WERRINGTON PARISH COUNCIL

MINUTES OF MEETING HELD MONDAY 9th MARCH 2026

AT WERRINGTON METHODIST CHURCH

PRESENT

Cllr K Griffiths (Chair)

Cllr J Morrison, K Whitehurst,

S Hill, D Shaw, L Ibbs, T Latala.

SMDC Cllr P Hughes

G Keiher-Knapper (Clerk)

There were 3 members of the public present.

PUBLIC QUESTION TIME

A member of the public representing the bowling club attended the meeting and reported that the club has seen significant improvements over the years, expressing thanks to the Parish Council for its support. It was noted that membership at the club has also increased.

However, concerns remain regarding the long distance from the car park to the club and the limited access for disabled members around the bowling club. While the club has already undertaken some improvement works, it hopes to obtain permission from the Parish Council and secure grants from other organisations to further improve accessibility around the bowling club.

The member of the public also shared a diagram outlining the proposed developments to improve disabled access at the site.

Public Question Time ended at 1925hrs

241/26 **Apologies**

Cllr R Ward, Cllr B Hughes and Cllr M Fair.

242/26 **Declarations of Interest and Dispensations (from agenda):**

Cllr K Griffiths and Cllr L Ibbs declared an interest as users of the bowling club.

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243/26 **Register of Interests**:

Councillors were reminded.

244/26 The **Minutes** of the following meetings were reviewed for accuracy and approved:

a) The minutes of the Parish Council Meeting Monday 9th February 2026.

b) Action points from Neighbourhood Plan meeting Monday 23rd February 2026.

c) Action points from Meigh Road Playing Fields Working Group meeting Monday 23rd February 2026.

d) 2026 Meigh Road Playing Fields Action Plan.

245/26 The following **Accounts** were approved:

a) **February 2026** Bank Reconciliation (circulated via email)

b) **Feb/March 26 payment** schedule (circulated via email)

c) **Virements.**

246/26 The following Planning **Applications** were discussed:

SMD/2026/0074 Werrington Parish Council has no comments.

CON/2026/0024 – 26/PIP/00116 the Parish Council agreed to comment about reservations that it remains at 3 properties and to confirm if the land is greenbelt.

SMD/2025/0212 Werrington Parish Council supported SMDC Cllr R Ward to attend the informal hearing on the 28th of April at 10am and speak against the development should the inspectorate allow.

247/26 Receive a **report** from:

a) Staffordshire Moorlands Councillors.

Cllr D Shaw – Informed the meeting that he is still working on the Werrington Care at Home project which is vital especially considering the closure of Home start in Cheadle

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Cllr P Hughes – Had no updates.

b) County Councillor.

Did not attend – Parish Council approved Cllr L Ibbs letter of concern to the County Councillor for only attending one meeting in the last eleven months.

223/26 **Staff Reports**:

a) Clerks Report

- The Wardens job list was approved.
- Annual Allotment meeting agreed Monday 13th April at 1800hrs Werrington Village Hall.
- 4th July Shuckers allowed to use Sports Ground Parking for staff.
- Tender for MUGA drainage ends 31st March 26, scoring system is required.
- Agreed to submit community asset request for The Windmill Public House.
- WCAG Accessibility Compliance is being carried out on the website in line with assertion 10.
- Vice Chair has ordered replacement Chain.
- Chair and Clerk are due to meet with one of the Village Wardens.
- Parish Council agreed to fund 50% of SPACE Staffs wildlife trust activity again over summer.

249/26 **Neighbourhood Plan**.

a) Councillors to complete Green Space Templates.

b) V1.3 approved and to be submitted to SMDC for comments.

c) Next meeting.

- Next meeting Monday 16th March at 1000hrs in Werrington Methodist Church.

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250/26 **Allotments:**

Annual Meeting Monday 13th April at 1800hrs Werrington Village Hall.

251/26 **Meigh Road Playing Fields:**

Cllr K Whitehurst informed the meeting that after carrying out some research most playing fields in the UK open 8-8 in Summer and 8-5 in winter and in changes in line with the clocks.

The Parish Council agreed to advertise to the residents and invite feedback before considering changing the timings.

252/26 **Sports Ground:**

The Clerk informed the meeting that she is currently processing new hirings for the 2026–27 season.

The Clerk also reported that a couple of teams who do not wish to continue with a full-year hire, but who still require the pitch for matches in April and May, have requested that their fees be waived. The request was made on the basis that recent wet weather has resulted in fixtures over the last couple of months being unable to be played.

The Parish Council considered the request but decided that the fees would not be waived. Members noted that the wet weather has affected pitches across Staffordshire, not only at Werrington Sports Ground, and that grounds maintenance has continued to be carried out and paid for throughout this period.

253/26 **Bowling Club**:

The Parish Council deferred making a decision about the Bowling Clubs disabled access changes until it was confirmed if planning permission is required. The Parish Council also advised the Bowling Club to inform the neighbouring properties of their proposal.

254/26 **Chairman's Report.**

The Chairman requested the Parish Councils permission to draft a Disaster Recovery Plan for Werrington. The Parish Council supported the Chairmans request.

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255/26 **Anti Social Behaviour Update.**

PCSO called and was unable to attend the drop-in clinic at the library over the weekend. The PCSO also called this evening and was unable to attend the Parish Council meeting.

Cllr Fair is still working on a drama piece to engage with the Parish Young people.

Cllr Whitehurst is still in regular communication with Moorside.

256/26 **Correspondence**

None.

257/26 **Councillor Updates/Items**

Cllr Whitehurst advised Moorside to start their own petition for a crossing and the Parish Council will support.

Cllr Ibbs reported parents parking inconsiderably on Washerwall so disability aids can not get passed. The Clerk informed the meeting to make reports of Staffordshire County Council website and that she will share the link again on social media.

Also, Cllr L Ibbs had carried out some investigating of the Parish footpaths which the Clerk with share with all Councillors.

Confidential Items (public and press excluded)

258/26 **Event Application**.

After careful consideration the event organiser has decided not to proceed with the event on this occasion. The decision had not been made lightly however due to the level of financial risk involved and the potential impact of adverse weather it did not seem prudent to move forward.

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259/26 **Alliance Annual Fee Increase.**

The Parish Council approved the following contracts:

1. Meigh Road Recreation Ground litterbin waste
2. Commercial Waste at the Sports Ground
3. Service Level Agreement for the provision of grounds maintenance and horticulture.
4. Children's Playground Service Level Agreement

260/26 **Transfer of Assets**

The Clerk updated the meeting that The Red Cow Community Asset request was still being processed, and the allotments and Millenium Rock land transfer of asset request was also still being processed by SMDC.

261/26 **Items for the next Agenda**.

Please inform the Clerk

262/26 **To confirm Date, Time and Location of the next meeting.**

Monday 13th April 2026 at Werrington Methodist Church

Signature_____

Name_____

Date_____