

THE MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF WINGATE PARISH COUNCIL
HELD ON MONDAY, 9th JUNE 2025

Present: Councillors S Williams (Chair), A Ogle, M Whiting, P Mason,
F McEwan- Thompson

County Councillor MaryLynn Franklin

Apologies for absence were received from Councillor E
Mason

2025/06/09/01

PUBLIC QUESTIONS

There were no representatives of the public in attendance.

2025/06/09/02

THE MINUTES OF THE MEETING held 12 May 2025 were agreed as a correct record.

A Member stated that she had referred to individual skills when Parish Council vacancies had been considered at the previous meeting and not criteria. She stated that other Parish Councils had also been referred to.

2025/06/09/03

POLICE AND ASSOCIATED MATTERS

The Clerk presented a report from the Police covering crime and anti-social behaviour for May 2025 which was summarised as follows:

100 incidents reported to control room.

Criminal Damage

Window has been smashed.

Graffiti sprayed across the village x 3.

Damage to metal hoop fence near the lines.

Theft and handling

3 x Shoplifting coop

1 x theft at Wellfield School

Theft of motor vehicle

Vehicle Damage

Stone thrown off a car.

Damage to a vehicle window x 2

ASB

Garden party noise

Report of youths that had kicked a door in, but this was not as reported the owner had just left the door open.

People drinking alcohol causing noise.

Youths banging on windows.

Youths banging on door caused damage to a letter box.

Youths causing issues near wellfield school

Off road Bikes x2

Male intoxicated.
Youths had gained access to an abandoned property.
Males on off road bikes on farmland

Burglary

Property broken into and damage caused inside the address.

A Member reported that there was a damaged door at 55 Front Street West which County Councillor Franklin stated had already been reported but she would follow up on again.

In response to a query the Clerk advised that CCTV repairs at the park had been completed.

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

2025/06/09/04

PROGRESS REPORT

(1) Park Improvements

The Clerk advised that a new steel storage container had been delivered as part of the FA machinery grant application that was still ongoing and could not be concluded until the new machinery had been delivered and invoiced.

A second stage of an ecology survey was to be undertaken at the pond area of the park which would identify some of the wildlife in existence and the impact on pond area improvements.

The decision on the planning application for new a football changing room was awaited but there had been an indication that no problems were foreseen.

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

(2) Summer Activities

The Clerk advised that fun and food grant details from Durham County Council had now been released and a single application had been submitted in the name of the Association but based on joint arrangements with Hutton Henry and Station Town Parish Council. The Clerk advised that the application could include the park area but mainly the Community Centre with a more detailed report to be presented at the next Association meeting.

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

2025/06/09/05

NURSERY COTTAGE

The Clerk advised that the Children in Need CIC which had been set up to become the tenant of the former Park Keeper's Cottage at the park so that nursery provision could then be undertaken from the building wished to terminate the lease because it was to cease to operate. The operators of the Nursey, the Wingate Childcare CIC wished to take over the lease.

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

- a) It be agreed that the Nursery Cottage lease be transferred to the Wingate Childcare CIC; and
- b) The transfer be at no cost to the Parish Council and so the Wingate Childcare CIC be responsible for the Parish Council's legal fees associated with the transfer.

2025/06/09/06

PLANNING APPLICATIONS

- a) Proposed Change of use of 21 Arundel Walk, Wingate from a Dwelling House to a Children's Home.

Consideration was given to a proposed planning application for the change of use of a dwelling house at 21 Arundel Walk, Wingate to a children's home. It was noted that the application was in the name of a private company and was not a local authority application. It was also noted that a public meeting had recently been arranged by a County Councillor representing Wingate at which there were significant public objections to the proposals.

Following general discussion, it was **RESOLVED** that the Clerk be authorised to submit objections to the planning application on the basis of potential highways and anti-social behavioral issues.

