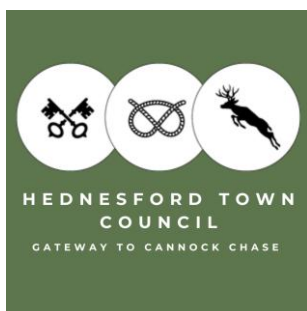




Minutes from Full Council

Thursday 24th September 2026

Minutes of a meeting of the Council held on Thursday 24th September 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, Arthur Roden, Garry Samuels, Ann Turville and Carl White

Others present

Lindsey Smith (Chief Officer) Cheryl Kinsella (Responsible Finance Officer) Duncan Rollo (CCDC) Oliver Greatbatch (CCDC)

4 Members of the Public

FC/09.26/1 - Apologies

Cllr Shirley Pearson

Cllr R Turville requested that no current serving Hednesford Town Councillor should leave before the end of his Chairmanship in May 2027 that could potentially trigger a further by-election and cost more expense to the town council

FC/09.26/2 - Declaration of Interest for any Disclosable Pecuniary Interests & Dispensations

None

FC/09.26/3 – Previous Minutes

- a. **Resolved** that the minutes of the Full Town Council meeting held on Tuesday 11th August 2026 be approved as a true and accurate record
Proposed: Cllr A Pearson. Seconded: Cllr G Samuels. 4 agreed. 5 abstained

- b. **Received:** The summary from the Youth Action Plan working group held on Wednesday 19th August 2026 were received
- c. **Received:** The minutes from the Planning Committee held on Monday 13th July 2026 were received
- d. **Received:** The minutes from the Pye Green Community Centre Committee held on Tuesday 1st September 2026

FC/09.26/4 – Public Participation

MOP informed that they sent an email to council on 29th August 2026 and is yet to receive any acknowledgement

FC/09.26/5 – CCTV

Resolved: That the public be excluded for agenda item 5 pursuant to Section 1(2) of the Public Bodies (Admission to Meetings) Act 1960 as defined in Paragraphs 1 and 2 of Schedule 12A of the Local Government Act 1972
Proposed: Cllr A Turville. Seconded: Cllr S Cartwright. 9 agreed. 1 abstain

Cllr A Roden left the meeting at 6.38pm

Received: The CCTV reports for July and August were received

Cllrs asked questions to DR and OG regarding the CCTV reports relating to Hednesford which included Tesco, Hednesford Park, the railway station and Valley Road. DR informed that Inspector Shorter is seeking a police rest post in Hednesford and enquired about use of Pye Green Community Centre. DR to pass Chief Officer information to Inspector Shorter. Cllr C White also offered the use of The Lighthouse Community Café

Chair re-opened the meeting to the public at 7.04pm
Cllr A Roden re-joined the meeting at 7.04pm

FC/09.26/6 - Finance

- a. RFO advised that the external auditor has flagged no recommendations or actions. The Chief Officer thanked RFO for all their hard work in completing the AGAR

Resolved: That the external auditor's letter and notice of completion for the Annual Governance and Accountability Return (AGAR) for the year ending 31 March 2026 be received

Proposed: Cllr A Pearson. Seconded: Cllr A Turville. 10 agreed

- b. **Resolved:** That approval be given for appointing Black Rose Solutions Ltd as internal auditor for 2026-2027 (year 3 of 3) at £375 + VAT (Budgeted)
Proposed: Cllr A Pearson. Seconded: Cllr G Samuels. 10 agreed
- c. **Resolved:** That approval be given for provision of St Johns Ambulance to attend the Christmas Light Event Switch on – 4th December 2026 - £116.00 + VAT (Budgeted)
Proposed: Cllr A Pearson. Seconded: Cllr P Jones. 10 agreed.
- d. **Resolved:** That retrospective approval be given for the repair to the reception floor at Pye Green Community Centre - £150.00 + VAT (PGCC Maintenance)
Proposed: Cllr A Pearson. Seconded: Cllr Sheila Cartwright. 10 agreed
- e. **Resolved:** That the £35.00 increase in costs for provision, installation and removal of the Christmas Tree be approved - £530.00 + VAT (Budgeted)
Proposed: Cllr P Jones. Seconded: Cllr A Pearson. 10 agreed
- f. No motion was proposed in relation to joining membership to Support Staffordshire and therefore no resolution was made
- g. **Resolved:** That the quote for the replacement of 4 lights in the men's bathroom be approved - £384.00 (PGCC Maintenance)
Proposed: Cllr G Samuels. Seconded: Cllr A Roden. 10 agreed
- h. **Noted:** That Members and Committee's consider anticipated project requirements and budget costs for 2027/2028 and forward to Chief Officer by 9am on Monday 8th October 2026.

