Minutes from Full Council

Tuesday 3rd November 2026

Minutes of a meeting of the Council held on Tuesday 3rd November 2026 at 6.30pm at Pye Green Community Centre, Bradbury Lane, Hednesford, WS12 4EP

Members of Hednesford Town Council present

Councillors Ron Turville (Chair), Sheila Cartwright, Paul Jones, Graham Millington, Alan Pearson, Shirley Pearson, Arthur Roden, Garry Samuels (Deputy Chair) and Ann Turville

Others present

Lindsey Smith (Chief Officer) Cheryl Kinsella (Responsible Finance Officer)

1 Member of the Public

FC/11.26/1 - Apologies

Cllr Carl White

FC/11.26/2 - Declaration of Interest for any Disclosable Pecuniary Interests & Dispensations

None

FC/11.26/3 – Previous Minutes

a. **Resolved:** That the minutes of the Full Town Council meeting held on Tuesday 24th September 2026 be approved as a true and accurate record Proposed: Cllr A Pearson. Seconded: Cllr S Pearson. 8 agreed. 1 abstained

b. **Received:** The minutes from the Projects and Events Committee held on Tuesday 6th October 2026 were received

c. **Received:** The summary from the Youth Action Plan working group held on Wednesday 7th October 2026 were received

d. **Resolved:** That the minutes of the Extraordinary Full Town Council meeting held on Friday 9th October 2026 be approved as a true and accurate record

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Proposed: Cllr A Pearson. Seconded: Cllr G Samuels. 9 agreed.

e. **Received:** The minutes from the Finance, Operation and Personnel Committee held on Tuesday 13th October 2026 were received

FC/09.26/4 – Public Participation

A member of the public whose property backs onto Tesco attended to ask if they were able to approach Tesco to ask if the barriers can be closed to the underground carpark at dusk due to the noise pollution.

Cllr Samuels informed that the barriers cannot be closed due to deliveries in an evening and that anti-social behaviour at Tesco has reduced slightly. The member of public informed that they had seen drivers opening and closing these which meant it must be possible to do so. The member of public was advised that they can approach Tesco direct.

The same member of the public asked what can be done about parking on pavements along Station Road. Cars often block driveways and access in addition to blocking the safe passage of pushchairs and wheelchairs. The member of public informed that recently the police and psco parked their cars on the footpath.

Cllr A Pearson advised that the council would address this with the police. Cllr G Millington informed that he thought government had recently issued powers to councils regarding pavement parking.

In addition to the member of public also raised concerns about parking along Market Street and in particular outside of The Lightworks.

Hednesford Town Council to liaise with Cannock Chase District, Staffordshire County Council and Cannock Police and to report back to member of the public

FC/11.26/5 – CCTV

Received: The CCTV report for September 2026 was received

FC/09.26/6 - Finance

a. **Resolved:** That retrospective approval be given for the purchase of replacement defib bads for the device at Acorns Florist - £81.95 + VAT
Proposed: Cllr A Pearson. Seconded: Cllr A Turville. 9 agreed.

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b. **Resolved:** Continued free meeting room 1 use for Cannock Chase Together in Neurodiversity parent/carer support group
Proposed: Cllr A Pearson. Seconded: Cllr S Cartwright. 9 agreed.

c. **Resolved:** Free function room use for Hednesford Town Council to provide 5 free drop-in youth sessions between January and March 2027
Proposed: Cllr A Pearson. Seconded: Cllr P Jones. 9 agreed.

d. **Resolved:** To approve the quote for flagpole maintenance check at PGCC - £295.00 + VAT
Proposed: Cllr P Jones. Seconded: Cllr A Turville. 9 agreed.

e. **Resolved:** To approve DL Electrical quote for completion of 5-year electrical test - £600.00
Proposed: Cllr A Pearson. Seconded: Cllr G Samuels. 9 agreed.

f. **Resolved:** To appoint Diamond Fire as new contractor for emergency light testing at PGCC - £197.87
Proposed: Cllr A Pearson. Seconded: Cllr A Turville. 9 agreed.

g. **Resolved:** To approve renewal of mechanical maintenance contract for heating, air conditioning, clear cooler and vents with ABI - £1524.00 + VAT
Proposed: Cllr A Pearson. Seconded: Cllr G Samuels. 9 agreed.

h. A detailed discussion took place about draft 2 of 27-28 budget. To look at costs for professional marshalling following introduction of Martyn's Law in April 2027 to support Remembrance and Christmas Events. To consider ring fenced funds for maintenance of Miners Memorial and other heritage assets across Hednesford. RFO confirmed draft 3 budget will be considered at next full council meeting with a view to approving final draft in January 2027.

