

THE MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF WINGATE PARISH COUNCIL
HELD ON MONDAY, 8th JUNE 2026

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

Apologies for absence were received from County Councillor Mary Lynn Franklin.

2026/06/08/01

PUBLIC QUESTIONS

2026/06/08/02

THE MINUTES OF THE MEETINGS held on 11 May 2026 were agreed as a correct record.

2026/06/08/03

POLICE AND ASSOCIATED MATTERS

Th Clerk presented a report from the Police summarising crime and anti-social behavioural issues for May 2026 which included 98 incidents.

ASB

Quad bike/off road bikes x 5.

Noise complaint x 2.

Youths causing issues in the community garden.

Youths throwing food in a shop.

Youths with catapults.

ASB linked to a social media post.

Criminal Damage

Smashed windows.

Youths throwing eggs of cars x 2.

Extra patrols were noted to help deal with increased incidents relating to off road bikes. Catapult issues were noted as increasing and a vehicle was noted as having being stopped and searched which showed evidence of a catapult and ball bearings which had been subsequently seized. Volunteers were sought for a future speed watch exercise in the village.

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

2026/06/08/04

PROGRESS REPORT

(1) Park Roadway

The Clerk advised that he had met with Councillor Clogg to discuss potential repairs to the park roadway and the advice from Councillor Clogg was that parts of the road needed resurfacing and further patching was not appropriate. Subsequently Durham County Council's highways team had been asked to visit the site and to provide advice an estimated cost for undertaking necessary repairs. Temporary repairs were to be undertaken by the Park Keeper.

Discussion followed on whether the local nursery and RC Primary School

should be approached to discuss potential contributions from them towards any potential road repair costs. It was noted that wagons and traffic generally associated with extension works taking place at the RC Primary School had contributed in part to the deterioration of the road.

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

- a) the information given be noted;
- b) approaches be made to both the Nursery and the RC Primary School about potential help to repairing; and
- c) further updates be awaited.

(2) Allotment Rents

RESOLVED it be noted that allotment rents were to be collected on Wednesday 17 June.:

(3) Fun and Food Summer Activities

The Clerk advised that further guidance had highlighted that Fun and Food grants were limited to up to 25 children who had to be eligible for free school meals. It was noted that there was considerable risk of more children attending on a daily basis incurring cost that would then need to be paid for by the Parish Council. It was noted that Hutton Henry and Station Town Parish Council had stated it would only contribute financially to children from its parish and as Wingate had a bigger catchment area, the financial risk to Wingate Parish Council was greater.

Discussion followed on staffing levels and activities and how this would be matched to the eligibility funding and the limited of 25 children.

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

- a) the information given be noted;
- b) the Parish Council agree to participate in summer Fun and Food Activities subject to further updates regarding funding and arrangements.
- c) the Clerk continue to liaise with Hutton Henry and Station Town Parish Council regarding arrangements and
- d) further updates be awaited

2026/06/08/05

PLANNING APPLICATIONS

RESOLVED that no objections be made to the following application:

Land to the South East of former Wellfield Farm, Moore Lane- Retrospective formation of hard standing for agricultural use.

2026/06/08/06

CORRESPONDENCE

Premises Licence- Mondo's Pizzeria, 1 Granby Terrace

RESOLVED that no objections be made to the premises licence application.

2026/06/08/07

PAYMENTS AND FINANCIAL MATTERS

a) Authorisation of Payments

RESOLVED that authorisation be given for the following payments:

Wingate and District Community Association- Grant Funding

Cheque No. 406948 £4000.00

BT- Broadband at the Park

Cheque No. 406949 £96.00

Eon Next- Football Changing Room

Cheque No. 406950 £276.10

Eon Next- Xmas Lighting

Cheque No. 407001 £67.00

Npower- Pit Wheel

Cheque No. 407002 £54.64

Durham Dry Stone- Bowls Pavilion Works

Cheque No. 407003 £130.00

Clerk- June Office Allowance

Cheque No. 407004 £50.00

Clerk- Refund for Ink Cartridges

Cheque No. 407005 £77.54

Clerk- Refund for Paper

Cheque No. 407006 £15.99

TSL- Top Dressing

Chequ No. 407007 £223.20

Clerk- Allotment Postage

Cheque No. 407008 £63.70

BT- Broadband at the Park

Cheque No. 407009 £96.00

Durham CC- Trade Waste

Cheque No. 407010 £1062.36

Kone- Community Centre Lift Repairs

Cheque No. 407011 £11187.72

(a) Financial Update

The Clerk advised that the accounts for the year ended March 2026 were still being reviewed by the Parish Council's internal auditor. A vat return for circa £27500 was noted as having been submitted but not yet paid. Reserves were not as being circa £92,000.

RESOLVED the information given be noted.

2026/06/08/08

REPORTS

(a) **The Clerk**

There were no reports from the Clerk.

(b) **Members**

(1) Dawson Road- Street Signs

RESOLVED the Clerk liaise with at County Councillor Franklin regarding the potential for new signs to be installed showing house numbers at Dawson Road.

(2) Yellow Lines

RESOLVED the Clerk liaise with County Councillor Franklin regarding the potential for the installation of additional yellow lines at the entrance off the front street beyond Moore Lane.

(3) 59 North Road West

RESOLVED the Clerk report potential blocked gullies at the area of 59 North Road West.

(4) Allotments

RESOLVED that a potential applicant be referred to the Clerk.

(5) Over 40s FC

RESOLVED the Clerk liaise with the Over 40s FC regarding use of the pitches for the 26/27 season.

(c) **County Councillor**

In the absence of County Councillr Franklin a written report was presented on her behalf. Pots holes were noted as having been reported again with some works noted as being unsatisfactory. Details were still awaited regarding resurfacing works at New cross Row. An empty house at North Road West was noted as being investigated and it was noted that County Councillor Franklin has asked for bus stop to be cleaned and road marking

repainted. Gulley Road footpath works were noted as still be awaited.

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

2026/06/08/09

SCHEDULE OF ONGOING MATTERS

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

2026/06/08/09

EXCLUSION OF THE PRESS AND PUBLIC

RESOLVED that the press and public be excluded for the following item of business under the Public Bodies Admission to Meetings Act 1960 (as amended) due to the disclosure of financial information.

2026/06/08/10

FOOTBALL CHANGING ROOM

The Chairman welcomed David Brown from Beaumont Brown Architects who was noted as being in attendance to assist in providing an update on the football changing room project. The Clerk reminded the Parish Council of general progress to date before Mr Bown gave a lengthy and detailed presentation of the football changing room project from initial discussions with the Football Association to the current position. Design details were presented together with a tender process and subsequent redesigns of the building due to FA requirements and budget constraints. It was noted

Discussions followed regrading the potential cost of the scheme, access to the pitches and changing facilities during works and ongoing cleaning and maintenance of any new changing facilities. However, lengthy discussion followed regarding the affordability of the project and the actual financial contribution required from the Parish Council.

Following further discussions, it was **RESOLVED** that:

- a) The information given be noted; and
- b) The football changing room be considered further at further special meeting.

2026/06/08/11

RETIREMENT OF THE CLERK

The Clerk advised of his intention to retire stating he was unable to commit the time the role now required particularly as it also involved a significant support to the Community Association. The workload was noted as having an impact on his health and wellbeing. He stated that his intentions were not to leave immediately but to support the Parish Council in finding a replacement Clerk.

Following further discussions, it was **RESOLVED** that the information given be noted.

CERTIFIED TRUE RECORD

CHAIRMAN

DATE