

**THE MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF WINGATE PARISH COUNCIL**  
**HELD ON MONDAY, 9th MAY 2022**

**Present:** Councillors S Williams (Chair) P Daly, J Bradley, S Kelly, E Mason, P Mason, C Ryan, M Wilson

County Councillor J Higgins

22/05/09/01

**APPOINTMENT OF CHAIR PERSON**

**RESOLVED** that Councillor Scott Williams be appointed as chairperson for the ensuring year.

22/05/09/02

**APPOINTMENT OF VICE CHAIR PERSON**

**RESOLVED** that Councillor Ernie Mason be appointed as vice chairperson for the ensuring year.

2022/05/09/03

**PUBLIC QUESTIONS**

There were no representatives of the public present.

2022/05/09/04

**THE MINUTES OF THE MEETING** held on 11th April 2022 and the Special Meeting held on were agreed as a correct record.

In relation to the minutes of the meeting held of 11 April 2022 a Member stated that he thought it had been agreed to adopt NALC model standing orders and not simply consider them at the next meeting. The Clerk stated he had understood the discussion to be in relation to considering the model standing orders prior to any potential adoption of them.

The same member also stated that in relation to discussions about HR issues the Clerk had stated he had no line manager.

County Councillor Higgins referred to minute number 22/03/07/13 and stated that while he was aware Believe Housing had funding for safe play areas he had not stated they were investigating them.

The comments made were noted.

2022/05/09/05

**POLICE AND ASSOCIATED MATTERS**

The Clerk presented a summary of crime and anti-social behaviour related statistics for the period covering April 2022 which included 123 incidents, an increase from the previous month. These were summarised as follows:

26 ASB incidents summarised as follows

ASB Personal- 2

ASB Nuisance- 14

ASB Environmental

Other incidents were summarised as follows:

1 vehicle crime

11 criminal damage

0 burglary

Issues relating to off road and quad bikes were noted as being included within the list of incidents. Three off road bikes had been seized along with three uninsured vehicles. Another youth had been issued with and acceptable behaviour contract by the Police and Durham County Council and another youth had been charged with criminal damage.

Discussion followed in relation to a recent PACT meeting which had been well attended. The parish Council had been represented by the new chairperson. The new local Inspector had given his commitment to short and long term solutions to anti-social behaviour problems. He was also committed to attending PACT meetings on an ongoing basis.

County Councillor Higgins advised that as well as attending the PACT meeting he had also had meetings with the Police. He stated a bus service had recently been taken off because of stones being thrown at a bus. The Inspector was keen to look at speeding issues at various places in the village including Wellfield Road and Durham Road. The inspector was not of the view that the seats at the former TSB square were a causing factor in relation to the ongoing issues.

County Councillor Higgins stated that he had met with the Anti-Social Behaviour team at Durham County Council and any information any member of the public had regarding incidents in Wingate or Station Town could be passed on to them. He stated he would pass on contact details to the Clerk for publication.

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

2022/05/09/06

#### **PROGRESS REPORT**

(1) North Road West Fencing

**RESOLVED** that the Clerk obtain three quotes for replacement fencing before proceeding.

(2) Joint Event with Hutton Henry Parish Council

The Clerk advised that the joint bingo and pie and peas event had been a success with approximately fifteen people attending. It was suggested the event continue on a monthly basis to help provide an opportunity for elder people in the community to be able to get out and socialise.

Following general discussion it was **RESOLVED** that the Clerk be authorised to continue to liaise with Hutton Henry Parish regarding an initial continuation of a bingo and pie and peas event on a monthly basis.

(2) Jubilee Gifts

The Clerk advised that he had enquired about potential Jubilee gifts for children and a budget of around £10 per child would be needed. He stated that while exact numbers of children were not known it would be several hundred meaning costs of several thousand of which there was no budget for. The Clerk added the parish Council had already agreed to part fund a picnic at the church and other community activities were taking place including a children's event in the community centre and potentially a children's picnic in the park.

It was noted that it was hoped to be able to plant trees in the park area as a lasting memorial with potentially each one being linked to a child in the village.

Following general discussion it was **RESOLVED** not to fund children's jubilee gifts and to await further progress in relation to tree planting.

(3) Bowls Pavilion

The Clerk reported that improvement works had commenced and good progress was being made. He stated that thought needed to be given to meeting the Belive Housing targets of increasing usage of the building. He stated that he had met with representatives of the nursery and the Education Development Trust regarding the potential of parents of children attending the nursery being able to access courses on CV writing and job readiness. He stated that potentially some courses could be run from the bowls pavilion.

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

(4) Park Update

The Clerk reported that parks staff were very busy with general maintenance and supporting park improvements. There had been incidents of vandalism including a park bench being set on fire.

Two new park benches and bins were awaited from Mott Macdonald as gift to the community following recent works undertaken on behalf of Northumbrian Water.

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

(5) Tree Planting

The Clerk advised that he was meeting a tree officer from Durham County Council later that week to investigate the planting of four hundred trees to arrive in November 2022 as part of the Making Wingate Welfare Park Wonderful project.

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

(6) Lottery Application

The Clerk advised that linked to the Making Wingate Welfare Park Wonderful project he had submitted a national lottery funding application for a Park Co-ordinator/Warden.

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

2022/05/09/07

**PLANNING APPLICATIONS**

There were no applications to consider.

2022/05/09/08

**CORRESPONDENCE**

(a) Wingate Nursery

The Clerk advised that a letter had been received from a representative of the nursery in relations to hold events on the grassed area adjacent to the bowls pavilion. These included a Jubilee picnic on 9 June, a sports day on 15 July and a concert on 20 July. He advised he was awaiting further details and was liaising with the bowls club.

