

Minutes of the Town Council Meeting of Darley Dale Town Council held in the Library at The Whitworth on Wednesday 16th September 2026

In attendance were Town Cllrs Chapman, Farmer, Hood, Taylor and Wheeler. Also in attendance were Town Clerk Jason Hedley and CEO Sarah Rivett

- FC0926/1** **Apologies for absence** – Apologies were received from Cllrs Wilson, Mordue, Oakley and Adkin, PCSO Radcliffe, County Cllr Hobson and District Cllr Shelley. No apologies were received from District Cllrs Burton and Franks.
- FC0926/2** **Consider any variations to the order of business** – None.
- FC0926/3** **Declaration of members’ interests** – Cllrs Taylor, Wilson and Wheeler have declared a non-pecuniary interest as a Trustee of The Whitworth. Cllr Wilson has declared a pecuniary interest as the spouse of an external contractor.
- FC0926/4** **To consider exclusion of press and public for any part of the meeting** – No exclusions.
- FC0926/5** **Previous minutes** – It was **RESOLVED** to accept the minutes from the Town Council Meeting held on 19th August 2026.
- FC0926/6** **Public participation** – None.
- FC0926/7** **Update from District Councillors, County Councillor and Police** –
County Cllr Hobson provided the following update in advance of the meeting:
- Derbyshire Dales Local Plan closes 14 September 2026 –A huge thank you to Councillor Chapman and other staff and councillors at DDTC for the sterling work they have put in during the above process.
 - National Local Government Reorganisation (LGR) programme – In Derbyshire, we have been advised that the government’s decision to create two new unitary councils is to be paused to allow for a review. This is not an isolated position for Derbyshire, it is part of a national review of LGR generally. As part of the announcement, the government has confirmed that any local elections which were due to go ahead in May 2027, will go ahead on existing council boundaries.
 - Darley Bridge – no update from DCC regarding further complaints from residents.
 - Roadworks – are taking place across the county with the vast majority of work being undertaken by the utility companies. Derbyshire Highways is responsible for permitting the works, however, the daily **site operation** of the traffic lights, signs, cones etc is the responsibility of the utility companies. Any work carried out by the Derbyshire Highways team needs reporting via www.derbyshire.gov.uk/reportit
 - Noise issues Ecobat/Enthovens – report noise complaints by phoning the Environment Agency incident hotline, day or night, on 0800 80 70 60.

- Yew Tree at St Helen's Church – Cllr Hobson asked for an update on the above issue at the DDDC C&E meeting on 10th September 2026. As soon as a response is received this will be sent onto DDTC.

District Cllr Shelley provided the following update in advance of the meeting:

- The St Helen's Church Yew Tree – Specialist survey work is progressing to design a propping system that will reduce risk and eventually allow the fencing to be removed. This will take several months due to design, procurement and statutory processes. All parties will be kept updated. Cllrs Burton and Burfoot have visited the site. Town Clerk's office to see if a Town Cllr can attend the next meeting.
- Old Hackney Lane – District councillors are supporting residents with their queries about the height of the new builds on the Hourigan site, and the relation of this to land levels. The Council's Planning Enforcement team are investigating this - which may involve commissioning external surveying support to clarify the situation.
- Green Lane/Church Road garages – District Cllrs are making enquiries with owners Platform Housing about the maintenance and safety of the very large tree which appears to be threatening the structure of the lock-up garages here.
- Olympian Way vegetation – District councillors have approached NCHA about maintenance and upkeep of the vegetation areas here and are trying to arrange a meeting with NCHA. There is particular concern about the contractual arrangements for the upkeep of the wildflower and meadow area.
- Halldale Quarry Liaison Group – the next meeting was to be 8th October, but this has been put back to 22nd October in The Whitworth at 1.30pm.
- Local Projects Fund – District Councillors are still accepting applications from local community groups for small grant support for projects. Groups are encouraged to apply via the website <https://www.derbyshiredales.gov.uk/community/funding-and-grants/local-projects-fund>

FC0926/8 Finance –

- i. It was **RESOLVED** to accept the September bank reconciliation.

Receipts	
Precept	£290,434
Other receipts	£1,172
Interest	£781
Allotments rents	£2,312
VAT refund	£10,662
TOTAL	£305,360
BANK RECONCILIATION	
Balance from 2025-2026	£84,962
Plus receipts	£305,360
Less payments excl. VAT	£140,338
Less VAT paid	£1,914
Balance to date	£248,070
Bank balances	
Current	£14,612
Deposit	£233,458
Total	£248,069

Cllrs noted that the reconciliation was £1 out. In the interest of public finances it was therefore **RESOLVED** to not look into this.

It was **RESOLVED** to accept the proposed payments to be made in September.