FC/11.26/7 – CAB Q2 Report

Resolved: To approve the release of Q2 payment to Citizens Advice Southwest - £1000
Proposed: Cllr A Pearson. Seconded: Cllr P Jones. 9 agreed.

FC/11.26/8 – Projects for CIL Consideration

a. **Resolved:** To create 2 buddy benches within Hednesford. To copy in Cllr P Jones to all correspondence regarding buddy benches
Proposed: Cllr G Samuels. Seconded: Cllr P Jones. 9 agreed.

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Cllr G Samuels declared an interest in 8b as Chair of Friends of Hednesford Community Volunteers

b. **Resolved:** To hold working group meeting to consider list of items for prospective CIL spend from Friends of Hednesford Community Volunteers and feedback as appropriate
Proposed: Cllr A Pearson. Seconded: Cllr R Turville. 8 agreed. 1 abstain.

c. To discuss any other recommendations for CIL spend at working group meeting to be convened

FC/11.26/9 – CIL Projects for Consideration

Cllr R Turville postponed review and approval of Civic Allowance Policy until a later date

Proposed: Cllr R Turville. Seconded: Cllr A Pearson. 9 agreed.

FC/09.26/10 – Chief Officer Update

a. **Noted:** That the Chief Officer has successfully passed the CiLCA qualification

b. **Noted:** That General Power of Competence (GPC) can be adopted once the electoral mandate has been met. Hednesford Town Council does not currently meet the requirements with two thirds of Cllrs being elected. A discussion took place on what GPC means and benefits of having this which will allow the council to exercise a wider range of power and deliver enhanced services.

c. **Noted:** That Hednesford Town Council use the PHP software highlighted in the recent cyber vulnerability, but that website provider patched the vulnerability and that there was no risk to the council.

d. **Noted:** The timeline for the refurbishment of Cotswold Road Park by CCDC. Work due to commence early February 2027. Dates for consultation to be agreed.

e. **Noted:** That £6790.00 in external funding has been secured for 3 new community projects. £2790.00 for Hednesford Family Kitchen. £1200.00 for trial youth sessions at PGCC. £2800.00 for a Safer Hednesford project under Violence Against Women and Girls. Details to be made available in due course.

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f. **Noted:** That the formal response had been issued to Hednesford in Partnership following the extraordinary meeting on 9th October 2026.

FC/09.26/11 – Cllr Garry Samuels

a. Cllr G Samuels requested volunteers to attend the Cllr surgeries in Hednesford Library on the first Saturday of the month. Cllr S Cartwright and Cllr A Roden volunteered for November. Cllrs to provide surgery on 4th December at the Christmas light switch on instead of Saturday 5th December. Cllr G Samuels and Cllr G Millington volunteered for February 2027.

b. Cllr G. Samuels read a Personal Statement of No Confidence in the Chair of Hednesford Town Council and requested that the vote of no confidence be placed on record.

FC/11.26/12 – Devolution of District Councils and the potential impact upon Hednesford Town Council

Noted: Update from SPCA received on 3rd November 2026 informing of a newly proposed Mayor for Staffordshire and Stoke on Trent Strategic Authority and that the previous July decisions for local government reorganisation for nine areas, including Staffordshire and Stoke-on-Trent, have been formally withdrawn and will be reconsidered.

FC/11.26/13 – Notifications

Noted: CCDC briefing note regarding recent changes to the planning system

Noted: Update from SCC on the installation and use of newly installed speed indicator devices

FC/11.26/14 – Date of next meeting

Tuesday 15th December 2026 at 6.30pm – Pye Green Community Centre

Meeting closed at 8.11pm

Signed:

Date:

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