



Neasham Parish Council

Minutes of the Ordinary Meeting – Tuesday 7th July 2026

Held at 6:30 p.m. in Neasham Reading Room

Agenda (Ordinary Meeting)

1. Chair's welcome and apologies for absence

Present: K. Sandick, P. Murray, M. Hannaford, P. Dunn, E. Miller, L. Tostevin, P. Walters and J. Turner (Clerk).

Apologies for absence were received from J. Chapple, B. Crossen and C. Bayes.

2. Declarations of interest in items on the agenda

None.

3. Approval of the minutes of the AGM and Ordinary Meeting held on 26th May 2026 and the Extraordinary Meeting held on 11th June 2026

The minutes were approved.

4. Risk Management

4.1 Defibrillator maintenance

The defibrillator maintenance was confirmed as up to date.

5. PACT Meeting

5.1 Feedback from previous meeting

Councillors received an update on the ongoing motorbike issues, including where the bikes are believed to originate from. It was noted that drones will be introduced once the relevant training has been completed.

5.2 Suggestions to put forward at the next PACT meeting (MSG - 29 July and Hurworth - 27 August)

A recent incident was discussed. It had been reported, with photographs, the day after it took place; however, no action was taken by the Police. Councillors agreed that clarification is needed on the most effective route for reporting incidents and obtaining a response.



6. Ward Councillor Matters

6.1 Reports from Ward Councillors

The damaged traffic calming island between Neasham and Hurworth was discussed. DBC is seeking funds to repair it and confirmed that the repair will be carried out.

The Gold T Dance is due to take place on Wednesday 15 July. Darlington by the Sea is due to start on Saturday 18 July and run for one week. The Grange playpark is due to receive a £20,000 upgrade.

Foam on the water near Croft was discussed. Northumbrian Water advised that this was not a concern and indicated that the water was clean.

6.2 Boundary Changes

No further updates were reported. The changes do not affect Neasham.

7. Roads and Footpaths

7.1 Traffic Report

The speed sign nearest Neasham Reading Room recorded the following highest speeds in the last month -

Rank	Speed	Date & Time	Direction
1	59 mph	20/06/2026 08:30	Outgoing
2	58 mph	24/06/2026 10:00	Incoming
3	58 mph	24/06/2026 14:00	Outgoing
4	53 mph	11/06/2026 16:00	Outgoing
5	53 mph	14/06/2026 19:30	Outgoing

This data is shared with the local PACT team.

7.2 New Lane Traffic Safety - Count and Vehicle speed report

Following concerns about traffic and speeding on New Lane, DBC provided a data recording device. Although no formal action can be taken because the majority of recorded speeds were within the acceptable range, the following key points were noted:

- The average number of vehicles per day was 287.
- The busiest day was Friday, with 386 vehicles.
- 76 of the 1,721 vehicles recorded (4.4%) were in the 21 mph to under 26 mph bracket.

Councillors noted that, although the speed limit is 30 mph, these speeds can still present a risk because of the limited visibility on corners and the number of children on the street.

DBC will not provide road mirrors for corners, as they are considered to present a risk by distorting the ability to judge distances. It was noted that residents may install mirrors on private land if they feel one is required.

For the safety of adults and children, residents and visitors are asked to help reduce speed and keep roads and paths visible and accessible.



8. Village Improvement Plans 26/27

8.1 Northumbrian Water Pumphouse secure fencing

The work is booked in.

8.2 Floodbank paving slabs

The Environment Agency confirmed that the Neasham embankment paving work is out to tender with contractors and that feedback is awaited. A preliminary phase is likely to be undertaken to define the approach and minimise disruption before work begins on site. Dates are to be confirmed.

8.3 Village Green Sign Repairs

Of the three signs currently in place, Councillors agreed that only one replacement sign is required and the two others will be removed. This will replace the sign closest to the memorial garden.

8.4 Flood Markers

The work is booked in.

8.5 Turf repairs near dropped kerbs

The work is booked in.

8.6 Damaged bins replacement

DBC has inspected the damaged bins, including one bin that no longer has a base due to rust. DBC advised that the bins remain usable and will not be replaced at this stage.

8.7 Slate around millennium stone

The work is booked in.

8.8 Historic Pumphouse repairs

The work is booked in.

8.9 Christmas Lights

Plans and options are being developed.

8.10 Plant Bulbs and Wildflowers - Daffodil Bends

It was noted that daffodil bulbs are not yet available for the work to begin.

9. Finance

9.1 Payments previously approved and made in June -

Clerk	Salary (1 month)	£215.74
Bens Plants via P. Dunn	Village Greenery	£84.00
Neasham Nurseries via P. Dunn	Village Greenery	£382.08
P. Dunn	Plant Tub	£13.99
Parishioner	Thank-you gift	£47.50



Neasham Reading Room	26/27 full annual contribution for: • Room hire for NPC, PACT and EA meetings • Village event - Duck Derby • Village event - Christmas Carols	£1,770.00
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9.2 AGAR Submission

The AGAR submission was noted.

10. Other Village Matters

10.1 Duck Race

The Duck Race was well attended and considered a success. The focus on keeping it as a village event for villagers was appreciated.

10.2 Remembrance Sunday Plans

Plans are in progress.

10.3 Dog waste deterrents and prevention

Following an increase in dog waste not being picked up, residents are asked to remain vigilant and report those responsible. The Council wants the village to be respected and to remain a place for everyone to enjoy, with minimum risk of adults and children standing in dog waste.

Dog waste bag dispensers are replenished regularly for owners who have forgotten to bring bags. However, it was noted that rolls of bags are being removed within a day of being replaced.

10.4 Periodic Inspection Report

B. Crossen is requested to complete the report.

10.5 Any other matters Councillors wish to raise (not requiring formal notification)

None.

11. Future meetings

No meeting is to be held in August.

The following future meeting dates were noted:

1 September 2026

6 October 2026

3 November 2026

1 December 2026