

MINUTES OF THE TURNERS HILL PARISH COUNCIL MEETING HELD ON
TUESDAY 1st July 2025 AT THE ARK

PRESENT: Cllr B Forbes (Chairman) Cllr S Hughesdon (Vice Chairman) Cllr J Forbes Cllr C Jarvis
Cllr G Marsh Cllr I Gibson Cllr P Coote
Mrs C Jim (Clerk) and 6 members of the public

053 Apologies – Cllr F Lutman

054 Declarations of interests in any agenda item listed – Cllr G Marsh – agenda item 6 – Land at Old Vicarage Field and the Old Estate Yard.

055 Fifteen minutes public participation – Three representatives from Elivia Homes and Gillings Planning attended the meeting to present and discuss the proposed planning application for the Land at Old Vicarage Field and the Old Estate Yard, Church Road. Several questions were asked and answered by the associate representative in attendance. The associate stated that they would welcome and be open to feedback or learnings from the Clockfield development. A summary of the Parish councils' comment can be found below under planning application DM/25/1467.

Another member of the public raised a question regarding advertising within the village. Councillor B. Forbes explained that, due to the village's conservation area status, advertising in the centre of the village is not permitted unless prior consent has been obtained.

Another question raised was overgrown vegetation/hanging branches along East Street towards Turners Hill Park and on North Street opposite the antiques shop before the mini roundabout/traffic lights by Cockfield.

056 Chairman's Announcements - None

057 The Minutes of the Parish Council Meeting held on 3rd June 2025 were approved and signed by the Chairman.

058 Matters currently being pursued by the Clerk – The Clerk confirmed that she had authorised the renewal of the street light contract from 1st August to 31st October 2025. It is hoped that from the 1st November a longer-term contract can be obtained. The reasoning is due to a new billing regime: From late October onward, street-lighting electricity will fall under half-hourly billing.

The Clerk informed the Council of the need to update the bank account mandates for the Parish Council's accounts held with: Santander, Nationwide, and The Cambridge Building Society. Following discussion, the Council RESOLVED to approve the following changes:

1. Leanne Bannister left the employment of Turners Hill Parish Council on 31st December 2024 and is to be removed from all Parish Council bank accounts with immediate effect.
2. Charlotte Jim, who served as Deputy Clerk from July 2022 until 31st December 2024, became Clerk and Responsible Financial Officer (RFO) with effect from 1st January 2025. From this date, Charlotte became authorised and resumed responsibility for managing the financial affairs and bank accounts of the Parish Council.
3. Elaine Norman was appointed Assistant Clerk on 6th February 2025 and is to be added as an authorised signatory to all Parish Council bank accounts.

The Clerk informed Members that assistance is needed from a current signatory to resolve an issue with the Nationwide account. Although it was believed Charlotte Jim was added as a signatory in 2022, Nationwide has confirmed this is not the case. Cllr B. Forbes volunteered to contact Nationwide to help resolve the matter. The Clerk warned that if the issue is not addressed, the account may be closed.

The Clerk was instructed to liaise with the relevant banking institutions to action these changes.

059 Planning Applications – to consider:

DM/25/1467 Land At Old Vicarage Field and The Old Estate Yard, Church Road

Demolition of existing buildings and the development of 40 dwellings (including affordable housing) with open space, access, parking, drainage, landscaping and other associated works as well as the creation of a new community car park and replacement parking for Lion Lane residents.

Turners Hill Parish Council acknowledges receipt of the proposed plans for 40 dwellings, including 30% affordable housing, with additional parking provisions for Lion Lane residents and a small village car park.

While the Council welcomes the revised access proposal changing from a single entrance/exit to a double-junction layout, concerns remain regarding the location of the proposed access on Church Road and the impact of breaking through the sandstone bank. Further discussion is required to address these implications.

Additional concerns were raised about the early use of Lion Lane for construction access and its impact on traffic and safety. The Parish Council also expressed serious reservations about increased traffic at the already congested Turners Hill crossroads, especially during peak hours. It is disappointing that the proposed pedestrian footpath along the eastern boundary, which would have improved access to Turners Hill School, has not been included in the updated plans. This was a key recommendation from the Neighbourhood Plan Committee. Safety concerns raised by the local fire station were noted but the Council regrets the missed opportunity to improve pedestrian connectivity.

060 To consider the following applications received after the publication of the agenda:

DM/25/1621 9 Newstone Cottages, East Street Turners
Removal/Variation of Condition 1 relating to DM/22/2872 to allow for updated drawings.

The Parish Council agreed to defer to the conservation officer.

DM/25/1633 The Chimneys, 7 Newstone Cottages, East Street
Trees in Conservation Area

T1 -Flowering Cherry Tree - Reduce crown by approx. 7m across top and shape sides. Crown lifting to low or straggling branches interfering with small larch (B), T2 - Weeping Silver Birch - Reduce Crown by approx. 2m to flatten top and trim circumference of tree by 1m all round, T3 -Copper Beech- reduce crown by approx. 6m and shape tree. Crown lifting by 2 or 3

lower branches to left further from ground and allow light to garden and hedging below, Tree (A) Magnolia - remove tree to give more light under birch and copper beech.

The Parish Council agreed that they would like to defer to the tree officer.

061 Report on previous planning applications:

DM/25/1049 9 Newstone Cottages, East Street
Listed Building Consent Granted 2nd July 2025

062 The minutes of the Annual Parish Assembly held on 28th May 2025 were approved.

063 The Council RESOLVED to award a grant of £310.00 to the Turners Hill Village Fete. This amount covers £140.00 for the hire of the Recreation Ground and £168.00 for Public Liability Insurance.

The Parish Council requested that the Clerk inquire with the Fete Committee regarding the intended use of the funds raised at this year's event. It was noted that funds from previous years are still being held by the Committee.

064 Accounts Due for Payment

It was RESOLVED that:

- a The Accounts shown on the schedule as being due for payment be paid.
- b The Accounts shown on the schedule as being paid since the meeting held on 3rd June, be approved; and
- c The Accounts schedule be duly signed.

065 Correspondence

The next Beat Surgery being held at The Ark on Friday 1st August
The Fete on Sunday 13th July.

The Chairman closed the meeting at 8:25pm

SignedChairman

5th August 2024