

**THE MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF THE SEATON WITH SLINGLEY PARISH COUNCIL
HELD ON WEDNESDAY 18 MARCH 2026**

**Present: Councillor A Slater (Chair)
Councillors S Faulkner, S McAuliffe,
A Taylor, D Temple, S Williams**

1 APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Apologies for absence were received from Councillors A Blacklock, G Fuller and A Vila.

2 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

There were no declarations of interest.

3 The Minutes of the last meeting held on 18 February 2026, a copy of which had been circulated to each Member, were approved and signed by the Chair.

4 PUBLIC QUESTIONS

There was no public present at the meeting.

5 POLICE MATTERS

The Chair welcomed PCSO's P Cartwright and C Hutton to the meeting.

The Police reported that two stolen off-road bikes had been recovered and seized. There was one vehicle crime which was under investigation. No suspects had been identified for either incident.

In addition, there had been several road related incidents on the A19, and a vehicle had been recovered from Byron Lodge Estate.

RESOLVED that the information given, be noted.

6 CORRESPONDENCE

(1) PACT Meeting

The Clerk reported that the next PACT meeting would be held on 16 April 2026 in Seaton Community Centre at 6pm.

RESOLVED that the information given, be noted.

(2) Eastern Green Link (EGL1) Project

(1) Enabling works

The Clerk reported the receipt of correspondence from the Eastern Green Link (EGL1) Project advising that they would be installing a bellmouth off the B1404. The bellmouth would provide an access point for vehicles using the haul road which was a temporary route for transporting materials, machinery and personnel during the construction period of the project.

Members were advised that the bellmouth would be in place for 18 to 24 months. To facilitate the

installation of the bellmouth, there would be a two-way traffic management system, with temporary traffic lights on the B1404. A lane closure would be in place for the duration of the works, which were expected to take place between 23 February and 29 March 2026.

RESOLVED that the information given, be noted.

(2) Temporary Closure of Public Footpath 3

The Clerk reported the receipt of correspondence from the Eastern Green Link (EGL1) Project advising that as part of construction works for the EGL1 project Footpath 3, located northwest of the village of Seaton, would be closed for a two-week period from late March to early April 2026.

RESOLVED that the information given, be noted.

7 PLANNING MATTERS

There were no planning matters.

8 CLERKS REPORT

(1) Internal Audit 2025/2026

The Clerk reported that G Fletcher would undertake the Internal Audit week commencing 20 April 2026.

RESOLVED that the information given, be noted.

(2) Assertion 10 Compliance – Annual Governance and Accountability Return

Consideration was given to the report of the Clerk which provided details related to Assertion 10 which was a new requirement introduced for the 2025/2026 Annual Governance and Accountability Return (AGAR).

Members were advised that Assertion 10 mandated that the Parish Council demonstrate compliance with modern standards for secure communication, accessible digital services, and data protection.

The Clerk took Members through the report which outlined the requirements of Assertion 10 and provided a framework for documenting compliance activities.

RESOLVED that the information given, be noted.

(3) Annual Review of Policies and Procedures

The Clerk reported that a review had been undertaken of the Councils Risk Management Policy and Risk Management Strategy.

A review had also been undertaken of the parish council's policies and procedures and where necessary minor amendments were made.

RESOLVED that the information given, be noted.

(4) Grass Cutting Contract 2026/2027

The Clerk reported the receipt of the Service Level Agreement from Durham County Council for grass cutting for 2026/2027.

Members were advised that the quotation of £821.65 plus VAT was based on a 10-day cycle of grass cutting, weather permitting at the Village Green, Hillrise Crescent, land opposite either side of the farm entrance, Seaton Burn and the land opposite Bankside.

RESOLVED that the quotation be accepted.

(5) Litter/Dog Bins Contract 2026/2027

The Clerk reported the receipt of the Service Level Agreement from Durham County Council for the emptying of 3 litter/dog bins for 2026/2027.

Members were advised that the quotation of £847.89 plus VAT was based on each bin being serviced once a week at a cost of £5.44 plus VAT per collection per bin.

RESOLVED that the quotation be accepted.

(6) Parish Noticeboard

The Clerk reported that following the last meeting Durham County Council were asked if County Councillors still had funds available through their Neighbourhood Budget. The County Council had confirmed that funding was available, and it was now called Councillors Grant.

The Clerk had contacted County Councillors C Fairs and A Harrison and advised that the Parish Council were looking to install a new noticeboard at the entrance to Seaton Crescent on the B1404. It was explained that at this early stage the Parish Council did not have detailed costings, but it was anticipated that to purchase and install the noticeboard would be in the region of £1,500 - £2,000. Both County Councillors were asked if they would support the project with a financial contribution towards the costs.

The Clerk provided details of costs from The Parish Noticeboard Company. Prices ranged from £2,340 for traditional Oak, £2,136 for prestige aluminium and £1,320 for classic aluminium. Further details related to additional costs and delivery were still awaited.

It was suggested that once an official quotation was received a quotation be sought for installation from Durham County Council. Following this an application could be made to the County Councillors for a financial contribution from their Councillors Grant

RESOLVED that the information given, be noted and further developments be awaited.

(7) Litter/Dog Bin

The Clerk reported that following the last meeting Durham County Council were asked to install a bin on the public footpath pole located on the footpath at The Meadows at the bottom of the steps, coming down from the walkway, leading into The Meadows.

Members were advised that Durham County Council had installed the bin.

RESOLVED that the information given, be noted.

(8) Updates

(1) Dog Fouling – Hall Close

The Clerk reported that following the last meeting Durham County Council were advised of an increase in dog fouling on the grassed area at Hall Close. The County Council were asked to clean the area and provide additional signage at this location.

In addition, a letter was sent to the Seaton Lane Inn asking that guests be reminded of the need to clean up after their dogs.

RESOLVED that the information given, be noted.

(2) Litter – A19 Slip Road

The Clerk reported that at the last meeting Members reported litter along the entire length of the slip road leaving the A19 heading north towards the roundabout on the A1018 between Seaham and Ryhope.

Durham County Council were advised of the situation and advised that the area would be cleaned in line with the agreed schedule and the litter would be removed as part of their regular schedule of work. However, to clean this road would require planning and traffic management.

RESOLVED that the information given, be noted.

9 MEMBER ISSUES

There were no Member issues.

10 PAYMENTS

RESOLVED that the following schedule of payments be approved.

CHQ NO	PAYMENT TO	DETAIL	COST	VAT	TOTAL
100952	HMRC	PAYE - March 2026	252.91		252.91
100953	Payroll	Wages - March 2026	721.54		721.54
100954	JACS Accountancy Limited	Payroll Services - March 2026	12.50	2.50	15.00
Sheet 187	HSBC	Bank Charges	2.00		2.00
		TOTAL	988.95	2.50	991.45

11 DATE AND TIME OF NEXT MEETING

RESOLVED that the next meeting be held on 15 April 2026 at 6.45pm.

.....Signed

.....Dated