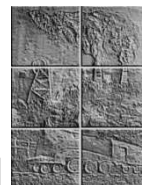


Widdrington Station & Stobswood Parish Council



Meeting Minutes

Draft until signed

Monday 13th July 2026

Started at 6.00pm

In Attendance: Cllr Trudy Jerdan(Chair), Cllr Wendy Childs(Vice Chair), Cllr R Longstaff, Cllr J Bexfield Cllr S Bexfield, Cllr J Juszczuk, Cllr Tina Wills-Porter + 12 MOP including P Lee – Caretaker/Cleaner.

Parishioners Input:

To receive questions from parishioners' present (limited to 2 minutes each) 20 minutes – the following items were mentioned within the meeting and will be followed up on if required:

- E bikes/E scooter concerns – discussed this has been reported to police
- Graffiti concerns – discussed and this has been reported to police
- Planters – thanks to P Lee handyman – agreement to him watering every thursday as other volunteers will be doing the other days of the week.
- Albion house planning proposal – this is covered later in the minutes
- Trees next to new builds trees next to ATAC – discussed if there are rules on height – this is not a PC issue as it is on private land and a private building company. Will approach Cllr Scott Dickinson to see if there is something he can do.
- Funding for disabled park within the village – this will be reviewed and update to follow.
- Tree saplings to be gained later in year when County Council offer comes live again.
- Speed Survey results to be gained – contact Cllr Scott Dickinson / Ed Dungait and share on website/Facebook.
- Grange road new updated roads – when this is being done can speed restrictions be put in place (install chicanes) as current ones ineffective.
- Parking opposite Doctors surgery/Gleeson homes – this is currently being used as parking for a private residence with business can this be made in to a designated green space or parking restrictions be implemented. Contact Cllrs Ed Dungait to discuss further.
- Paths around Stobswood park to be strimmed as this was mentioned that this is getting overgrown.
- Bins in the park to be reviewed – larger bins needed as filling up faster than the County council can empty.
- Clear up of areas around Gleeson homes development – more trees to be planted as there are not as many as were on original plans. Rubble and rubbish still strewn around and strimming of bushes to be done. Gleeson to be contacted by clerk.
- New road markings at the school be discussed as parking is an issue now and dangerous. ATAC mentioned they would be happy to assist raising any money for this if needed.

Signed _____

Dated _____

- Highways requested to be in attendance in next meeting due to many concerns regarding roads raised within this meeting.

Formal Parish Council Meeting:

Parishioners are welcome to stay and listen to proceedings but may make no input to the meeting and remain silent

To receive Apologies for Absence:

- Cllr Ed Dungait.

To receive Declarations of Interest:

- Grange Garage

Minutes of the Parish Council Meeting held on the 8th June 2026 for approval and adoption:

- Approved and signed.

Matters Arising on the Minutes:

- N/A

Amendments to standing orders:

- Standing order regarding maximum spend of £400 without further approval and a minimum of 2 quotes as discussed in April 2026 meeting is to be confirmed following appropriate time frame has now lapsed. This is now a standard practice to follow.

Standing Agenda Items:

- AGAR 2025/26 update. This has now been completed and awaiting of final sign off by MAZARS.
- Christmas Lights – update from NCC gained and now waiting on Funding confirmation before moving forward – application for funding plus additional funding from NCC will total £18,000 if agreed. Awaiting funding outcome.
- Facebook – Currently at 347 members. Trial period for 1 month for comments turned on. To be reviewed at next meeting.
- Bus shelter update – Colourdec to complete other shelters asap – delayed due to health issues – payment upon completion. JB proposed, WC seconded. All agreed.
- Bus shelter roof damage – now completed. To be removed from discussions.
- Play Park Updates: ROSPA inspections completed. Repairs in process of being completed. Report sent to all Cllrs 16.7.26 and will be added to the website.
- Stobswood play park fence now completed – this can now be removed from discussions.
- Fireworks 2026 – date now moved to 1st of November due to Remembrance Sunday on 8th this has been agreed by welfare to 8th. Fireworks company to be confirmed.
- Christmas Tree 2026 – needing to source more local tree as cost of delivery from company used last year is more than the actual tree. Update to be given in August Meeting.
- Staff Training – First aid completed and H&S completed by caretaker still to be done by clerk. Safeguarding Adults and Children to be completed by Cllr T Jerdan. Ride on mower course and hedge trimmer course to be completed by caretaker/handyman – awaiting dates of training from college.
- Asset Register update – Ongoing.
- Elderberries Christmas Dinner discussed – this will be on December 12th entertainment still to be agreed.
- Handyman/Caretaker area of work. Full workout of time used given to start & use. Review of how this has worked at next meeting.