FC/09.26/7 – Chief Officer Update

- a. **Noted:** Invitation to the 3rd Birthday of the Hub@Pye Green on Monday 28th September 2026
- b. **Noted:** Hednesford in Partnership gave a report to Council following the Hednesford Summer Festival on 8th August 2026 sharing key details: over 6,000 people attended, 90 local businesses, charities and community groups attended with vendors reporting record takings and it to have been “the best festival yet”. The event was made possible by an enormous amount of volunteer time. The event cost £12,000. Hednesford Town Council provided a grant of £2,500.

Hednesford in Partnership raised concerns over specific social media posts made by a Member of Hednesford Town Council towards Hednesford in Partnership in relation to the Hednesford Summer Festival. Hednesford in Partnership informed that such comments were upsetting, unprofessional

and reflected badly on the town council. Hednesford in Partnership informed that they have raised similar concerns on two previous occasions. Hednesford in Partnership requested an immediate and formal response from Hednesford Town Council.

A discussion took place that the comments were not representative of the Council and that steps would be taken to address the concerns raised.

- c. **Noted:** That the planning application for the refurbishment of Cotswold Road Park will be known on or before 5th October and that CCDC will work with Hednesford Town Council to conduct a consultation with residents
- d. **Noted:** That the Community Officer has asked for any available Member to volunteer to support the Remembrance Event on 8th November 2026
- e. **Noted:** That the providers for the Speed Indicator Devices across Hednesford – Morelock – have gone into administration and that an alternate provider will need to be found. The Project Support Officer has contacted several providers but none will maintain devices that they did not install

FC/09.26/8 – Lower Road, Hednesford

Resolved: To reinstate Community Speedwatch to deter speeding along Lower Road, Hednesford. Cllrs to be trained and speedguns to be located after being lent out several years ago. Cllr P Jones to speak to Police and highways about other viable solutions

Proposed: Cllr A Roden. Seconded: Cllr A Pearson. 10 agreed

FC/09.26/9 – CIL Projects for Consideration

- a. **Noted:** That the Clock Tower has already been repainted by CCDC
- b. **Resolved:** That £1633.00 + VAT of CIL funds be used for the cleaning of the named memorial bricks around Anglesey Gardens
Cllr Alan Pearson declared an interest as has a named brick in the location
Proposed: Cllr G Samuels. Seconded: Cllr P Jones. 9 agreed. 1 abstain
- c. No motion was proposed in relation to provision and installation of TV screen in the function room at PGCC as quotes still pending from providers and therefore no resolution was made

- d. **Resolved:** That £80.00 of CIL funds be used for the repainting of the town centre notice boards
Proposed: Cllr A Pearson. Seconded: Cllr G Samuels. 10 agreed.
- e. **Noted:** That Cllr Arthur Roden has made a bench that will be donated to Pye Green Community Centre
- f. No motion was proposed in relation to using CIL funds to purchase equipment to support the running of a youth group/club as further information still needs to be sought and agreed and therefore no resolution was made
- g. No motion was proposed in relation to replacing Christmas Lights and therefore no resolution was made

FC/09.26/10 – Devolution

Noted: Statement from CCDC regarding the pausing of Local Government Reorganisation

Cllr P Jones informed that a further announcement is due from Central Government in October and that the asset transfer policy at CCDC has been deferred as it looks like it has been rushed and needs to go back to CCDC Cabinet

FC/09.26/11 – Notifications

Noted: Bridgtown Parish Councils invite to Members to attend their annual Remembrance Parade on Sunday 1st November 2026 at 10.45am

FC/09.26/12 - Date of next meeting

Tuesday 3rd November 2026 at 6.30pm

Meeting closed at 8.20pm

Signed:

Date: