

## Widdrington Station & Stobswood Parish Council



### Meeting Minutes

Monday January 12<sup>th</sup> 2026

Started at 6pm

In Attendance: Cllr J Bexfield (Chair), Cllr Trudy Jerdan (Vice Chair), Cllr Wendy Childs, Cllr R Longstaff, Cllr T Wills-Porter + 7MOP

Parishioners input:

Updates regarding build on the old brickworks – Member of the public – William Thompson that owns the land attended the meeting. Planning permission was established in 2020 but due to Covid and other issues the work has not been able to start until now. This is just a cursory mention to keep the village updated. There was some pushback on this but due to the length of time this has taken to happen there is no way this can be opposed now. Will be in touch around April time to arrange a meeting with the community regarding this alongside the site manager and a representative from Cussins.

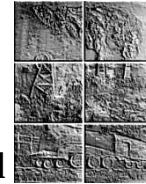
Darren Howie called to discuss the land at Beech Court / Smaller park in same area – Unsure who now owns this land – Clerk to do some research to see who owns this land and to see how the issue of upkeep can be approached.

Litter pick – Leaflets given and put on Facebook and put in the notice board outside the community centre.

Widdy Woods WI Programme handed out and to be displayed on notice board and Facebook page.

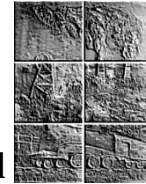
Graffiti on the BT connection box discussed – Cllr Jerdan to contact BT to see if this can be removed.

1. To receive Apologies for Absence: Cllr Ed Dungait, Cllr Sandra Bexfield (sick leave), Cllr Y Juszczuk.
2. To receive Declarations of Interest: Widdy Welcomes, Scouts, Grange Garage.
3. Minutes of the Parish Council Meeting held on the 15<sup>th</sup> December 2025 for approval and adoption. Approved with one correction.
4. Matters Arising on the Minutes:
5. Amendments to standing orders: N/A
6. Agenda Items:
  - Standing agenda item: Banking still needing HSBC updated – Cllr J Bexfield to add Clerk to the names on account. Bank Of Ireland completed – to be removed from next agenda.
  - AGAR 2024/25 progress – update – email sent to NALC regarding this as needing outside source to sign this off from MAZZARS. Awaiting response.



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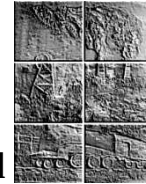
- AGAR 2025/26 plans – finance info being gathered and now being documented – correlation of receipts and finance records. To be made a standing item until completed.
  - Precept 2026 (Chair) – Sent in and completed.
  - Fence at the rear of the community centre. Invoice received – Paid 16.01.26.
  - Gleeson Homes contacted regarding the path. This is still waiting for a response from their legal team. To be removed from agenda – discuss further following response.
  - Fence for Stobswood park – update re different quote as discussed in previous meeting – Original fence deemed fine. No longer needed on agenda. To be removed.
  - Policies being reviewed – new policies discussed and being created by Clerk – Appraisal Policy sent for review.
  - Complaints policy completed
  - Northumberland Design Code – email sent to chair/vice chair and all councillors to have their say. To be removed from next agenda – date passed.
  - Commissioners Community Fund – closes 7<sup>th</sup> Jan 2026 – email sent to chair/vice chair – This has been submitted - £3720 for Bulbs (Plants), Planters and a new camera for security by park. To remain on agenda until funding gained.
  - Website / Facebook – update – Agreed to move forward with Hugofox – contacted following meeting and should be completed prior to next meeting.
  - Job descriptions updated – Clerk and Handyman/Caretaker sent for review prior to signing.
  - Christmas lighting for Signposts for Widdrington Station. Awaiting contact from council regarding suggested size, cost of electrics etc.
  - Eon Next paperwork for Solar reimbursement to be completed. Needs to be signed by previous clerk – to be done following meeting.
  - Doorbell – Reviewed and no longer active – wires removed – need to purchase a new one and install if still required.
  - Sign for the Play park (After dark usage) I have requested a price for this from Spotty Dog Signs, Morpeth. Changes made to size originally requested alongside what is to be stated on the sign – new requirements sent for repricing – Bring renewed quote to next meeting.
  - Hand Dryers/Sanitary bins – Awaiting call back.
  - Notice Board Prices for replacement in Stobswood – Reviewing option on moving second notice board from outside community centre rather than purchasing new one. Update to follow.
7. Actions: N/A
  8. Reports from outside bodies: N/A
  9. Correspondence Received: N/A
  10. Planning Applications:



