

ORGREAVE PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of a meeting of Orgreave Parish Council held on the 21st May 2026, at 7.00pm in Aston Fence J & I School, Sheffield Road, Swallownest, Rotherham.

Present: Cllrs. Fargher - Chair & acting Clerk / RFO (unpaid), Holder, Marsh, Thornsby.

No members of the press or public were present.

1. The Chair opened the meeting and provided a reminder to all in attendance on the Council's expectations about audio or visual recordings of the meeting.

2.1. To receive apologies for absence

The Council received apologies from Cllrs. Slater & Elsey.

2.2. To consider the approval of reasons for absence given by councillors

The reason for absence given by Cllrs. Slater & Elsey were considered

RESOLVED that Cllrs Slater & Elsey absence be approved for this meeting.

3.1 To consider if members of the press or public are to be excluded from any agenda items of the meeting due to the nature of the business being transacted, in accordance with the Public Bodies (admission to Meeting) Act 1960, S1(2).

No items on the agenda required the exclusion of the press or public.

3.2 To receive, consider and decide upon any applications for dispensation

No members of the council had any declarations of interest or requests for dispensation.

The Chair reminded members that a printed copy of the Councillors Code of Conduct is available to them upon request.

3.3 To receive any declarations of interest not already declared under the Council's Code of Conduct or a member's Register of Disclosable Pecuniary Interests

No declarations of interests were received.

4. To confirm the minutes of meeting held on Thursday, 16th April 2026, as a true and correct record

RESOLVED that the minutes of the meeting of Orgreave Parish Council held on 16th April 2026 be approved as a true record.

5. To receive information on the following ongoing issues and decide further action where necessary

5.1 Hanging Baskets.

RMBC had taken a stance that no hanging baskets, or other street furniture, are to be attached to any lamp posts throughout the borough of Rotherham without the lamp post first being stress tested and permission given. Furthermore, RMBC will only consider attachments to metal lamp posts, once each one has been stress tested. Due to the speed that this directive has been issued by RMBC, it has been proposed by officers of RMBC that RMBC would initially cover 75% of the cost of testing each metal lamp post and individual Parish Councils cover 25%. Lamp posts would require testing every three years. It has also been proposed by officers of RMBC that after 3 years the cost of testing would be shared equally between the Borough Council & each Parish Council. These proposals have not yet been ratified by the Borough Council. Until RMBC replace the concrete lamp posts (approx. 47), and they are replaced with new metal lamp posts the Parish Council cannot proceed with providing this type of annual floral display throughout the Parish. Hobson's Nurseries have been informed. Alternative floral displays throughout the Parish were discussed and the Clerk will provide further information at the next meeting.

RESOLVED that no hanging baskets will be fitted until the concrete lamp posts are replaced by RMBC.

RESOLVED that the Chair to formally contact RMBC to enquire if, and when, all the concrete lamp posts throughout the Parish are scheduled to be replaced.

RESOLVED that enquires are made with RMBC planning department regarding if planning permission would be required for any ground level floral displays in suitable locations throughout the Parish.

5.2 Renewal of Insurance cover for the period 16th June 2026 – 15th June 2027.

The council considered the renewal proposal provided by Clear Council.

RESOLVED that the council accepts the proposal provided.

6. Receive, review and consider the following Policies & Procedures.

The council considered each of the following draft Policies and Procedures.

ANTI-BULLYING & HARRASSMENT POLICY

CAPABILITY PROCEDURE

COMPLAINTS PROCEDURE

DISCIPLINARY POLICY

EQUALITY & DIVERSITY POLICY

FEES & CHARGES POLICY

GRIEVANCE POLICY

I T POLICY

MEDIA & PRESS POLICY

RESERVES POLICY

RESOLVED that each of the Policies & Procedures, listed above, are adopted by Orgreave Parish Council &, subject to no changes in legislation, each Policy / Procedure be reviewed annually.

7. Correspondence Received

7.1 Councillors were given details of the correspondence received as shown on the agenda.

8. Financial Matters

8.1 *To receive and note current bank balances*

Bank balances in the current and deposit accounts were noted.

8.2 *To approve & authorise the payments as shown on the Schedule of Accounts*

RESOLVED to approve & sign cheques for the payments shown on the Schedule of Accounts.

8.3 *To note payments already authorised*

The monthly payment by D.D. to RMBC for the garage rental.

8.4 AGAR. The Chair (acting as Clerk / RFO unpaid) has an initial meeting arranged with the appointed Auditor. Once the AGAR is completed, a copy of the Audit Report will be presented to Council for consideration.

9. Planning Applications

The meeting was informed that there were no new applications regarding the Parish of Orgreave or in adjoining areas that may impact the Parish.

10. Items for the next ordinary meeting of the Council

The Chair asked that the employment of a new Clerk / Responsible Finance Officer be made as an agenda item for the June 2026 meeting.

The Chair reminded members that councillors are to provide specified agenda items to the Clerk at least one week prior to the next Council meeting in accordance with the Council's adopted policy.

11. Date of the next meeting

It was noted that in accordance with the agreed schedule, the next ordinary meeting of the Parish Council would be held on Thursday, 18th June 2026.

There being no other business, the Chair thanked all for attending and closed the meeting closed at 20.35p.m.

It is resolved at the meeting held on 18th June 2026 that these minutes are a true & accurate record of the meeting held on 21st May 2026.

Signature: 

Name: G. T. HORNSBY

Position: COUNCILLOR (PAID)