16 September 2026	Wish Computers Ltd	Inv 8560 (Sara W OneDrive Access)	-60.00	-50.00	-10.00
16 September 2026	HS ProService Ltd	Inv 63999901 (GITP Generators)	-230.21	-191.84	-38.37
16 September 2026	Kelley Swift	Inv 300826 (GITP - Peaky Liners)	-140.00		
16 September 2026	Opera	Inv 4161 (Web maintenance)	-180.00	-150.00	-30.00
16 September 2026	Curt Walker	Ref DC007 C&S Security (GITP Security)	-532.00		
16 September 2026	Quench Your Event Ltd	Inv QYE2305 (GITP Bar)	-496.50		
16 September 2026	Aroma Lounge	Inv AL-300826-01 (GITP)	-202.50		
16 September 2026	Rocket Signs	Inv 0851 (Hosepipe signs)	-48.00		
16 September 2026	Whitworth Trading	SI 2976 (Office Hire)	-1,097.75	-914.79	-182.96
16 September 2026	Whitworth Trading	SI 2983 (Room hire - Make)	-132.00	-110.00	-22.00
16 September 2026	Whitworth Trading	SI 2989 (Room hire - FC)	-72.00	-60.00	-12.00
16 September 2026	Whitworth Trading	SI 2822 (Room hire)	-65.99	-54.99	-11.00
16 September 2026	Whitworth Trading	SI 2820 (Room hire)	-100.00	-83.33	-16.67
16 September 2026	Sara Wilson	Inv 3/26	-175.00		
16 September 2026	Amazon UK	GB62342DABEY (Stationery)	-17.62	-14.67	-2.95
16 September 2026	Clarity Copiers	Inv 264991	-11.06	-9.21	-1.85
16 September 2026	Staff	Wages	-4,487.86		
16 September 2026	HMRC	PAYE	-1,760.64		
16 September 2026	Derbyshire Pension Fund	Staff Pensions	-1,377.46		
16 September 2026	Whitworth Centre	S19 (Centre)	-7,500.00		
16 September 2026	Amazon UK	GB629HKYABEY	-52.37	-43.64	-8.73
16 September 2026	St John Ambulance	Inv SP26005775 (GITP)	-291.84	-243.20	-48.64

Delegated payments –

02/09/2026	PJL Amusements	(subsidised bouncy castles) GITP	-£700.00
02/09/2026	Lisa Wood	Inv 115 (Facepainting GITP)	£240.00

- ii. To approve any S137 grant applications – None.

FC0926/9 Planning –

- i. Brief run through of Planning Committee decisions for September - None.

FC0926/10 The Whitworth Trust and Trading – Cllr Wheeler circulated an update before the meeting and summarised this at the meeting.

- Looking at amending the signs that are currently around the lake in the Park to ensure visitors know not to enter the lake.
- Stone mason coming w/c 21st September to look at the loose ridge tile on the roof at the front of the building.
- Controls for the heating system will be looked at by another company as the job has not been completed by the original plumber.
- Plan of the area of where the climbing block will go which will now go back to Planning at DDDC.
- Enthovens have given The Whitworth £5,000 to replace the rotten heritage bench near the lake in the Park.

FC0926/11 Community initiatives update –

- i. Community Walks – first draft has been done, few minor tweaks to be made. Cllr Adkin to speak to District Cllrs and County Cllr regarding potentially funding the production of

- these walking booklets. Note this first walk isn't wheelchair friendly, it's an easy walk. Include how many miles the walk is.
- ii. Local Plan Review – Cllr Chapman updated the Council on the Local Plan. Formal representations have been submitted by the Town Council.
 - iii. GTP – Cllr Taylor to pass contact details of the covered stage that Wirksworth Festival use. Next year's event will be on Sunday 29th August. More involvement from other community groups.
 - iv. Speedwatch – Volunteers to confirm if they are free for training on 15th October at 10am.
 - v. Communities Working Group – it was **RESOLVED** to set up a Community Working Group.
 - vi. Remembrance – Same format as 2025 and will be held on Sunday 8th November.

FC0926/12 Councillor updates –

Cllr Farmer read the email he had received regarding the National Local Government Reorganisation (LGR). Business as usual for now until we are told otherwise.

Noise from Old Hackney Lane – starting work at 7am including at the weekends. Cllr Taylor to speak to the site manager before reaching out to Environmental Health Authority.

DDiB AGM and Celebration Evening to be held on 16th October. Confirm with DDiB if Cllrs are attending.

FC0926/13 Clerks' updates/correspondence –

- The Councillor Essentials Course will be held on 3rd November at 6pm. Both new and existing councillors may attend. Cllrs Hood and Chapman confirmed they would be attending.
- The Town Clerk confirmed that Station Road car park has raised £925 to date.
- Town Clerk to investigate the cost of having a noticeboard at Station Road car park.
- DDDC Closer Working Group on 25th September at 9am.
- Asset transfer of Church Road allotments from DDDC to the Town Council is proceeding.

FC0926/14 Date of the next meeting – Cllrs **RESOLVED** to hold the next Full Council meeting on Wednesday 21st October at 7pm.

FC0926/15 Confidential: Local Government Pay Award

Councillors **RESOLVED** to approve the 3.3% pay increase to the Clerk's office staff as notified by NALC and DALC.

Meeting ended at 8.42pm