

**THE MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF WINGATE PARISH COUNCIL**  
**HELD ON MONDAY, 13th FEBRUARY 2023**

**Present:** Councillors S William (Chair) E Mason, C Ryan, S Kelly, J Bradley, P Mason

County Councillor Higgins

2023/02/13/01

**PUBLIC QUESTIONS**

There were no representatives of the public present.

2023/02/13/02

**THE MINUTES OF THE MEETING** held on 9th January 2023 were agreed as a correct record.

2023/02/13/03

**POLICE AND ASSOCIATED MATTERS**

The Clerk presented a report from the Police covering the period from 1 January 2023 to 31 January 2023. Crime related activity was noted as being significantly reduced from previous months. Gissues included:

Criminal damage- 4 incidents  
 Criminal damage to a vehicle- 0 incidents  
 Anti-social behaviour, nuisance- 3 incident  
 Anti-social behaviour- personal- 0 incidents  
 Anti-social behaviour- environmental- 1 incident  
 Burglary- 0 incidents

It was noted there still appeared to be a reduction in off road bike/quad bike related incidents. In relation to youth throwing stones etc at passing vehicles there was an intention for the Police to visit local schools to discuss the matter.

Further speed monitoring activity was noted as to take place although no dates had yet been agreed.

The next PACT meeting was noted as being online on Wednesday 22 January at 6pm.

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

2023/02/13/04

**PROGRESS REPORT**

(1) Park Coordinator  
 The Clerk advised that he was liaising with the National Lottery Fund

regarding the potential of the grant being increased to in order the salary level to be also increased. It was hoped a decision would be made prior to the next meeting. It was also noted there was an intention to change the job title to Community Development Officer.

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

(2) Bingo/Social Events

Following general discussion it was **RESOLVED** the Clerk be authorised to continue joint bingo and social events with Hutton Henry Parish Council.

(3) Park

The Clerk gave an update on park related activities. Spring maintenance was to take place at the bowling green. Dog bags were noted as being on order. Summer flowers were about to be ordered and the Clerk reminded Members that it had previously been agreed not to put hanging baskets in order to cut back on costs. A Member suggested looking at more street planters in the long term. The walking club was noted as continuing to use the bowls pavilion as a warm space area.

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

(4) Pit Wheel

**RESOLVED** it be noted that a part was awaited to complete repairs to the pit wheel lighting.

2023/02/13/05

**PLANNING APPLICATIONS**

**RESOLVED** there be no objections to the following application:

Catchgate farm- Agricultural building to cover grain dryer and grain bin.

It was noted that the planning application relating to an extension at the Junior School previously considered by the Parish Council had been approved.

2023/01/09/06

**CORRESPONDENCE**

(1) Letter of Thanks

**RESOLVED** the letter of thanks from Mrs Davies relating to the flowers sent on behalf of the Parish Council be noted.

(2) Anti-Social Behaviour

The Clerk referred to an email sent to the Parish Council from a member of the community regarding anti-social behavioural issues. The Clerk summarised the content of the email and advised that he had invited the individual to attend the meeting. County Councillor Higgins advised that he

had arranged for the individual to meet with the Inspector at Peterlee Police.

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

2023/02/13/07

**PAYMENTS AND FINANCIAL MATTERS**

(a) Authorisation of Payments

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

Steadfast Security- Call Out

Cheque No. 406121 £32.40

Holy Trinity Church- Defibrillator pads

Cheque No. 406122 £134.14

Npower – Pit Wheel

Cheque No. 406123 £38.68

BT- Broadband at Park

Cheque No.406124 £81.92

Harbro Electrical- Cable Matting

Cheque No.406125 £54.00

E.On Next- Xmas Lighting

Cheque No.406126 £33.00

Clerk- Refund for Bingo Books

Cheque No.406127 £17.40

Clerk- Refund for Refreshments

Cheque No.406128 £4.21

Horns Garden Centre – Misc Supplies

Cheque No.406129 £83.46

J Hart- Xmas Tree Work

Cheque No.406130	£385.00
1A Shutters and Grilles- Shutter Repairs	
Cheque No. 406131	£168.00
UK Fuels– Petrol	
Cheque No. 406132	£7.15
Tarns Electrical- Pit Wheel Repairs	
Cheque No. 406133	£318.00
Par Petroleum- Diesel	
Cheque No. 406134	£260.50
Clerk- February Office Allowance	
Cheque No. 406135	£50.00
Wingate Community Association- Bingo Etc 31 January	
Cheque No. 406136	£160.90

(b) Bank Reconciliation

The Clerk presented a bank reconciliation for the period to 24 January 2023 which showed a cash book balance of circa £47,400. The Clerk advised that the Parish Council had low reserves and needed to continue look to savings opportunities.

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

2023/02/13/08

**REPORTS**

(a) **The Clerk**

There were no reports from the Clerk.

(b) **Members**

(1) Woodmans Cottage Allotment Site

**RESOLVED** it be noted that progress is still awaited from the land Registry before being able to progress the sale.

(2) Park- Quad Bikes

**RESOLVED** the Clerk arrange a site meeting to look at preventing access points for quad bikes at the park.

(3) Rubbish- Avant/Bellway Site

**RESOLVED** it be noted that rubbish emanating from the Avant and Bellway housing development sites was being investigated.

(4) Holy Trinity Church

Discussion followed on consultation which was to be undertaken by the Holy Trinity Church regarding the removal of a number of pews. It was understood that this was to create additional storage although exact details were unknown. Members referred to the fact that the church appeared untidy and queried why the community centre was not being utilized for storage in a way that it had in the past.

Following general discussion it was **RESOLVED** further details on the consultation be awaited.

(5) Forest Gate- Children's Buggy Access

The Chairman reported that a member of the community was having access issues to and from the Forest Gate because her children's buggy could not fit through vehicular barriers.

Following general discussion it was **RESOLVED** further information be awaited.

(c) County Councillor

County Councillor Higgins gave an update on County Council activities. It was noted that 118 vehicles had been caught speeding on Wellfield Road in January which meant 360 in total since the speed monitoring had been implemented. The highways works proposed for Wellfield Road were still being considered.

Front street speed monitoring had resulted in an average speed of 27mph being shown during the period of monitoring with only 4% of vehicles speeding which was below the 15% threshold for further action. The Police were noted as having been asked to revisit Durham Road.

It was noted that it was still hoped four CCTV cameras would be installed on the front street area as previously discussed.

The covid plaque previously discussed was noted as to be funded from County Councillor Higgins neighbourhood budget.

Brief details were shared relating to a 'Big Spring Clean' which the Parish Council offered to promote.

County Councillor Higgins was thanked for his report following which it was **RESOLVED** that the information given be noted.

2022/02/13/09

**SCHEDULE OF ONGOING MATTERS**

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

**CERTIFIED TRUE RECORD**

CHAIRMAN .....

DATE .....