

**MINUTES OF THE MONTHLY MEETING OF CASSOP CUM QUARRINGTON
PARISH COUNCIL HELD AT BOWBURN COMMUNITY CENTRE ON
WEDNESDAY 18 FEBRUARY 2026 AT 6.30pm**

Present: Councillors Dolan, Henderson, Johnson, Morgan, Parker, C Prince,
G Prince, Raine, Richardson, Ridley, Shutt and Storey.

(Councillor Shutt in the Chair)

(County Councillors Blakey and Hutchinson were in attendance)

104. APOLOGIES

Apologies for absence were received from Councillor Bradley.

105. MINUTES OF THE MONTHLY MEETING HELD ON 21 JANUARY 2026

The Chair asked Members whether they were satisfied that the attached Minutes of the Monthly Meeting of the Parish Council held on 21 January 2026 should be agreed and signed as a true and accurate record.

RESOLVED that the Minutes of the Monthly Meeting of the Parish Council held on 21 January 2026 be agreed and signed as a true and accurate record.

106. CO-OPTION TO VACANCY ON THE PARISH COUNCIL

Members were asked to consider Glenn Prince as a candidate for one of the vacancies on the Parish Council.

It was moved by Councillor Ridley and seconded by Councillor Morgan that Glenn Prince be co-opted to the Parish Council and accordingly it was: -

RESOLVED that Glenn Prince be appointed to the West ward of the Parish Council.

107. PLANNING APPLICATIONS 2026

There were no new planning applications to be considered, however it was reported that the County Council's Planning Committee had recently approved the previously discussed planning applications for the Tarmac Quarry and for 20 dwellings on land to the south west of 27 Durham Road.

Councillor Morgan reported that he had attended the Planning Committee to speak on the housing application and made representations on behalf of the Parish Council in relation to the lack of reference to the Neighbourhood Plan in the planning application.

Outline planning consent had been granted and the reserved matters application would cover other elements of the scheme. At this stage, it seemed that Citrus intended to develop the site themselves as they had not been successful in selling the land. The wish of the Parish Council to have bungalows, preferably for veterans, on the site was emphasised and officers had advised that the site did not fulfil the required criteria for supported homes. Council officers also highlighted that the plan for the site had increased the number of bungalows from two to three.

Councillor Morgan stated that he had reviewed the application for phase two of the Integra site and had concerns about the long term plan for the Bowburn Industrial Estate Access Road, noting that it would not be built until at least 2032 and that the County Durham and Darlington Fire Service would potentially not adhere to the previously agreed plan to move their buildings to facilitate the road.

The Parish Clerk had been in touch with James Taylor to request that he attend a meeting with parish councillors to discuss some of the detail of the current planning application and efforts would be made to agree a date with James for the meeting.

Shincliffe Parish Council had also requested a meeting to look at a joint approach to a number of planning proposals which were coming forward. The Parish Clerk would liaise with Shincliffe to arrange this.

RESOLVED that the update be noted.

108. CLERK'S REPORT

There was nothing to report.

109. LOCAL YOUTH SERVICES

The Parish Council had received the Local Youth Services report for February 2026 which set out the busy timetable of activity for the current term. A trip was planned to Planet Leisure at half term and the kids' club would run during the day.

The club had retained its five-star food safety rating and all staff and volunteers now had their food hygiene certificate.

Strawberry Lane school had been using the youth club's facilities during the day for their PE sessions.

Councillor Storey reported that the numbers remained steady at Cassop Community Centre and he thanked the Parish Council for their continued support.

RESOLVED that the update be noted.

110. LOCAL FOOTPATHS AND RIGHTS OF WAY

The Parish Clerk reported that the waste management activity at the entrance to Hepplewhite Quarry had been reported to Crimestoppers as directed by the Environment Agency.

RESOLVED that the updated be noted.

111. ALLOTMENTS, GARAGES AND CEMETERY

The revised allotment tenancy agreements had all now been issued. If tenants indicated that they did not intend to continue with their tenancy, they would be asked to clear all personal items from the plot by 31 March 2026. The plot would then be re-let from 1 April.

RESOLVED that the update be noted.

112. COUNTY COUNCILLORS' MONTHLY REPORTS

County Councillors Hutchinson and Blakey provided an update on the following matters: -

- Issues raised at the Planning Committee meeting on the quarry application including Limestone LinX, enforcement, dust, movement of equipment and the Quarry Liaison Group
- County Council Budget and impact on local services
- Consultation on Fire Authority Risk Management Plan

RESOLVED that the update be noted.

113. ACCOUNTS (EXPENDITURE)

Name	Description	Other Details	Cheque No.	£ p
Gillian Kelly	Salary (paid net of tax)	1 – 28 February 2026	050601	1030.56
“	Mileage/Parking Fees	68 miles @ 45p	“	30.60
“	Printing	Instant Ink Cartridges	“	136.99
“	OneDrive	Subscription	“	1.99
“	Stationery	Additional Ink	“	21.49
HM Revenue & Customs	Monthly Deductions (G Kelly) (February 2026)	Income Tax and NI Deduction	BACS	206.20
HM Revenue & Customs	Monthly Deductions (A Shutt) (January 2026)	Income Tax Deduction	BACS	44.00
HM Revenue & Customs	Employers NIC	Parish Clerk	BACS	92.03
Andrew Shutt*	Monthly Fee (January 2026)	Allotment Superintendent (gross)	050602	219.78

Bowburn Youth Project	Local Youth Services	Salary Costs etc. (January 2026)	050603	3767.50
Cassop Community Centre	Youth Provision	January 2026	050604	500.00
Thinford Nurseries Ltd	Winter Planting	Village Tubs	050605	1335.00
"	"	VAT	"	267.00
Mazars LLP	Audit Fees	2024/2025	050606	315.00
"	"	VAT	"	63.00
McAfee	Virus Protection	Annual Fee	050607	89.34

*Cllr Shutt declared an interest in the item above.

RESOLVED that these items of expenditure be noted.

ACCOUNTS (INCOME)

15 JANUARY 2026 – 11 FEBRUARY 2026

Name	Description	Details	£	p

114. DATE OF NEXT MONTHLY MEETING

Agreed that the date of the next Monthly Meeting is to be Wednesday 18 March 2026 at 6.30pm at Bowburn Community Centre.

I agree these to be a true record of the Meeting held on Wednesday 18 February 2026 at Bowburn Community Centre at 6.30pm.

.....Chairman.....Date