business, the Chairman declared the meeting closed at 20:00

Signed Date