2025/06/09/07

CORRESPONDENCE

- a) Parking Restrictions, Wingate

The Clerk referred to previous briefings from former County Councillor Higgins regarding parking restrictions which were proposed for Wingate. The Clerk advised that formal notice has been regarding parking restrictions which were to be introduced at Granby Terrace, Vicarage Estate, North Road, North Road West and Queens Road.

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

2025/06/09/08

PAYMENTS AND FINANCIAL MATTERS

- (a) Authorisation of Payments

RESOLVED that authorisation be given for the following payments:

Clerk- Refund for Ink Cartridges

Cheque No. 406779	£139.72
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Smith of Derby- Clock Maintenance

Cheque No. 406780	£378.00
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Npower- Pit Wheel

Cheque No. 406781	£71.25
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UK Fuels- Petrol	
Cheque No. 406782	£6.43
Zurich Municipal	
Cheque No. 406783	£6396.32
BT- Broadband at Park	
Cheque No. 406784	£93.18
Steadfast Security- CCTV Repairs	
Cheque No. 406785	£3744.00
TSL- Line Marker	
Cheque No. 406786	£136.80
Durham County Council- Trade Waste	
Cheque No. 406787	£340.60
Hutton Fire Protection- Extinguisher Service (CA)	
Cheque No.,406788	£72.00
UK Fuels- Petrol	
Cheque No. 406789	£5.85
Robinsons of Wingate Catering- May Bingo	
Cheque No. 406790	£165.00
Robinsons of Wingate- May Breakfast Clubs	
Cheque No. 406791	£86.40
Clerk- Refund for Allotment Postage	
Cheque No. 406792	£64.38
Clerk- Envelopes and Bingo Books Refund	
Cheque No. 406793	£63.65
Clerk- June Office Allowance	
Cheque No. 406794	£50.00
Clerk- Line Rental and Calls	

Cheque No. 406795	45.00
Park Keeper- Line Retal and Calls	
Cheque No. 406796	45.00
Neasham Nurseries- Park Flowers	
Cheque No. 406797	£1959.25
Neasham Nurseries- Park Flowers	£255.60
British Gas- Community Centre	
Cheque NO. 406799	£226.44
Thomas Owen & Sons- Cleaning Materials (Centre)	
Cheque No. 406800	£203.65
Durham County Council- Building Compliance Centre)	
Cheque No. 406651	£1047.432
Durham County Council- Trade Waste (Centre)	
Cheque No. 406652	£760.24
Aztec Colour Print- Letterhead (Reissued Cheque)	
Cheque No. 406653	£122.40
Durham County Council- Payroll SLA	
Cheque No. 406654	£2358.90
Clerk- Postage Refund	
Cheque No. 406655	£52.20

(b) Bank Reconciliation

The Clerk advised that the Parish Councils accounts were with its internal auditor and would be submitted to the external auditor in June. Bank reconciliation updates would follow on return of the accounts.

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

2025/06/09/09

REPORTS

(a) **The Clerk**

There were no reports from the Clerk.

(b) **Members**

There were no Member reports.

County Councillor

County Councillor Franklin advised that in her short time in office her time had been taken up with the planning application for a children's home Arundel Walk And a potential resubmission of a planning application at land to the rear of the front street at the southern end of the village. Brief discussion followed on the previous history to that planning application.

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

2025/06/09/10

SCHEDULE OF ONGOING MATTERS

A Member raised an item in the schedule of ongoing matters relating to community development. Following general discussion, it was **RESOLVED** that the matter be discussed at the following Community Association meeting.

2025/06/09/11

EXCLUSION OF THE PRESS AND PUBLIC

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

2025/06/09/12

CO-OPTION TO THE PARISH COUNCIL

RESOLVED that Craig Ryan, John Hogg and John Higgins be invited to be co-opted to the Parish Council as the only three members of the community who had attended the meeting following a publication of the co-option opportunities.

CERTIFIED TRUE RECORD

CHAIRMAN

DATE