

**THE MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF WINGATE PARISH COUNCIL**  
**HELD ON MONDAY, 11th MAY 2026**

**Present:** Councillors M Whiting (Chair), A Bowden, E Mason, C Ryan, D Clogg

County Councillor Mary Lynn Franklin

Apologies for absence were received from Councillor P Mason

2026/05/11/01

**APPOINTMENT OF CHAIR PERSON**

**RESOLVED** that Councillor Whiting be appointed Chair Person for the ensuring year.

2026/05/11/02` `

**APPOINTMENT OF VICE CHAIR PERSON**

**RESOLVED** that Councillor Ryan be appointed Vice Chair Person for the ensuring year.

2026/05/11/03

**THE MINUTES OF THE MEETINGS** held on 12 April 2026 were agreed as a correct record.

2026/05/11/04

**POLICE AND ASSOCIATED MATTERS**

Th Clerk presented a report from the Police summarising crime and anti-social behavioural issues for April 2026 which included:

Theft

Theft from the Coop,

Theft from a home following a dispute.

ASB

Quad bike/off road bikes x 5.

Male drunk outside of Primary School.

Noise complaint.

Youth climbing on roofs.

Youths with catapults.

Youth kicking a door x 2.

Criminal Damage

Criminal damage linked to the protests.

Criminal damage to a property at Market Crescent.

Damage to a medical centre.

Burglary

Burglary at Wingate woodland.

Burglary at a local business.

Vehicle Damage

Windows broken at Vehicle at the medical centre.

It was noted that a vehicle has been seized in relation to a crime in Wingate and an off road bike had been seized on the lines. An Easter competition was noted as having taken place at local schools.

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

2026/05/11/05

## **PROGRESS REPORT**

### (1) Football Changing Room

The Clerk advised that the Football Association had approved the Parish Council's grant application and, subject to contract, funding of £99,999 could potentially be awarded.

The Clerk further advised that the lowest tenderer had been approached and asked to confirm whether there were any changes to its tender price and until this was known the scheme costs and any potential shortfall could not be confirmed.

The Clerk stated that the two local County Councillors had still committed £20k to the scheme and Section 106 monies could still be applied for but a contractor first needed to be appointed.

The Clerk asked that there be no public discussion about the potential Football Association grant as there was no guarantee the scheme would proceed. He stated that a special meeting may be needed to discuss progress prior to the next meeting.

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

### (2) Park

The Clerk referred to the last meeting which had been attended by two representatives of the ladies bowls team. Following the meeting investigations had highlighted that it was a member of the bowls team who had left the pavilion open and left a machine out in the open. Inspections of the bowling green had shown it to be in very good condition and discussions with the mens team had highlighted that they were very happy with the green. It appeared that the comments from the representatives of the ladies bowls team had been unwarranted.

Overall, the park was in good condition and summer maintenance works were to start on the football pitches. It was noted that an external contractor had undertaken works in the previous year but it was proposed the maintenance works be now undertaken by the Park Keeper although to assist with this a spreader which could be attached to the tractor was needed at a cost of circa £1400 although this would be funded by Football Association pitch maintenance grant funding.

It was noted that a site meeting at the park was still required and health and safety matters still needed to be progressed..

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

- (a) The information given be noted;
- (b) The Clerk be authorized to proceed with the purchase of a new spreader; and
- (c) Details of a site meeting be awaited.

(3) Fun and Food Summer Activities

The Clerk gave an update on a proposed Fun and Food summer activities funding application. It was noted that the application would be submitted in the name of Hutton Henry and Station Town Parish Council. Less days were proposed than in previous years with all activities and the coordination of them being outsourced. It was noted that funding could only be used on those eligible for free school meals. The Clerk advised that the Parish Council had committed £2k towards summer activities in its precept.

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

2026/05/11/07

**COMMUNITY ASSOCIATION GRANT FUNDING**

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

- (a) Grant funding of £4k be made to the Community Association towards the operational costs of the Community Centre; and
- (b) A further review of potential funding requirements to the Community Association be undertaken.

2026/05/11/08

**PLANNING APPLICATIONS**

There were no objections to consider.

2026/05/11/09

**CORRESPONDENCE**

(a) Car Wash Area

The Clerk advised that he had received a complaint about the car was business and the fact it was encroaching on to the highway and was using fencing which did not appear to be for for purpose. It was noted that the matter had been referred to the County Council to investigate.

**RESOLVED** the information given be noted and further updates be awaited.

2026/05/11/10

**FEES FOR 2026/27**

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

(a) Football Fees

Football fees for 2026/27 be increased to £100 per team per season.

(b) Bowls

Bowls fees for 2026/27 be increased to £200.

(c) Allotments

Allotment rents remain as in the previous year.

2026/05/11/11

## **PAYMENTS AND FINANCIAL MATTERS**

a) Appointment of Internal Auditor  
**RESOLVED** that Mt J Dinning be appointed internal auditor.

b) Authorisation of Payments

**RESOLVED** that authorisation be given for the following payments:

Npower- Pit Wheel	
Cheque No. 406939	£57.53
Radius Business Solutions- Petrol	
Cheque No. 406940	£7.87
Playdale Playgrounds- Play Equipment- (50%)	
Cheque No. 406941	£1670.78
Clerk- May Office Allowance	
Cheque No. 406942	£50.00
Durham CC- HR Advice	
Cheque No. 406943	£81.00
Durham CC- Machine Repairs	
Cheque No. 406944	£869.75
Radius Business Solutions- Petrol	
Cheque No. 406945	£8.11
MKM- Misc Supplies	
Cheque No.,406946	£8.00
Clerk- Refund for Ink Cartridges	
Cheque No. 406947	£59.99

(d) Bank Reconciliation  
The Clerk presented a bank reconciliation for the year ended 31 March 2026. A healthy balance was shown although it was recognised that the football changing room project would require a significant proportion of the reserves if it was to proceed.

**RESOLVED** the information given be noted.

2026/05/11/12

**REPORTS**

(a) **The Clerk**

There were no reports from the Clerk.

(b) **Members**

(1) Fly Tipping Pit Heaps

**RESOLVED** that County Councillor Franklin chase progress regarding the gate leading from the rear of North Road West to the pit heaps in order to help the prevention of further fly tipping.

(2) Domestic Issues, North Road

**RESOLVED** that County Councillor Franklin offer support and guidance in relation to a domestic dispute at North Road including noise pollution.

(3) Moore Lane, Yellow Lines

**RESOLVED** that County Councillor Franklin investigate the issue of yellow lines at Moore Lane and concerns they did not extend far enough.

(c) **County Councillor**

(1) Caradoc Road

**RESOLVED** it be noted that County Councillor Franklin was investigating the potential removal of a dead tree impeding on the garden of a resident in Caradoc Road.

(2) Moore Lane Footpath

**RESOLVED** it be noted that progress in relation to works to prevent future flooding was still awaited.

(3) Pot Holes

**RESOLVED** it be noted that County Councillor Franklin had complained about recent works to repair pot holes on the front street and further investigations were ongoing.

2026/05/11/13

**SCHEDULE OF ONGOING MATTERS**

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

**CERTIFIED TRUE RECORD**

CHAIRMAN .....

DATE .....