Signed _____ Dated _____

Actions:

- N/A

Reports from outside bodies:

- Police Report

Correspondence Received:

- ROSPA report – sent to all councillors separately on 16.7.26

Planning Applications:

- **26/01892/PRUTPO** – Tree preservation order – 5 Lambert Terrace – no objection from council.
- **26/02052/OUT** – Detached self build with access driveway to road – Chibburn Court. – objection from council – adverse highway impact on mile road. Comment left on NCC planning site.
- **26/01988/OUT** – Residential development – Albion House – objection from council. Comment left on NCC planning site.

Financial:

- Widdrington Community Centre Account Balance as of 2.7.26 – £9774.27
- WSPCC Current Account Balance as of 2.7.26 = £56,121.74.
- Out = £7857.53
- In = £3600 (2025/26 cleaner pay reclaim from CC account)
- To Pay = £6677.60.
- All payments on agenda are now completed and approved for payment.

Any Other Business:

- CCTV upgrade – agreed to move to the integration of both CC cameras and Park Cameras and adding further camera inside the lobby of the CC. Cost to be split between CC and PC. Further discussion regarding this at August PC meeting. JB proposed, WC seconded.
- Next Police Engagement Session @ Widdrington Community Centre – Wednesday 5th August 2026 @ 6pm.
- Citron/PHS Group – all hand dryers now installed. This is now completed.
- Flags – Design/layout discussion completed – Widdrington Arms flag will be orientated in Portrait rather than landscape. To be ordered and erected asap.
- Village Planters update – group sessions now every Sunday.
- Notice board replacement/update on mile road – college contacted will provide estimate of costs once college resumes in September. Further notice board to be discussed for Stobswood following receipt of Mile road one.
- Review if there is a grant available to redo flooring in the community centre and/or gain a pack away stage. Stage has been found in the loft area of the community centre. Floor quotes in the process of being sourced. New projector purchased, screen donation from Neil Hancock to be gained, sound system to be used that is already in situ within the community centre. The service user requests can now be removed from discussions.
- Community Centre Clear-out – in progress.
- Purchase of new ride on mower to be voted on and agreed. Ride on mower that is currently owned by the PC has been collected and is being repaired. This will be completed by end of July 2026. No new mower to be purchased at this time.
- Pantomime – some costings gained. Add to August agenda
- Community Centre Structural Concerns. Estimates being sourced.

Signed _____ Dated _____

- Remembrance Day Service. Sunday 8th November. Add to August agenda.
- Bench outside factory – this has been purchased – awaiting delivery and installation.
- Splash Park discussed. Mixed views from Cllrs regarding need/viability. Further information on funding etc. being sourced – to be moved to August agenda.
- Picnic in the park discussion – 29th August 2026 – plans discussed during meeting.
- Discuss the purchase of a new hedge trimmer – new hedge trimmer to be purchased alongside small chainsaw. Training for this to be sourced from college – updates to follow.
- Fire Alarm system to be reviewed as constantly showing a fault.
- Parishioner from Maple drive sent in concerns about pathway covered by overgrown weeds/trees – RL stated he would follow up on this after the meeting. Parishioner to be contacted with this outcome.
- Next Meeting: 10th August 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.’

- Closed Session: Outstanding annual leave discussion – Unpaid annual leave for the year 2025/2026 to be paid back to the clerk and handyman in July pay. All outstanding annual leave (except for 15hrs carried over if required) for 2026/2027 to be used prior to the end of the year or will be lost – this is to follow guidance from contract.

Parish Clerk – Bonnie Watson – 07729100219
 Email: clerk@widdringtonandstobswoodparishcouncil.gov.uk
www.widdringtonandstobswoodparishcouncil.gov.uk

Signed _____ Dated _____