

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

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

County Councillor Higgins

2023/03/13/01

PUBLIC QUESTIONS

There were no representatives of the public present.

2023/03/13/02

THE MINUTES OF THE MEETING held on 13th February 2023 were agreed as a correct record.

2023/03/13/03

POLICE AND ASSOCIATED MATTERS

The Clerk presented a report from the Police covering the period from 1 February 2023 to 28 February 2023. Crime related activity was noted as still being significantly reduced compared to previous months. Figures included:

Criminal damage- 2 incidents
 Criminal damage to a vehicle- 2 incidents
 Anti-social behaviour, nuisance- 5 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. It was noted that 5 youths had been reported to the anti-social behaviour team for causing anti-social behaviour.

Further speed monitoring activity was noted as having taken place with results awaited.

PACT meetings were noted as now being face to face on a bi-monthly basis with online meetings ended. The next PACT meeting was noted as being online on Wednesday 22 March at 6pm.

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

2023/03/13/04

PROGRESS REPORT

(1) Bingo/Social Events

The Clerk advised social events were proving to be very successful with the next event planned for Tuesday 28 March. Following general discussion it was **RESOLVED** the information given be noted.

(2) Anti-Social Behaviour

The Clerk advised that since the last meeting he had spoken to the member of the community who had emailed the Parish Council regarding concerns about anti-social behaviour. It appeared the communication had been directed at others and not specifically the Parish Council. It was noted that a meeting with the individual, the local Police Inspector and local County Councillors had been held.

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

(3) Holy Trinity Church

The Clerk advised that following the last meeting he has liaised with representatives of the Church regarding proposals to remove pews. It appeared that there were plans for pews to be removed subject to consultation which was to be undertaken. The Church was regularly used but increasingly for non-traditional purposes and so removing the pews and replacing them with moveable chairs created more space. Reference was made to the Church previously using the community centre to store items but feedback on this was it created extra work moving from building to building and the community centre was closed on Saturday's often when items were needed.

Members expressed concern at the proposal to remove pews. The untidiness of the Church was also commented on. County Councillor Higgins advised the Church was a listed building and permission from English Heritage would be required.

Following general discussion it was **RESOLVED** that details relating to consultation on removing the pews be awaited.

2023/03/13/05

CITIZENS ADVICE SERVICE

The Clerk advised that as part of the ongoing joint work with Hutton Henry and Station Town Parish Council, discussion had taken place regarding the Citizens Advice service in the village and a recognition that some service users were from outside of the Wingate boundary. As a result Hutton Henry and Station Town Parish Council had agreed to provide funding towards the service which would allow an extra hour of face to face time at the fortnightly sessions as well as additional back office time.

RESOLVED the information given be noted.

2023/03/13/06

COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT OFFICER RECRUITMENT

The Clerk advised that due to a lack of applications the deadline had been extended by a week to 21 March 2023.

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

2023/03/13/07

PLANNING APPLICATIONS

RESOLVED there be no objections to the following application:

2023/03/13/08

CORRESPONDENCE

(1) Kings Coronation
RESOLVED that a member of the community be given permission to mark the Kings Coronation by using the pit wheel to host a display.

(2) Councilor Michael Wilson
The Clerk advised that Councillor Wilson had resigned from the Parish Council due to work commitment and it was his intention to now advertise the vacancy.

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

2023/03/13/09

PAYMENTS AND FINANCIAL MATTERS

(a) Authorisation of Payments

RESOLVED that authorisation be given for the following payments:

Harrisons Packaging- Dog Bags	
Cheque No. 406137	£1194.00
EON Next- Football Changing Room	
Cheque No. 406138	£1086.64
EON Next – Xmas Lighting	
Cheque No. 406139	£32.97
Npower- Pit Wheel	
Cheque No.406140	£38.69
BT- Broadband at the Park	
Cheque No.406141	£81.92
TSL- Fertilizer	
Cheque No.406142	£93.60
MKM- Paint Etc	
Cheque No.406143	£72.34
Clerk- March Office Allowance	
Cheque No.406144	£50.00
TSL – Lawn Sand Etc	
Cheque No.406146	£214.80

BT- Broadband at Park	
Cheque No.406147	£81.92
Npower- Pit Wheel	
Cheque No. 406148	£34.69
Clerk- Line Rental and Calls	
Cheque No. 406149	£45.00
Park Keeper- Line Rental and Calls	
Cheque No. 406150	£45.00
EON Next- Bowls Pavilion	
Cheque No. 406151	£419.98
EON Next- Xmas Lighting	
Cheque No. 406152	£29.64
EON Next- Football Changing Room	
Cheque No. 406153	£365.08
Horns Garden Centre- Misc Supplies	
Cheque No. 406154	£10.56
Clerk- Postage Refund	
Cheque No. 406155	£40.80
Citizens Advice Service	
Cheque No. 406156	£3782.00
Wingate Community Association- Bingo 28 February	
Cheque No. 406157	£187.90.

2023/03/13/10

REPORTS

(a) **The Clerk**

There were no reports from the Clerk.

(b) **Members**

(1) **Forest Gate- Children's Buggy Access**

RESOLVED it be noted that nobody had approached the Clerk this matter.

(c) **County Councillor**

County Councillor Higgins gave an update on County Council activities. It was noted that Council Tax had increased by 5%.

Discussion followed in relation to Wellfield Community School and a proposal for it to become part of the New College Durham Academy Trust. A report on the matter was noted as to be considered by the Council's Cabinet later that week. Concern was expressed about good teachers currently at the Wingate site potentially being moved around other schools in the Academy.

Reference was made to a meeting held with Virgin Media who were about to commence works in the village. It was thought there would be limited road/path digging required and limited overall disruption with works due to commence in May.

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

2022/03/13/11

SCHEDULE OF ONGOING MATTERS

RESOLVED that the schedule of ongoing matters be noted.

CERTIFIED TRUE RECORD

CHAIRMAN

DATE