www.denstonevillage.org.uk
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Minutes of Denstone Parish Council meeting held on Monday 12th October 2026 at Denstone Village Hall, College Road, Denstone, Uttoxeter, Staffordshire, ST14 5HR.

1. **Attendees**: Cllr M Shermer (Chair), Cllr S Owen, Cllr E Edmonds, Cllr M Flower, Cllr N Moult, Cllr A Oldroyd-Clarke, Cllr B Wright, Borough Councillor Steve Sankey and J Sadler (Clerk)
   3 members of the village present and PC Stuart Albrow.
   Apologies –Cllr J Mountney, Cllr S Ratcliffe and County Councillor Gary Hales
2. **Declarations of Interest** – Cllr A Oldroyd-Clarke item 12 (e)
3. **Minutes of Parish Council meeting held on 14th September 2026**
   The minutes of the meeting held on the 14th September 2026 were agreed by all members as a true record of the meeting. These were signed and dated by Cllr Shermer (Chair)
4. **Public participation**
   a. Pavement on Oak Road – Cllr Moult raised the issue of the pavement on Oak Road, the clerk informed the meeting that she had contacted Alan Harvey from ESBC regarding this, but had heard nothing further so would chase him again. **Action Clerk**
5. **Matters Arising/Clerk's report**
   a. Correspondence Received – nothing to raise.
   b. Railway Line Leak – The clerk informed the meeting that she had contacted Tim Cleary again regarding this for an update, but had not received any response. Cllr Hales had also contacted the SCC on the Parish Council's behalf. Thanks to Cllr Hales for his continuous support. Clerk to chase. **Action Clerk**
   c. Extra Defibrillator – Cllr Shermer stated that as the original place for the solar defib had been declined she and the clerk had already thought of two other sites that they would look into before the next meeting. Cllr Edmonds also stated that Dr Yates would be happy for one to be put on the wooden utility pole on his land if at all possible. Clerk to contact the National Grid. Cllr Shermer thanked Dr Yates on behalf of the Parish Council. Cllr Flower agreed to send a contact to the clerk. **Action Clerk and Cllr Flower**.
   d. Hedge – The meeting was informed that the hedge on College Road had still not been cut. The clerk informed the meeting she had been told by the landowner that it would be done. Clerk to chase. **Action Clerk**
      Cllr Moult informed the meeting that the hedge at the bottom of Rowen Close had been cut as much as possible as it is on a very busy road.
   e. Broadband – The clerk informed the meeting that she had received information from Cllr Sankey that both Connect Fibre and Openreach say they are working in the area. Looks like next march is the best date so far. He will however, keep us updated**. Action Cllr Sankey.**

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f. Asset List – The clerk sent out a revised copy of the Asset list prior to the meeting. It was suggested that the figures were rounded up. Also Cllr Flower agreed to contact Hags regarding the cost of the play area. It was also agreed that the clerk would contact Zurich regarding the fountain. Cllr Edmonds agreed to talk to the stone mason with the cost of replacing the war memorial. Clerk then to send the revised list to the insurers. **Action Clerk, Cllr Flower and Cllr Edmonds**.

g. Bus Shelter repairs – Cllr Moult informed the meeting that a member of the public had agreed to repair the roofs of the 2 wooden noticeboards and the wooden bus shelter. Cllr Shermer stated that the Parish Council would pay for the cost of the repair or at least the materials.

6. **Planning (Permitted & Refused are decisions by ESBC) – Cllr Shermer**
   No planning to discuss at this time.
7. **Highways – Cllr Oldroyd-Clarke**
   a. Pot Holes – Cllr Oldroyd-Clarke stated that it was too dangerous to take pictures of the potholes on the roundabout and up Alton Road. Clerk to report them without photos. Action Clerk.
   b. Feasibility Report – The clerk informed the meeting that she had finally heard from SCC confirming that the study is nearly complete, there are still some drawings and the report to finalise however it's expected to be completed in the next couple of weeks. Clerk to continue to chase and hopefully we will have the report by the next meeting on the 9th November. **Action Clerk**
   c. Data B5031 – The clerk informed the meeting that the Speed and Volume data monitoring was carried out on the B5031 between the 5th and 12th October. Hopefully the Parish Council will receive a report before the next meeting. Clerk will of course chase before the meeting. **Action Clerk**
   It was also raised that there had been speeding in the village along the B5031 and into the village. Cllr Oldroyd-Clarke stated that he had details of the vehicle and the drivers which he would pass onto PC Albrow at the end of the meeting. **Action Cllr Oldroyd – Clarke.**
8. **Playground – Cllr Flower**
   a. Monthly updates – Cllr Flower informed the meeting that all weekly checks were up to date on the play area. Cllr Flower did state that an unsupervised toddler managed to get onto the bowling green through the side of the safety gate. Cllr Flower agreed to contact the company who installed the fence. **Action Cllr Flower.**
   b. Tennis Club – Cllr Flower informed the meeting that the work on the tennis court was due to start on the 13th October. Once the major works begin the play area will be closed. Cllr Flower stated that all the details of the work on the Tennis court will be put on Denstone Matters Facebook page. **Action Cllr Flower.** Cllr Shermer thanked Cllrs Flower and Owen for all their work on the play area.
9. **Village Hall – Cllr Shermer**
   a. Cllr Shermer informed the meeting that there is a fun visual quiz at the village hall on the 30th October. All profit from the raffle will go to the Defibrillator Fund.
10. **Denstone College – Cllr Shermer**
    Meeting with the head of the College – The notes from the meeting were sent out to all councillors prior to the meeting. Cllr Shermer stated that during the first term the

