

## A Meeting of Hartington Nether Quarter Parish Council was held on 13<sup>th</sup> April 2026 at 7.30pm, in Biggin Village Hall.

**Present:** D Currington, S Lovatt, M Heathcote and the clerk, S Hampson. There were no members of the public in attendance.

### Part 1 non-confidential information

#### 26.4.1 Apologies and attendance register

Apologies had been received from Mrs W Andrews in advance of the meeting. Mr S Fletcher was not in attendance.

#### 26.4.2 Minutes of the previous meeting

The minutes of the previous ordinary meeting had been displayed on the noticeboard, forwarded to the members and the parish council's website, in advance of the meeting.

**Resolved:** To accept the minutes as a true record of proceedings. These were duly signed by Mrs Currington

#### 26.4.3 Matters arising and pre-meeting

Items were covered by the agenda.

#### 26.4.4 Public Speaking Procedures Document

The document was available in the meeting.

#### 26.4.5 Public speaking

There were no members of the public in attendance; however, one resident had provided some information to Mrs Lovatt to bring to the attention of the parish council. The resident has continued to regularly liaise with the Peak District National Park Authority (PDNPA) regarding unauthorised developments at Sycamore House on Main Street. Some issues involve deviations from authorised planning permissions or lack of planning permissions. Issues include: some of the windows; large gates and gate posts; extended garden area without change of use. Also of concern to the resident is a lack of action by PDNPA. The property is now occupied.

**Resolved:** The clerk to contact the PDNPA officer who has been liaising with the member of the public regarding enforcement action at this property concerned with the unauthorised developments.

#### 26.4.6 District Councillor

The District Councillor had informed the clerk, in advance of the meeting, of a forthcoming civic service ceremony at St Giles Church, Hartington to which the parish council members are invited.

#### 26.4.7 Casual vacancy

A new casual vacancy notice had been prepared by the clerk and this had been placed on the website and the noticeboard. There had been no interest shown in the previous notice. Interested parishioners are welcome to attend meetings to see for themselves what is involved.

**Resolved:** The clerk to prepare a short article for News and Views.

#### 26.4.8 Update on affordable homes

Subsequent to the previous meeting, the owner of the properties had met informally with three members of the parish council and the clerk to provide a progress update. He is hopeful of bringing the ground source heat pumps into working order. He also confirmed that the two proposed future occupants will meet the criteria for the 106 agreements. From further contact with Derbyshire Dales District Council (DDDC), a list had been received regarding criteria for payment of council tax. It would seem that non-working heating sources would not exempt the properties from the payment of council tax. One of the potential future occupants had spoken to Mrs Lovatt about the 106 agreement attached to these properties. The members discussed eligibility criteria for occupancy.

Mrs S Hampson  
Clerk

Hartington Nether Quarter Parish Council  
Date: 15<sup>th</sup> April 2026

## 26.4.9 Heathcote Mere and other works

Very successful toad migration patrols have taken place with on a nightly basis using 13 volunteers. A surprising 3,763 toads had been counted but unfortunately 354 had been killed on the surrounding roads. In addition to the toads, 163 smooth newts, 167 great crested newts and 32 frogs had been recorded. These statistics are much higher than those recorded in either Monyash or Hartington. Further contact from the volunteers had been received by the clerk, expressing concerns regarding the impact on toadlets during the forthcoming mowing of Heathcote Mere. The clerk had passed on these concerns to the mowing contractor.

## 26.4.10 Bank signatories and mandate

Three signatories have now completed the required process by the parish council's bank are now authorised. These are Mrs Currington, Mrs Lovatt and Mrs Hampson.

**Resolved:** to wait until the casual vacancy has been filled before pursuing further signatories.

## 26.4.11 Memorial planter and rose

Mrs Lovatt advised that her husband and a friend could make a memorial planter to accommodate a named rose in memory of the late Mrs Coles who was a long serving and dedicated member of the parish council.

**Resolved:** The parish council to meet the cost of the materials to make the planters, the cost of the compost and plants.

**Resolved:** Mrs Currington to liaise with Mrs Coles' family before proceeding and to discuss further at the May meeting.

## 26.4.12 Church clock

There had been no response from the vicar to the first communication; therefore, the clerk had sent a second communication. This had resulted in two dates being offered by the vicar to meet with the clock servicing company. She had requested the clerk to make direct contact with the company concerned offering these two dates. Members advised that the clock is no longer working and may have become damaged by damp.

**Resolved:** Mrs Lovatt and hopefully, the resident who has previously been winding the clock to hopefully attend a meeting with the company who has previously serviced the clock. The clerk to contact the company concerned and to also advise the vicar.

## 26.4.13 Planning applications, planning sub-committee, appeals and enforcement

There were no new applications to consider.

## 26.4.14 Items of account, administration, salaries and HMRC, mowing contract, tree surgery,

Cq 1609 Shelter Maintenance	bus shelter cleaning service	£27.74	VAT £4.54
Cq 1610 Derbyshire ALC	Annual subscription	£263.29	
Cq 1611 Hartington Community Group	News and Views contribution	£250.00	
Cq 1612 S Hampson	Annual premises allowance	£312.00	
Cq 1613 S Hampson	April internet provision	£17.00	
Cq 1614 S Hampson	April clerk's salary	£349.92	
Cq 1615 S Hampson	Reimbursement of expenses	£11.40	

Details of the cost of the village hall broadband had not been received in time for the meeting.

April burial income received: £1351.50

## 26.4.15 Tree preservation order

There had been no response to the clerk's request for consideration of a tree preservation order on the yew tree at Yew Tree Cottage.

### 26.4.16 Highways, street lighting, flytipping, grit bin monitoring

The clerk had reported the faulty street light reported at the March meeting and had also reported potholes between Heathcote Mere and Dale End. Some potholes had been mended in this area but strangely, not others.

### 26.4.17 Articles for News and Views

**Resolved:** to place an article regarding the casual vacancy and to advise the community that the parish council continues to report potholes to Derbyshire County Council (DCC) and has to await their attention to these matters.

### 26.4.18 Correspondence, electronic communication and Biggin Community facebook

Details had been forwarded to members in advance and some items were already covered by agenda items. As emails are problematic for some members, members discussed having a whatsapp group for parish council members only to improve communications.

### 26.4.19 Items for the next agenda

The next meeting will be the parish annual meeting followed by the annual parish council meeting. Items to include: the accounts, internal audit, casual vacancy, affordable houses, tree surgery, tree preservation order. Additional items to be compiled by the clerk.

### 26.4.20 Date of the next meeting

The next meeting will be Monday, 11<sup>th</sup> May 2026 due to the bank holiday.

## Part 2 Confidential information

### 26.4.21 Tree surgery tenders (if received)

One tender had been received in time for the meeting regarding village tree surgery work and a further tender had been chased but without success. The first tender involved the felling of 5 ash trees and remedial work to others. Two of the ash trees are located on Parwich Lane. The responsibility of Parwich Lane may not fall to the parish council and further investigation will be required. Due to the value of the tender, an alternative quote will be required.

**Resolved:** to seek a revised quote to for tree surgery works on Main Street only and to also seek another tree surgeon to quote.

**Resolved:** additional information regarding the responsibilities on Parwich Lane to be sought.

The meeting was declared closed at 9.00 pm

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