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

(b) Local Cycling and Walking Improvement Plan

**RESOLVED** that details of a stakeholder workshop to be held on 11 May at Old Shotton Peterlee be noted.

(c) East Durham Area Action Partnership Meeting

**RESOLVED** that details of next meeting to be held on 11 May be noted.

2022/05/09/09

**FEES FOR 2022/23**

**RESOLVED** that fees for

2022/05/09/10

**PAYMENTS AND FINANCIAL MATTERS**

(a) Authorisation of Payments

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

TSL- Fertilizer Etc

Cheque No. 405906	£202.80
UK Fuels Ltd- Petrol	
Cheque No. 405907	£7.53
E.ON Next- Football Changing Rooms	
Cheque No. 405908	£404.45
PB Skip Hire- Skip Hire	
Cheque No.405909	£300.00
BT- Broadband at Park	
Cheque No.405910	£81.92
Peart Fencing- Park Fence	
Cheque No.405911	£861.60
TSL- Fertilizer Etc	
Cheque No.405912	£170.40
Wingate Community Association- Annual Funding	
Cheque No.405913	£16000.00
Robinsons the Butcher- Catering	
Cheque No.405914	£375.00
Horns Garden Centre- Misc Supplies	
Cheque No.405915	£82.99
UK Fuels- Petrol	
Cheque No. 405916	£6.54
UK Fuels- Petrol	
Cheque No. 405917	£7.55
TSL- Fertilizer	

Cheque No. 405918	£284.00
MKM- Plywood and Screws	
Cheque No. 405919	£77.30
MKM- Paint Etc	
Cheque No. 405920	£129.95
MKM- Timber and Plywood	
Cheque No. 405921	£110.24
MKM- Padlock	
Cheque No. 405922	£8.39
Uk Fuels Ltd- Petrol	
Cheque No. 405923	£7.72
Clerk- Refund for Envelopes	
Cheque No. 405925	£21.74
J Hart- Bowls Pavilion Labour and Materials	
Cheque No. 405926	£2775.00
J Hart- Football Changing Rooms- Labour and Supply of Roof	
Cheque No. 405927	£5512.00
Wingate Community Association- Room Hire	
Cheque No. 405928	£84.00
Wingate Community Association- Room Hire	
Cheque No. 405929	£84.00
Clerk- May Office Allowance	
Cheque No. 405930	£50.00

2022/05/09/11

## **STANDING ORDERS**

Following lengthy discussion and consideration of a report from the Clerk which contained copies of existing Parish Council standing orders and National Association of Local Councils (NALC) model standing orders it was **RESOLVED** that:

- (a) NALC model standing orders be adopted by the Parish Council;
- (b) The Clerk, Chair and Vice Chair undertake a review of the model standing orders and adapt them to ensure appropriateness for use by the Parish Council; and
- (c) A further draft version be presented to a future meeting of the Parish Council for consideration.

2022/05/09/12

## **FINANCIAL REGULATIONS**

Following lengthy discussion and consideration of a report from the Clerk which contained a copy of the Parish Council's existing financial regulations it was **RESOLVED** that:

- (a) The Clerk, Chair and Vice Chair undertake a review of the financial regulations to ensure appropriateness for use by the Parish Council and to ensure consistency with standing orders; and
- (b) A further draft version be presented to a future meeting of the Parish Council for consideration.

2022/05/09/13

## **REPORTS**

(a) **The Clerk**

There were no reports from the Clerk.

(b) **Members**

(1) **Holy trinity Church Graveyard**

A Member referred to the poor condition of the Holy Trinity Church graveyard and resident comments about it. The Clerk advised that it was classed as a closed graveyard and the responsibility of Durham County Council to maintain. Another member advised that a survey was being undertaken linked to the condition of the graveyard.

Following general discussion it was **RESOLVED** that the Clerk seek an update from Durham County Council on the maintenance of the graveyard/

(2) **Dawson Road- Speeding**

In response to a Member reporting speeding in the Dawson Road area the

Clerk and County Councillor Higgins advised that incidents needed to be reported directly to the Police and without an evidence the County Council would not consider speeding measures.

Another Member suggested promoting reporting arrangements of the Parish Council's Facebook page.

**RESOLVED** the information given be noted and the Clerk promote reporting arrangements on the Parish Council's Facebook page.

(3) Pit Heaps

In response to a query the Clerk advised he was still awaiting a response from Durham County Council regarding the possibility of tree planting on the former pit heaps areas.

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

(4) Former Crossings Signal

**(c) County Councillor**

County Councillor Higgins congratulated the Chairman on his appointment and subsequently gave an update on County Council activities.

He advised that he was supporting a nursery Jubilee picnic and providing £100 towards it. Works at the Wellfield flyover were noted as likely to be ongoing for some time. Highways at Cummings Square, Foster Square and Bruce Crescent were noted as being included in a resurfacing programme.

The Moore Lane right of way referred to at previous meetings was noted as only containing three areas where repairs were to be undertaken. It was noted that if pot holes could be walked around they did not need to be repaired.

County Councillor Higgins advised that approval had been given for him to use his AAP local member funding towards a Covid remembrance plaque. He added that the resident who had suggested it was grateful to all those who had supported it.

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

2022/05/09/14

**SCHEDULE OF ONGOING MATTERS**

**RESOLVED** that the schedule of ongoing matters be noted.

2022/05/09/15

**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 financial information.

2022/05/09/16

**CAR PARK RENEWAL AND DRAINAGE**

Following the consideration of quotations it was **RESOLVED** that Webster Landscaping be appointed to undertake car park renewal and drainage works as outlined by the Clerk.

At the end of the meeting the Chairman thanked the Parish Council for his appointment and praised the outgoing Chair and Vice Chair for their work in the previous year.

**CERTIFIED TRUE RECORD**

CHAIRMAN .....

DATE .....