

Whalton Parish Council (WPC)

Wednesday 23rd July 2025 - Whalton Village Hall

Open Parish Council Meeting

(Draft minutes until signed)

25:51 Cllr's Present: Vice chair Martin Grix, Marlene Young, Chair Anne Lennard, Stephen Trobe, Pamela Mitchinson, David Storey.

In attendance:

Malcolm Burn (Parish Clerk)
2 members of the public attended.

25:52 Apologies for absence received: Cllr Lyle Darwin NCC, Rob Naples NCC neighbourhood planning team,

25:53 Declaration of Interests, and grant of any dispensations: Cllr Stephen Trobe regarding village hall business & grant.

25:54 Public questions: A member of the public thanked the members of the parish council for the support it had shown to a recent planning application process.

25:55 Minutes of previous meeting: (Chair)
The minutes of the previous meeting held on 18th June 2025 were agreed and signed by the Chair.

25:56 Matters Arising from the Minutes (unless separately on the agenda)

25.56.01 Unfortunately the planning officer was, at short notice, unable to attend the parish council meeting. Clerk to liaise with NCC to arrange the presentation for Local Planning in September.

25.56.02 Clerk confirmed the purchase of the plaque for the millennial oak tree. Cllr Grix to fix into position.

25.56.03 Cllr Grix provided estimates for the replacement of wooden posts (plus work/materials to fix into place). Discussion took place regarding materials & cost. WPC agreed to approach Cllr Darwin for financial support based upon the estimates. The Clerk confirmed that Cllr Darwin is expected to liaise with planning at NCC to ensure any planning approval before work can proceed. Chair confirmed that WPC could purchase the chains.

25.56.04 Clerk confirmed the revised asset register was incomplete. Discussion took place regarding stone planters located in both Ogle & Whalton. Clerk to update the register and make it available to the council. The clerk confirmed insurance was not due for renewal before October 2025.

25:57 NCC Cllr Lyle Dawin:

25.57.01 Cllr Darwin was unable to attend. However, Cllr Darwin is arranging an NCC Cllr surgery at the village hall in Whalton for Saturday 30th August 1-3pm.

25:58 Financial Matters: (Clerk)

25.58.01 Non routine / other payments made

Whalton carpet bowls club granted on 24/6	500GBP
Whalton village church granted on 24/6	1,500.00
Metal plaque for oak tree Multitechnic Ltd	135.00

25.58.02 Invoices anticipated.

Laptop windows 11 for parish clerk	200.00
Painting of roadside railings nr the church	unknown

25.58.03 Clerk confirmed balances to date of the meeting.

Current Account Unity Trust Bank	7,721.06
Saving Account Unity Trust Bank	3,491.21
Total Balances	11,212.27

25.58.04 Clerk confirmed balance includes the annual wayleave cheque payment from powergrid of 17.08GBP.

25.58.05 The clerk confirmed the shared access to council files in case of illness or other issues. Cllr Lennard was now in possession of a sealed envelope with the important information of the council contained within.

25:59 Correspondence

25.59.01 Clerk confirmed distribution of electronic bulletins NALC, Rural Services & others. Agreed to continue without changes.

25.59.02 A grant application had been received from Citizens Advice Northumberland & the village hall at Whalton. Discussion took place regarding grants. Cllr Trobe stated a delay in paying the grant to the village hall would not have a detrimental effect on those clubs & associations using the facilities.

Council **resolved** not to pay further grant requests until after the budget setting of November 2025, this will be 8 weeks after the 2nd precept allocation.

25.59.03 Detailed discussion took place regarding a list of repair issues relating to the village church. The clerk confirmed that Cllr Darwin was aware of the matter and was in touch with the church warden to discuss how he may be able to help.

25.59.04 Clerk confirmed that an update of grant spending had been received from Whalton carpet bowls.

25.59.05 Public concerns had been raised regarding road repairs at Lyne Law Farm joining the B6524. The road is private, however a section was understood to be the responsibility of NCC. The repair was referred to NCC via the Fix My Street application. No further issues were reported to date of the meeting.

25:60 Planning: (Discussion items)

No planning applications were received.

25:61 Parish Wide Maintenance Schedule 25/26: (Discussion item)

25.61.01 At (25.56.03) Chair to discuss with Cllr Darwin and report to council.

25.61.02 Discussion took place regarding metal railings, left side of the road descending to the church. Clerk to seek estimates for preparation & painting.

25:62 Policy Documents - Standing Orders & Code of Conduct (decision item)

25.62.01 Council **resolved** to adopt the updated Standing Orders.

25.62.02 Council **resolved** to adopt the revised guidance Code of Conduct.

The meeting closed at 20.45

25:50 Date of next meeting(s):All Wednesday 7:30pm Whalton Village Hall
September 10th - meeting in the village hall bar room.

Meeting front room - **November 19th / 7th January 2026 / 25th March.**

Signed.....(Chairman)

Date.....

