

THE MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF WINGATE PARISH COUNCIL
HELD ON MONDAY, 10th JUNE 2024

Present: Councillors J Bradley (Chair), S William, E Mason, C Ryan,
 County Councillor Higgins

Apologies for absence were received from Councillors Ogle and Whiting

The Chairman thanked Members for their vote of support and he thanked the County Councillor and Clerk. Thanks were given to the outgoing Chairman, Councillor Williams.

2024/06/10/01

PUBLIC QUESTIONS

Mr Owens Wingate FC

The Chairman welcomed Mr Owens who advised he was looking for support in establishing a Wingate FC under 13s team and hopefully number of different age group teams. It was noted Wingate did not have its own junior team. Mr Owens advised he was seeking permission to use the park fields and financial assistance.

It was noted that Shotton Colts had one existing team and one new team which would play on Saturday mornings and there was an over 40s team which also played Saturday mornings.

Following general discussion, it was **RESOLVED** the Clerk liaise with the Park Keeper regarding fixtures and a further update be awaited.

2024/06/10/02

THE MINUTES OF THE MEETING held 13 May 2024 were agreed as a correct record. It was noted that Councillor Williams had been appointed Vice Chairman.

2024/06/10/03

COUNCILLOR T SMITH

The Clerk advised that Councillor Smith had not attended a meeting for six months and under Section 85 of the Local Government Act 1972 automatically ceased being a Parish Councillor.

It was noted that the electoral team at Durham County Council would need to be notified and the vacancy along with the existing would need to be advertised with coopted Members sought.

RESOLVED the information given be noted and further progress be awaited.

2024/06/10/04

POLICE AND ASSOCIATED MATTERS

The Clerk presented an update from the Police highlighting crime and anti-social behavioural figures for May which was noted as including 72 incidents for the month including:

Anti- social behaviour incidents – 10
Criminal damage incidents – 2
Vehicle damage incidents- 2
Burglary- 1

Following general discussion, it was **RESOLVED** the information given be noted.

2024/06/10/05

PROGRESS REPORT

(1) Summer Activities

The Clerk advised that the joint application with Hutton Henry and Station Town Parish Council for fun and food grant had been successful. £9995.64 had been approved with overall expenditure for the proposed 15 events being £12000. The shortfall would need to be met by both Parish Councils as well as funding for refreshments and some sports equipment including footballs and football goals. Further work in relation to these purchases was ongoing. Completed DBS forms were to be taken to East Durham Trust for review.

Following general discussion, it was **RESOLVED** the information given be noted and further progress be awaited.

(2) Picnic in the Park

The Clerk advised that the picnic in the park arrangements had been finalised. The event was scheduled for Sunday 23 June from 1-3pm. In addition to the band which was £300 a bouncy castle costing £225 had been booked along with Ark Therapies costing £150 who would be bringing donkeys. Costs were to be shared with Hutton Henry and Station Town Parish Council.

Following general discussion, it was **RESOLVED** the Clerk be authorized to proceed based on the report given.

(3) Memorial Seat

The Clerk advised that Members who had attended the recent site meeting had suggested that the seat should be installed near to the pit tubs.

Following general discussion, it was **RESOLVED** the Parish Council approve the installation of the seat and submit an AAP application on behalf of the Remembrance Sunday Group.

(4) Allotments

The Clerk advised that allotment rents were to be collected on Tuesday 18 June. A recent site meeting had highlighted some allotments as being untidy and reference for allotments to be kept tidy had been included in the rent letters. It was noted that the gate at the rear of North Road West was sometimes locked but often open during day time hours. It was suggested that the matter needed to be monitored and if necessary further letters were needed to remind tenants to close and lock the gate immediately once accessed. Adding a sign was not felt to be of value.

The Clerk added that progress was finally being made in relation to the sale of the Woodman's Cottage allotment site which Members felt should progress as previously agreed.

Following general discussion, it was **RESOLVED** that:

- (1) The information given be noted;
- (2) The gate at the rear of North Road West continue to be monitored;
and
- (3) The Clerk be authorised to proceed with the sale of the Woodman's Cottage allotment site on terms previously agreed.