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- Pine View, Grangemoor road – Single Storey rear Extension – sent to all councillors – no oppositions.
11. Financial – Payments for Approval:
- Wages: Bonnie £1596.85 / Phil £525.03 – Paid
  - Cleaning company £360 – Paid
  - NALC yearly payment outstanding £498.91 – Paid
  - NALC training course payment outstanding £15 (Trudy and Tina 17.11.25) – Paid
  - Playdale outstanding amount £23,222.23 To pay. - Paid
  - Pentagon Play outstanding amount £7243.20 – Paid
  - British Gas Bill - £167.01 – This is automatically paid from Community Centre HSBC account. – Remove from agenda.
  - Overage of £25 put in to bank account for elderberries lunch next year. Complete.
  - Outstanding Viking bill from earlier in year to pay £25.84. Prior to new clerk starting. Paid.
  - Repair of floor polisher to pay £140 to pay. Paid
12. Any Other Business:
- Next service user meeting 16<sup>th</sup> February – item to discuss – safety and storage of items for groups and not to block cleaning cupboard doors.
  - Police Engagement @ Widdrington Community Centre booked in for 21<sup>st</sup> January 2026 @ 6pm and Saturday 7<sup>th</sup> March @ 4pm. These dates have been shared with all councillors/service users and will be advertised on the Website and on Widdy Facebook page.
  - Look at replacing the bin by the cameras in the park as this has been missing for a while – unresolved discussion due to vandalism regardless of style of bin placed there.
  - Discussions on more Tubs / Planters to order. 2 large ones in storage can be used for the road block and to order 8 more smaller ones for round the village and some of the 3 tier ones also. 3 tier – info required to order – smaller tubs ordered and awaiting delivery.
  - Drains discussed near the community centre to be checked re: smell/flooding.
  - Abundance of Police in the village lately. Discussed – nothing to move forward with.
13. Next Meeting: 9<sup>th</sup> February 2026  
'To consider any urgent business which shall be limited to circumstances in which the Council's responsibilities cannot be met, or the Council's interests are likely to be prejudiced, if the business is deferred to the next available meeting in order to allow for inclusion on the relevant agenda.'
14. Closed Session – N/A

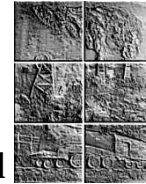
Parish Clerk – Bonnie Watson  
Email: [Pcclerkwiddstob1@outlook.com](mailto:Pcclerkwiddstob1@outlook.com)



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### Action Log

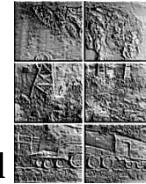
Date	Action	Responsibility	Update
14.7.2025	Price for NCC to add lights to Christmas tree	Clerk	Agenda for meeting 10.11.2025 - complete
11.8.2025	Hedge Stobswood allotments	Clerk/Chair	Cllr J Bexfield reported 15.7.2025 Completed by contractor - complete
11.8.2025	AGAR complete	Clerk	accountant sign off Discussion at meeting 10.11.2025
13.10.2025	Buffing machine refurb/grass cutter refurb	Cllr R Longstaff	Refurbishment of machine and grass cutter (buffing machine complete)
13.10.2025	Pavement outside welfare and pavements Grangewood Road	Cllr E Dungait	Take to NCC
13.10.2025	Fireworks	Cllr T Jerdan	Completion of legal side/forms - complete
13.10.2025	Remembrance Sunday	Cllr T Jerdan Clerk	Cllr T Jerdan will lead parade Clerk to forward information for Brownies Clerk to arrange wreaths - complete
13.10.2025	Wooden Planters	Clerk	Prices for planters and email to Cllrs - complete
13.10.2025	Caretaker vacancy	Clerk	Add to Facebook and posters - complete
13.10.2025	Refurb of park	Clerk	Order two packs of repair kit - complete
13.10.2025	Letter to residents Ena Street	Clerk	Letter to be sent Cancelled
13.10.2025	Photo of Cllrs	Cllr R Longstaff	Arrange photographer
13.10.2025	Park Benches for Stobswood Park	Clerk Cllr S Bexfield	Arrange prices Get donation (Cllr SB)
10.11.2025	Painting of bus shelters	Clerk	Magnolia sandex paint contact Brian Colourdec for quote
10.11.2025	Fence Stobswood Park	Clerk	Prices to be arranged for post and wire fences and Health and Safety reviewed
10.11.2025	Agenda and Minutes	Clerk	To be sent to Scott Dickinson
10.11.2025	Police incident	Clerk	Clerk to contact police for incident numbers for



