

THE MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF WINGATE PARISH COUNCIL
HELD ON MONDAY, 14th JULY 2025

Present: Councillors S Williams (Chair), A Ogle, M Whiting, J Higgins, C Ryan, E Mason,

Apologies for absence were received from Councillors P Mason and J Hogg

2025/07/14/01

PUBLIC QUESTIONS

There were no representatives of the public in attendance.

2025/07/14/02

THE MINUTES OF THE MEETING held on 9 June 2025 were agreed as a correct record.

2025/07/14/03

POLICE AND ASSOCIATED MATTERS

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

101 incidents reported to control room.

Criminal Damage

Damage to a bike.

Damage to a window.

Threats to cause damage

Theft and Handling

Theft of vehicle

Shoplifting x5

Theft of Wheelchair

ASB

Off road bikes x13

8 on the pit heaps

Youths causing damage.

It was noted that the Police were visiting local schools in relation to arson and about how to stay safe in the area in advance of the summer holidays.

Problems of quad bikes and other anti-social behaviour were being encountered on the pit heap areas with access appearing to come from the rear of North Road West where a gate used by some allotment tenants was not being locked at all times. The Clerk stated he had visited the area and there had been times when it was locked.

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

- a) the information given be noted; and
- b) further investigation be made into the allotment gate not being

locked.

2025/07/14/04

PROGRESS REPORT

(1) Park Improvements

The Clerk advised that planning permission for the demolition of the existing football changing room and the build of a new one had been approved subject to a number of conditions relating mainly to ecological issues. A further ecological survey was needed to address some of the issues.

It was noted the Clerk was meeting the Football Association later that week to commence a grant funding application. The Clerk outlined an indicative timetable and next stages leading to the potential receipt of tenders by the end of September 2025. Beaumont Brown was to act as design led and contract manager. The Clerk advised that without external grant funding there was no guarantee that the build of new a changing room could commence and even with Football Association and Section 106 monies there could be a shortfall.

New machinery was still awaited and so the Football Association grant application relating to it could not be concluded.

An ecological survey at the pond area had highlighted great crested newts were not present.

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

(2) Summer Activities

The Clerk advised that arrangements were now in place for activities to take at the Community Centre commencing Monday 21 July. Volunteers were sought to help with general supervision of areas such as the kitchen including issuing drinks and snacks.

RESOLVED the information given be noted be noted.

(3) Flower Planters Wellfield Road

The Clerk advised that two flower planters had been relocated from Wellfield Road to the pit wheel area. It was noted they had been sited originally at Wellfield Road to help prevent car parking of the grass verge and since hanging baskets had stopped being erected with external watering arrangements, the Park Keeper was finding increasingly difficult to manage watering arrangements. There had been some complaints that the tubs had been moved.

The Clerk suggested flower tubs and hanging baskets be considered as part of the precept process and it was noted that some of the tubs were in poor condition and needed upgrading

RESOLVED the information given be noted be noted.

2025/07/14/05

WINGATE AND DISTRICT COMMUNITY ASSOCIATION

Members considered a request from the Clerk for approval to be made for a

financial contribution towards the Community Association and the running of the Community Centre. The Clerk presented a general overview of the Associations finances and Members felt that a forecast for the remainder of the year needed to be considered.

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

- a) The Clerk be authorized to make a £10k financial contribution towards the running costs of the Association;
- b) The Clerk and Councillor Ryan meet to prepare a financial forecast for the remainder of the year; and
- c) Further updates be awaited.

2025/07/14/06

PLANNING APPLICATIONS

RESOLVED that no objections be made to the following applications:

Single storey extension- St Marys RCA Primary School
Two side extension and single storey rear extension- 20 Vicarage Esate

2025/07/14/07

CORRESPONDENCE

There were no items of correspondence to consider.

2025/07/14/08

PAYMENTS AND FINANCIAL MATTERS

- (a) Authorisation of Payments

RESOLVED that authorisation be given for the following payments:

Anglian Water

Cheque No. 406656	£896.06
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Npower- Pit Wheel

Cheque No. 406657	£73.63
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Eon Next- Xmas Lighting

Cheque No. 406658	£24.68
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Eon Next- Football Pitch

Cheque No. 406659	£191.02
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UK Fuels- Petrol

Cheque No. 406660	£6.44
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Horns Garden Centre- Misc Supplies

Cheque No. 406661	£91.13
Anglian Water- Community Centre	
Cheque No. 406662	£133.14
Durham CC- Payroll SLA	
Cheque No. 406664	£1207.87
UK Fuels- Petrol	
Cheque No. 406665	£6.63
Par Petroleum- Diesel	
Cheque No.,406666	£245.12
BT- Broadband at Park	
Cheque No. 406667	£93.18
Robinsons of Wingate Catering- May Bingo	
Cheque No. 406790	£165.00
Robinsons of Wingate- June Social Event	
Cheque No. 406668	£145.00
Durham CC- Licence for Land at Nursery	
Cheque No. 406669	£1.00
Zurich Municipal- Park Inspection Contract	
Cheque No. 406670	£479.87
Jeff Dinning- 24/25 Internal Audit	
Cheque No. 406671	£450.00
Durham CC- Centre Building Compliance	
Cheque No. 406672	£1047.42
Durham CC- Payroll SLA	
Cheque No. 406673	£2358.90
UK Fuels- Petrol	
Cheque No. 406674	£6.63

Durham CC- Trade Waste	£760.24
Macfarlane Group- Dog Bags	
Cheque NO. 406677	£286.80
Steadfast Security- Alarm to New Container	
Cheque No. 406678	£198.00
TSL- Vert Draining of Park Pitches	
Cheque No. 406679	£960.00
UK Fuels- Petrol	
Cheque No. 406680	£6.66
Cler- July Office Allowance	
Cheque No. 406681	£50.00
Horns Garden Centre- Misc Supplies	
Cheque No. 406682	£10.98
Npower- Pit Wheel	
Cheque No. 406683	£71.21
Eon Next- Xmas Lighting	
Cheque No. 54-06684	£23.71

(b) Bank Reconciliation

The Clerk presented a bank reconciliation for the period to the end of May which showed an amount of £260484.53.

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

2025/07/14/09

REPORTS

(a) **The Clerk**

There were no reports from the Clerk.

(b) **Members**

(1) Road Markings

A Member reported that not all new road markings had been completed with some still required at Durham Roads where speed humps were also to be installed. Yellow lines were noted as also being installed at various places in the village with exact scheme details determined by the Police and Highways Authority.

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

(2) Planters Pit Wheel

A Member reported that a compliant had been received that a planter at the pit wheel area was unsafe. It was also reported that timber around the pit wheel potentially needed repairing.

Following general discussion, it was **RESOLVED** the Clerk investigate the matters and further updates be awaited.

(3) Notice Board

RESOLVED the Clerk arrange for the notice board to be updated with any old notices removed.

(4) Park

A query was raised about the potential need for more bins at the park. It was noted that bins were currently emptied on a regular basis with rubbish removed on a weekly basis by Durham County Council as part of a trade waste agreement. The Clerk stated that additional bins were to be included in the tender for new changing rooms along with new signage.

A Member also identified that further damage had been caused to the pond bridge had been repaired previously. The Clerk agreed to arrange for repairs.

Following general discussion, it was **RESOLVED** that the Clerk address the issues raised and further updates be awaited.

County Councillor

There was no County Councillor present.

2025/07/14/10

SCHEDULE OF ONGOING MATTERS

RESOLVED that the details included in the schedule of ongoing matters be noted..

CERTIFIED TRUE RECORD

CHAIRMAN

DATE