

Minutes of the meeting of Pool-in-Wharfedale Parish Council held at the Methodist Rooms, Manor Gardens, Main Street, Pool-in-Wharfedale on Monday 13th JANUARY 2025 commencing at 7.30 pm.

Present Councillor Lee (Chair)
Councillors Allen, Bone, Cooke, Hill, Mifsud, and Rowling.
Also, in attendance the Clerk John Ryan, Ward Councillors Barry and Caroline Anderson and PCSO's S. Wild and B. Sevincer.

82. CHAIRMAN'S ANNOUNCEMENTS

The Chairman welcomed everyone to the meeting and wished all a Happy New Year. Councillor Bone recalled his recent visit to meet King Charles to receive the Elizabeth Emblem Award on behalf of his police officer daughter Fiona who was killed while on duty. It was the first time the new Elizabeth Emblem had been awarded. The Chairman said the Council was proud of Councillor Bone who had lost a daughter but gained some solace and happiness out of receiving the award.

The Chairman asked the police in attendance if they had any news about the recent accident on the A660 in which a local elderly lady died. The matter is still under investigation.

It was noted that no further news has come forward about a timetable for the X84 service.

It was suggested that it might be a good time to arrange a meeting with Taylor Wimpey to discuss how the housing development is progressing. Councillor Mifsud said that an Open Day/Sales event is being organised for Saturday 18th January 2025 by Taylor Wimpey this could present an opportunity to get more information.

Councillor Rowling reported that she is in discussions with the Electrical Contractor who is laying a new supply to the new housing estate, raising issues about resident parking whilst the work is being completed.

83. PUBLIC PARTICIPATION

The Police reported on a small number of crimes within the village, burglary on the Swallows and the theft of a Range Rover. Following questions and a note from a resident the Officers did say that patrols had been stepped up during the night with the specific task of catching criminals involved in the stealing of high-end vehicles. Councillors also reported speeding cars on the Swallow Estate and nuisance cyclists tearing around the estate and beyond in dark clothing with no lights on the cycles.

84. DECLARATION OF DISCLOSABLE PECUNIARY AND OTHER INTERESTS

No Councillor interests were reported. The Clerk asked councillors to note the DCLG guidance in relation to dispensations allowed them to participate in council business connected with council tax. "Any payment of, or liability to pay, council tax does not create a disclosable pecuniary interest as defined in the national rules, hence being a council taxpayer does not mean that you need a dispensation to take part in the business of setting the council tax or precept or local arrangements for council tax support.

85. TO ACCEPT APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Apologies for absence were received from Ward Councillor Billy Flynn.

86. MINUTES OF LAST MEETING

Council reviewed the minutes of the last meeting held on Monday 9th December 2024 and approved them as a correct record.

RESOLVED

That the minutes of the meeting held on Monday 9th December 2024 be approved. The motion was moved by Councillor Allen and seconded by Councillor Hill.

87. MAINTENANCE AND UPGRADE OF PLAYGROUNDS

Councillor Cooke informed council that the major resurfacing works have been completed satisfactorily. Recent Playground Inspection reports identified no further immediate works to be undertaken. Quotes for the new sign are still being gathered. The broken slats in the bridge at the playground adjacent the Primary School have now been repaired and the bridge is back in use.

A meeting has been arranged with the major sponsor of the resurfacing scheme, Weidmann for Saturday 18th January 2025 at 10.30 am. It is an opportunity to highlight the work carried out and hopefully gain some publicity for the finished project. The Chairman thanked Councillor Cooke for all her efforts in bringing the resurfacing scheme to a successful end.

RESOLVED

Council agreed that Councillor Cooke obtains quotes for the new signs and posts.

88. ROAD SAFETY ISSUES IN POOL

Councillor Hill led a discussion about what is needed in terms of traffic/road safety solutions within the village. It was acknowledged that with such diverse opinions amongst residents and no real conclusions from recently held surveys, to promote large scale parish council specific proposals would be inadvisable. It was noted that some CIL (Community Infrastructure Levy Funds) monies may become available next year that could be used for small scale less controversial projects.

89. NEIGHBOURHOOD PLAN

Councillor Rowling brought members up to date with the Examiners Report and the small number of issues raised that need a further round of very limited consultation. A consultation meeting has been organised for Saturday 18th January 2025 at Pool Village Hall from 11.00 am to 1.00 pm. Also, online consultation will take place from Monday 13th January 2025 until Monday 10th February 2025 (closing at 5.00 pm on the day).

RESOLVED

That the clerk circulates to members the relevant documents for the consultation exercise.

90. REPORTS FROM MEMBERS

Councillor Allen attended a recent meeting of the RGMC, no major issues raised. Councillor Rowling reported on a meeting at Pool Village Hall, noting the introduction of a new booking system. Councillor Lee spoke of the recent successful Christmas event at Old Pool Bank Village Hall and that unfortunately the Friday Dance Group has been disbanded.

The clerk asked council to note and approve a recommendation from the Finance Committee that met prior to the council meeting. Finance Committee agreed that the Precept for the next financial year would be the same as in the current year at £58,000 (0.5% increase)

91. RESOLVED

That Council agree the Precept for the 2025-2026 financial year at £58,000. The motion was moved by Councillor Mifsud and seconded by Councillor Hill. The clerk to inform residents of the Precept through Facebook social media.

PLANNING APPLICATIONS

Applications were received for properties at Daleside Avenue, and the Millcroft Estate, no issues were raised.

92. CLERKS REPORT AND MONTHLY FINANCE REPORTS

The clerk's report and finance reports for December 2025 were noted.

RESOLVED

That the Finance Reports and the Clerk's report be approved. The motion was moved by Councillor Bone and seconded by Councillor Allen

93. TO CONSIDER ITEMS FOR A FUTURE AGENDA

Meeting closed at 9.05 pm.

SIGNED BY

