WERRINGTON PARISH COUNCIL

MINUTES OF MEETING HELD MONDAY 8th JUNE 2026

AT WERRINGTON METHODIST CHURCH

PRESENT

Cllr K Whitehurst (Chair)

Cllr K Griffiths, S Hill, D Shaw, B Hughes and T Latala.

G Keiher-Knapper (Clerk)

There were 6 members of the public present.

PUBLIC QUESTION TIME

A representative of the Bowling Club attended the meeting and sought clarification as to whether a complaint had been made regarding older members of the Bowling Club, including Blue Badge holders, driving across the playing fields to access the bowling green.

The Clerk advised that, to her knowledge, this practice should not be taking place. She explained that when Werrington Parish Council previously consulted with the SMDC Health and Safety Representative, the advice given was that moving vehicles and a children's playground are incompatible from a health and safety perspective.

The representative further enquired whether a complaint had been made, as vehicles had reportedly been issued with what appeared to be unofficial parking notices. The Clerk informed the meeting that this was the first occasion on which the matter had been brought to the Parish Council's attention. The Clerk also noted that the Parish Council has CCTV coverage of the area.

Following discussion, it was agreed that the Bowling Club, with assistance from another member of the public, would prepare a risk assessment. The Clerk will circulate the completed risk assessment to Parish Councillors, the SMDC Health and Safety Team, and the Council's insurers, and will report back on any guidance received.

The Bowling Club representative also informed the Council of a dead tree located within the Bowling Club area. The Clerk agreed to resend the relevant tree survey report to Cllr K. Griffiths so that the tree could be identified and the report reviewed.

Another Bowling Club member asked what measures the Parish Council was taking to comply with disability legislation. The Clerk advised that the Parish Council is the landlord of the site and that responsibility for operational compliance rests with the relevant operators which is yourselves as a Bowling Club.

A member of the public enquired about the Local Plan and the housing allocation proposed for Werrington. The Clerk advised that the information has not yet been published but is expected to be released by the end of the summer.

A further member of the public reported a dead tree located between Moorland Avenue and Draw Well Lane. Having contacted both SMDC and SCC, they had been informed that neither authority accepted responsibility for the tree, and Land Registry records indicated no registered ownership. The Clerk agreed to make further enquiries with the County Council to determine whether assistance could be provided given the circumstances.

Public Question Time ended at 1955hrs, and 5 members of public left the meeting

031/26 **Apologies**

Cllr L Ibbs, Cllr J Morrison and Cllr M Fair.

032/26 **Declarations of Interest and Dispensations (from agenda):**

None.

033/26 **Register of Interests**:

Councillors were reminded.

034/26 The **Minutes** of the following meetings were reviewed for accuracy and approved:

a) The minutes of the Annual Parish Meeting Monday 11th May 2026.

b) The minutes of the Annual Meeting of the Council Monday 11th May 2026.

035/26 The following **Accounts** were approved:

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

b) **May/June 26 payment** schedule (circulated via email)

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036/26 The following Planning **Applications** were discussed:

DET/2026/0014 Werrington Parish Council has no comments.

SMD/2026/0240 Werrington Parish Council has no comments.

SMD/2026/0219 Werrington Parish Council has no comments.

Werrington Parish Council decided to write to SMDC to request an update with regards to the Co Op application.

037/26 Receive a **report** from:

a) Staffordshire Moorlands Councillors.

Cllr B Hughes informed the meeting that full council had met and appointed a new Chair and Vice Chair but there was nothing else to report.

b) County Councillor.

Did not attend.

038/26 **Staff Reports**:

a) Clerks Report

- The Wardens job list was approved.
- Allotments two plots on watch list.
- 4th July Shuckers allowed to use Sports Ground Parking for staff and charity game to cut pitch grass if required.
- Werrington Wonderers have hired the Sports Ground but will be parking on Moorville Hall.
- Additional times signs agreed for Meigh Road Playing Fields.
- Agreed to contribute for 2 football sessions.
- Weeks annual leave request in August.
- Cover agreed for Warden next week.

- Cllr D Shaw informed the meeting that the next edition of Village Life has gone live today. The Clerk will share it on Facebook and the Parish Council website and the next edition is already fully booked.
- Cllr D Shaw also informed the meeting with regards to working on a list of Werrington certified companies for our older residents to use, currently in its early stages.

039/26 **Allotments**.

All plots are currently taken, and 2 plots are being monitored.

040/26 **Meigh Road Playing Fields:**

Access codes will all be changing from 1st July.

A drainage investigation was carried out, and the Council is currently awaiting the report. The contractor identified that previous works appear to have included herringbone drainage installed on the football pitch; however, it was advised that this system would not have been effective, as it had not been installed to a sufficient depth and was instead situated within a clay layer, preventing proper drainage.

041/26 **Sports Ground:**

The Clerk informed the meeting that the fire extinguishers had been serviced earlier in the day, and that the boiler has been scheduled for servicing next week.

Scarifying and seeding works took place last week, and teams will train off their pitches in June to allow the pitches to rest and enable the seed to establish.

There have been initial teething issues with cricket; however, these were anticipated, and officers are working collaboratively to resolve them.

042/26 **Bowling Club**:

The Parish Council discussed several options for storing electric scooters, wheelchairs, and a golf buggy in the lengthsmans hut to facilitate access for Werrington Bowls Club members travelling from the car park to the bowling club.

The Clerk will circulate the grant application, and Cllr K Griffiths will investigate potential temporary solutions.

043/26 **Chairman's Report.**

In the absence of the Chairman, a report was circulated to all Councillors, and no comments were received.

044/26 **Anti Social Behaviour Update.**

The proposed date for an Anti-Social Behaviour (ASB) meeting is Monday 22nd June at 11:30hrs; however, Cllr Crawley from SMDC has not yet confirmed availability.

The Parish Council resolved that the Chair should contact the Commander to seek further support in addressing Werrington's ongoing Anti-Social Behaviour issues.

045/26 **Disaster Recovery**

Cllr K Griffiths requested that Councillors view the *People's Emergency Briefing* presented by Chris Packham on YouTube and report back at the July meeting. Following discussion, the Parish Council will consider whether it is appropriate to recommend the briefing to residents.

It was noted that the briefing highlights concerns regarding future societal and infrastructure resilience over the coming years. The aim is for Werrington to develop its own community resilience plan, identifying local resources and residents who may be able to provide support in the event of future emergencies or disruptions.

046/26 **Correspondence**

A resident has concerns about a tree on Meigh Road playing fields the report has been checked and no issues were recorded.

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047/26 **Councillor Updates/Items**

Cllr S Hill concerns about flower bed outside the Church and Cllr K Griffiths will make contact and offer assistance if it is required.

Cllr B Hughes stayed with the PCSO clinic last Saturday and also joined the Chair to deliver flowers to a Werrington resident who has turned 101 recently.

The last member of public left the meeting.

Confidential Items (public and press excluded)

048/26 **S106 Funding Request**.

Werrington Parish Council approved the circulated report for submission to SMDC, requesting that Section 106 funds be allocated for works including the replacement of the soakaway drainage around the MUGA on Meigh Road, installation of a drain from the Bowling Green, aeration of the pitches, and replacement of the goal posts.

049/26 **Items for the next Agenda**.

Please inform the Clerk

050/26 **To confirm Date, Time and Location of the next meeting.**

Monday 13th July 2026 at Werrington Methodist Church

Signature_____

Name_____

Date_____

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