



**Heworth Without Annual Parish Council Meeting**  
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**DRAFT - Minutes of the Annual Parish Council Meeting of Heworth Without Parish Council held on MONDAY 28<sup>th</sup> APRIL 2025 held at 6.30pm in the Heworth Without Community Centre on Applecroft Road, Heworth, York**

**To be approved at the next APC meeting in April 2026.**

**Present:**

Councillor M Starkey (Chair HWPC), Councillor A Basu (Deputy Chair), Councillor N Ayre (left meeting 6.35 – 6.58pm), Councillor A Garbutt, Councillor E Hardy, Councillor K Last (arrived 6.35pm), Councillor S Phoenix, and Gayle Enion-Farrington (Clerk / RFO). Members of the public, R Barker, J Ferrari, D Gibbon, J Hitchins, P McCarthy, T McDermott, D Phoenix, T Pool, H Pool, T Questa, E Questa, L Slate.

**APC01/2025. Apologies:**

- a. To Receive Apologies and Consider and Approve Reasons for Absence  
Councillors are not required to attend an APC, but out of courtesy Councillor A Harrison and Councillor D Harrison submitted their apologies.

**Chair, Cllr Mel Starkey** gave a brief introduction to the Annual Parish Meeting and housekeeping rules etc. Introduced all Councillors present and the Clerk. Stated that meeting would be recorded (audio only) by Cllr E Hardy for their own records and one member of the public declared they would be using an audio transcript app on their own mobile. All was accepted.

**APC02/2025. To Note any Declarations of Interest:**

- a. To receive any declarations of (from any Councillors present) not already declared under the Council's Code of Conduct or a member's Register of Disclosable Pecuniary Interests.  
***It was Reported*** by Cllr Mel Starkey and Cllr A Garbutt that they have recently joined the cooperative party and new updated ROI's are on the HWPC website.
- b. To receive, consider and decide upon any applications for dispensation from any Councillors present).  
***None***

**APC03/2025. OPEN FORUM:**

- a. To receive opinions on what residents, wish / want from their Parish Council in the next 12-24 months.

**T Pool** – Fear from Cllr N Ayre's latest communication that it would be a waste of £50k if MUGA was not approved.

**T Questa** – Represented 12 houses from Hilbeck Grove back on to and in next to Stray Road playing field. All residents breathed a sigh of relief that HWPC had voted against the MUGA after December 22 consultation. The points made then by residents of Hilbeck haven't changed. Concerned about noise levels and ASB particularly in the summer months. Against the gym equipment as it attracts young adults at night. Incidents of ASB foul language and daily litter. We have good sports facilities nearby, accepted they may need to be booked but it's a controlled environment. Concerns about rowdy behaviour if MUGA built, and it is not managed. Biggest concern is the noise, there is already a MUGA in walking distance (Burnholme). Comments made by newer residents in Hilbeck, are with Jubilee Wood and wildlife area where terrific work has been done and concerns that it may be vandalised and impact on the environment if MUGA is built. Car parking is limited on Stray Road, if people came by car and how the MUGA would be managed and maintained and costs. It's a shame we can't simply spend it on improved drainage, don't want the wildlife disturbed, environmental work to disappear, increased car parking in area, concerns on management and costs of repairs for the MUGA on whoever owned it.

**R Barber** – resident on Hilbeck and supports what has been stated by other Hilbeck residents but wished to add that Hilbeck is affected by the drainage at Stray Road Playing field area. The trees were planted in the first place to soak up the excess water. The car park is already an issue for the playground and not accessible for disabled people to park nearby.

Concerns with Money - money could be better spent – concerned about maintenance and damage to area when being built. Just taken pictures tonight of a very beautiful area. MUGA at Derwenthorpe (free) and Burnholme (to Pay), both close by. Concerns about lack on consultation with members of the public, why not notification of this vote?

**Clerk and Councillors** explained reason why vote was placed on agenda after meeting on 17/3/25 and HWPC received notification from CYC on 17/3/25. Up until this date, HWPC were under the impression that HWPC could vote on whether to have a MUGA after tenders were submitted. Clarification was received from CYC that this is not the current situation and requested for a decision from the Parish Council on whether they support a MUGA at all. **Cllr N Ayre** stated that there is an option to go back to the Executive Member (Deputy Leader and Economy & Culture) for review.

**D Gibbon** – Has experience of managing a MUGA on Shropshire for 10-15 years over 10 years ago. Was proposed to be built and managed by ourselves in Shropshire. Can we look at alternate uses for this resource of money, maybe for disabled children? The maintenance of painting and repainting, management for litter (daily), maintenance recurrent costs over 10-15 years. Sorry that Cllr N Ayre is not present in the meeting now to hear this. Is it sustainable? – own experience is that it is not.

**J Ferrari** – Ecologist - would like more information, very little detail has been shared – money is there for construction but not for maintenance. Very concerned in current financial climate and will probably need disassembling at some point. Drainage concerns. Construction – access to the playing field without damaging current equipment. So little information, so difficult to comment, therefore you can only object to a MUGA with current information.

**P McCarthy** – Garden backs directly into the field. Gets most of the brunt of the ASB – Object to the MUGA and agree with all the point raised from Hilbeck residents so far. Experiences individuals urinating against own fence and gate, litter coming over fence and regular fires. Still an issue with tree debris (**Clerk** confirmed that a tree surgeon has recently chipped a lot).

**P McCarthy** - Main issues are the swearing and the urination, climbing over fence into the garden even at 11.30pm and Arson. Wood chip is still against fence – moved as much as possible himself. It's like a mini riot out there at times. Had to call the fire brigade and the police (but police are slow to answer and come out). – Object to the MUGA – it's not in keeping with the area and money could be better spent.

**T McDermott** – I'm not effected by ASB but I don't know what is being built. I'm not saying no to it per say, but I want the community being asked in detail - where's the bowls and other facilities for all ages in the community? What is it going to look like? Until we understand what is being offered how can we decide on it – its like being offered something to eat but we don't know what we are getting. We can take that money and embrace it.

**T Pool** – if £50K is not spent its going to be lost

**T McDermott** – Is it not right that we can change the criteria of it being a MUGA, we can ask for it to be spent on something else. I'd love to see something to happen, but we need to understand – because of no information I'm worried about getting an eyecore.

**J Hitchins** – In two minds about the MUGA have 15- and 10-year-old children and keen on Derwenthorpe and doesn't feel safe at Derwenthorpe due to ASB. One child experienced ASB at Stray Road Play area in September 2024 and did not feel safe in community to return to park until the last 2 weeks. I would like more facilities but not to attract ASB. Park is a wonderful and beautiful location and would hate that they cannot go there as they feel vulnerable – if there are any studies linked to this. Can the HWPC be pushed back to CYC until we had clearer answers, before you are made to vote.

- b. To discuss and receive opinions on HWPC proposed creation of a Neighbourhood Plan. Time ran out and this was not discussed – but was equally not raised by any members of the public. Chair announced that any public that still wished to speak regarding the MUGA and could stay and discuss it during the Public Participation section of the Ordinary Meeting which will now commence.

**Meeting closed 19.06**