numbers of vehicles had increased due to new children. However this should settle down once the children and parents get to know each other, there will be car sharing and the numbers should reduce. Cllr Shermer answered the questions raised at the last Parish Council meeting regarding the traffic on Saturdays and Sundays – **Saturday** is a normal school working day with lessons in the morning and sports activities and fixtures in the afternoon. This means that the pupils arrive in the usual means of transportation, but there are no buses for their return journey and so they are collected by car at different times of the afternoon. If there are 'at home' fixtures, then there will be traffic from visiting schools and parents attending and therefore also coaches. It is also worth noting that there are no Prep pupils or Sixth form pupils on a Saturday.

Sundays see the College hosting occasional events, for example, in February/March 2027 the College will host the inter-county Netball tournament. More details next year. Also, sixth formers are not allowed to drive their cars during term time. They are however allowed to drive their cars during exam time.

A discussion was had regarding complaints from residents about driving issues, particularly from the College drive onto the highway. The Head will instigate the repainting of the STOP markings at the foot of the College Drive and will have the yellow 'raised rumble strips' refurbished during October half term. The Head will also arrange for 'stewards' in high viz jackets to intermittently be stationed opposite the end of the drive to alert drivers of their entry onto the main road, particularly on the weekend and Wednesday afternoons when there are many visitors to the College, who are not the regular College parents Please note that all events can be seen on the Denstone College website: **www.denstonecollegecalendar.org**

It was also agreed that the following would be put on the minutes of all Parish Council meetings **"**Any complaint regarding unacceptable driving issues in Denstone Village should be made to the police and not to Denstone College. The registration number of the relevant vehicle should be recorded and given to the police for their consideration and potential action. Contact Uttoxeter Rural Policing Team:
Report antisocial behaviour | Staffordshire Police"

PC Albrow stated that any issues can be reported on the website using Bobbi see link - **Say Hello to Bobbi: Staffordshire Police's New Virtual Assistant | Staffordshire Police**

11. Finance

a. External Audit Report – The clerk informed the meeting that she had received the report and sent it around to all councillors prior to the meeting. However, the only issue raised was that the clerk had not submitted a list of reserves. The clerk however confirms that she did and contacted the auditors. This has now been confirmed by External audit. The documents have also been put on the noticeboards and website

12. Miscellaneous

a. Accountabilities – Cllr Shermer went through the list of accountabilities and the clerk updated the details accordingly. A revised list would be sent out to all councillors and also be put on the website. **Action Clerk**
b. Denstone Community power Pilot – Cllr Shermer thanked Cllr Owen for all the hard work he had done on this project. It was agreed that a subcommittee would be set up with Cllr Owen as lead joined by Cllr Wright. Cllr Owen would also invite village members to join.

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Cllr Owen agreed to take this on and update the Parish Council at the next meeting. A member of the village at the meeting asked to be sent the details. Clerk to send. **Action Cllr Owen and Clerk**

c. War memorial – Cllr Edmonds spoke to the Stone mason with regards to the repointing. However, as yet he cannot give a start date for the work. Cllr Edmonds to keep the Parish Council updated.
d. Remembrance – It was agreed that Cllr Oldroyd-Clarke would lay the wreath on Remembrance Sunday. Cllr Edmonds would remove the chain before the event. **Action Cllr Edmonds and Cllr Oldroyd-Clarke**
e. Tavern Bonfire and Fireworks event – Cllr Shermer informed the meeting that the Parish Council had received correspondence from a member of the village regarding the upcoming Bonfire and Fireworks event on the 5th November. Cllr Shermer stated that the Parish Council have listened and taken into consideration all of the views raised by the member of the village and completely understands the issues raised but it is outside the remit of the Parish Council. It was agreed that all future events at the Tavern would be put on the noticeboards as it was also raised that some members of the village were not aware of this event as it was only put on social media. **Action Cllr Oldroyd-Clarke**

13. Payments - To approve the following payments

Cllr Shermer went through the payments individually. The payments were agreed by all. All payments would be processed online by Cllr Shermer and Cllr Flower. All invoices would be signed and would be returned to the clerk once actioned

a. Carolyn Hinton – Website - Pay September 2026 £25 [LGA 1972 s142 & 144]
b. Clerk's pay for September (Made by Standing Order) = Net Pay £606.56 [LGA 1972 s112]
c. HMRC – Clerk – Tax – September - £187.80
d. Clerk Employee National Insurance – September - £78.22
e. N Power – September 2026 – £48.78
f. Clerks expenses – July, August and September Travel - £27.00
g. Stuart Smith - Lengthsman – September 2026 – £193.83
h. Remembrance Wreath RBL - £50

1. **items for Future Agenda**
   - Denstone Meadow

Date of next meeting – 9th November 2026 at 7.00pm Village Hall Denstone.

Cllr Shermer thanked all members of the Parish Council and all members of the village for attending. The meeting closed at 20.30pm due to no further business.

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