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	numbers		each incident
10.11.2025	AGAR meeting	Cllr T Jerdan Cllr W Childs	To be signed off
10.11.2025	MUGA lights	Cllr R Longstaff Cllr J Bexfield	To look at alternative Clerk to get quote and purchase tool
10.11.2025	Clerk laptop	Cllr J Bexfield	Order laptop
10.11.2025	Refund for double booking	Clerk	Email sent 11.11.2025
10.11.2025	JD sent to caretaker	Clerk	Email sent 11.11.2025 Completed
10.11.2025	Bookings 8.12.2025	Clerk	Send details for groups booked at CC for 8.12.2025 to Cllr T Jerdan
15.12.2025	Fence at Stobswood Park	Clerk	Contact Youlls to discuss a further quote for fencing matching current fence already there. No Longer Required.
15.12.2025	Hand Dryers Sanitary Bins	Clerk	Contact Citron Hygiene to get quote for Sanitary Bin emptying and hand dryer installation. In Progress
15.12.2025	Notice Board Stobswood	Clerk	Contact a company regarding getting a new notice board installed at Stobswood. Moving extra from comm centre – In Progress
15.12.2025	Street Light Xmas Decorations	Clerk	Contact Ellington PC Clerk to see about getting supplier and costings for street light decorations for Christmas next year. In Progress
15.12.2025	AGAR 24/25	Clerk/ Cllr Jerdan and Cllr Wills	Get together to discuss finalising AGAR 24/25 – Contacted MAZZARS for advice – awaiting reply.
15.12.2025	Website	Clerk	Contact HugoFox to arrange website changeover. Contacted 15.01.25 following authorisation from meeting. Now underway.
15.12.2025	Facebook	Cllr Jerdan	Create new Facebook page for WS&SPC. JB created following Decembers meeting. Completed
15.12.2025	Policies	Clerk	Create 21 Policies discussed within the meeting. In Progress
15.12.2025	Safeguarding Lead	Cllr Jerdan + ++	Minimum of 1 Safeguarding lead for both Adults and Children to be established. Training to be completed via NALC website. Unsure of progress.
15.12.2025	Playdale	Clerk	Contact Playdale to get up to date final bill then pay outstanding amount. Bill Paid 15.1.26 – Completed.
15.12.2025	HSBC account	Cllr Bexfield	To contact HSBC to add Clerk on to account and change address. Cllr J Bexfield to complete
15.12.2025	Receipts to be reimbursed	Clerk	Cllr Jerdan - £198.23 to be refunded for Elderberries xmas lunch and cleaning of tablecloths. <u>Completed on 19.12.2025</u> Cllr Childs – to be refunded for Elderberries

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			expenses £34.28 – <u>completed on 19.12.2025</u>
15.12.2025	Police	Clerk	Contact Police to arrange further community centre visits. Completed 4.1.26
12.1.26	Who owns Land	Clerk	Who owns the land that the park near Beech Court is on and who owns beech court to contact to try and come to agreement regarding upkeep.
12.1.26	Bus shelter repairs	Clerk to ask Caretaker / Handyman	Contact for further estimate incorporating all 6 bus shelters for scraping, pointing and painting. 16.1.26 Email with estimate returned at over £500 per shelter – To contact Handyman to see if he can do himself.
12.1.26	Firework Refund	Clerk	Contact fireworks people to gain a refund or partial refund for the cancelled show in November. Email exchange on 16.1.26 regarding partial or full refund and exchange was sent to chair/vice chair stating that no refund would be issued. Completed
12.1.26	Litter pick / WI poster	Clerk	Posters to be put on notice board and Facebook. Completed.
12.1.26	Drains	Clerk	Drains to be checked re flooding / smelly