(4) Section 106 Monies

The Clerk presented an update on Section 106 monies following a meeting he had with the Chairman and Councillor Higgins. Potentially £220k was available to spend on outdoor recreation facilities in the village.

Following general discussion, it was **RESOLVED** the Clerk arrange a meeting with the relevant planning officer at Durham Council and a further progress report be awaited.

(5) Summer Away Day

RESOLVED it be agreed the summer away day be held on Saturday 31 August with a trip to South Shields based on the usual arrangements.

2024/06/10/06

COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT OFFICER UPDATE

In the absence of the Community Development Officer there was no report to consider.

2024/06/10/07

PLANNING APPLICATIONS

There were no planning applications to consider.

2024/06/10/08

CORRESPONDENCE

There were no items of correspondence to consider.

2024/06/10/09

PAYMENTS AND FINANCIAL MATTERS

(a) Authorisation of Payments

RESOLVED that authorisation be given for the following payments:

BT- Broadband at the Park

Cheque No. 406445 £82.24

Durham County Council- Trade Waste

Cheque No. 406446 £324.48

Eon Next- Xmas Lighting

Cheque No. 406447	£93.45
Eon Next- Football Changing Room	
Cheque No. 406448	£554.02
Horns Garden Centre- Misc Supplies	
Cheque No.406449	£16.98
Zurich Insurance- Annual Insurance	
Cheque No.406451	£5988.76
Park Keeper- Refunf for Bolts (Maxwells)	
Cheque No.406452	£4.00
Park Keeper- Refund for Petrol	
Cheque No.406454	£6.60
Durham CC- Payroll SLA	
Cheque No.406455	£2539.08
Durham CC- Tractor Repairs	
Cheque No.406456	£154.32
Wingate Community Association- May Social Event	
Cheque No.406457	£198.00
Wingate Community Association- May Youth Club Sessions	
Cheque No. 406458	£360.00
Neasham Nurseries- Summer Flowers	
Cheque No. 406459	£1414.18
Clerk- June Office Allowance	
Cheque No. 406460	£50.00
Durham CC- HR Advisory Service Joining Fee	
Cheque No. 406461	£300.00
Clerk- Line Rental and Calls	

Cheque No. 406462	£45.00
Park Keeper- Line Rental and Calls	
Cheque No. 406463	£45.00
Clerk- Postage Refund	
Cheque No. 406464	£40.80
Creative Youth- April-May Youth Club Sessions	
Cheque No. 406465	£2805.00
UK Fuels- Petrol	
Cheque No. 406466	£6.66
UK Fuels- Petrol	
Cheque. 406467	£6.29
Clerk- Allotment Postage Refund	
Cheque No. 406468	£68.00
Creative Youth- January Youth Club	
Cheque No. 406469	£1161.00

(b) Bank Reconciliation

RESOLVED that a bank reconciliation and financial update be presented at the next meeting.

2024/06/10/10

REPORTS

(a) **The Clerk**

There were no reports from the Clerk.

(b) **Members**

(1) Overgrown Bushes- Wellfield Road

A Member thanked County Councillor Higgins for his assistance in arranging for overgrown bushes at Wellfield Road to be cut.

RESOLVED the information given be noted.

County Councillor

County Councillor Higgins presented a verbal report including that he had met with the recently appointed crime Commissioner and discussed local issues including the fact that since April last year 26 cars had been burned

out in Wingate.

It was noted that the memorial outside of the community centre was to be cleaned and a new seat was to be installed with an existing seat moved to the church.

Highways works were to be undertaken on footpaths from Salters Lane to Moore Lane. Recent pot hole repairs were noted as being permanent.

Following general discussion County Councilor Higgins was thanked for his report and it was **RESOLVED** the information given be noted.

2024/06/10/11

SCHEDULE OF ONGOING MATTERS

RESOLVED that the schedule of ongoing matters be noted.

2024/06/10/12

EXCLUSION OF THE PRESS AND PUBLIC

RESOLVED the press and public be excluded from the following item of business due to the disclosure of financial information.

2024/06/10/13

STAFFING ISSUES

The Clerk gave an update in relation to staffing issues and the Community Development Officer. Following general discussion, it was **RESOLVED** the information given be noted and further progress be awaited.

CERTIFIED TRUE RECORD

CHAIRMAN

DATE