

**WIDDRINGTON STATION & STOBWOOD PARISH COUNCIL
MINUTES OF THE PARISH COUNCIL MEETING HELD AT THE
COMMUNITY CENTRE**

ON MONDAY 13th February 2023 COMMENCING AT 6.30. P.M.

In attendance were Councillors Mrs M Willoughby (Chair), K Batson, A Carrier

S Sainthouse (Clerk)

Members of the public – JB J Bexfield, JD J Devlin CI C Iving

Tina Wills-Porter (Attending to watch proceeding with an interest in Parish Councillor post)

1. To receive apologies for absence

Cllr S Dickinson

2.To receive declarations of interest

Cllr Batson declared a non-pecuniary interest in regard to any matters relating to the Stobswood Welfare.

3.To receive questions and comments from members of the public (time limited to 20 minutes in total)

Chair M Willoughby – J Devlin (public) Explained to **JD** about a previous question in January 2023 meeting about the Food Bank and Food parcels for the over 80's. Advised that Wansbeck Valley Food Bank had provided the parcels.

JD – Reports that the grassed area at Grange View has been destroyed by what appears to be tractor near the school

KB – Possibly the work being carried out by Gas installation at the new build on Grange Road. They were working in the area

SW – Will speak with Gas and report the damage to the grass

JD – Empty property 49 Grange View. Asking what is happening with this property and the tenant. Advised that this is a Bernicia property. **MW** – Explains that the tenant is known to have mental health issues and this is a consequence of the empty property at the moment.

CI – Asks. Why are we giving a donation to Hadston House for the Meals on Wheels? **MW** – Explains that the service provides for persons in the village as well as other areas and it is a valuable resource for the elderly clients who require a daily hot mail. Therefore, it is thought desirable to contribute to keep the service going.

4. Minutes of the Parish Council Meeting held on the 9th January 2023 for approval and adoption.

Cllr K Batson proposed to approve and adopt the minutes. The proposal was seconded by Cllr A Carrier and carried.

5. Matters discussed in meeting

S106 – KB Explains that planning will not accept further responsibility for the mistake made with the S106 agreement that

Was changed by Gleeson and the planning department from the original agreement and therefore altered the plans that The Parish agreed to in the first instance. However, the Parish are agreed that a further legal argument is to be lodged with

Planning introducing the evidence that shows that the S106 was amended by County without their agreement or knowledge.

– Suggestion that Parish approach legal department in County Council to seek advice on complaint

6. Reports from Outside Bodies

none

7.Correspondance Received

GNNAS -Letter from Great North Air Ambulance thanking the Parish for their donation towards the service

EV Charging Points - Correspondence received from Charlie Wright – Government funded electric charging points.

KB - Explains about the availability of funding for EC points. Parish to send email to sender to thank them for their Correspondence but County have their own installation for EV points

MW – Neighbourhood Watch – Correspondence received from Michael Appleton. Neighbourhood Watch Coordinator in

Ashington offering support in terms of resources, such as funding. **MW** – states that we have CCTV but no Neighbourhood

Watch. However, a contact in the County is Neil Seymour and an email is to be forwarded to him by Clerk

Survey Request – MW – Correspondence received from J Shirley in relation to her studies on Parish Councils and

Youth

Councils. Suggested that an email be sent to J Shirley suggesting Hadson House as they engage with young people and

Youth services. **PC** to email

Walking Group – Correspondence received from J Harris about a walking group. In Northumberland. **MW** – Thank Mr Harris for email but we have our own walking group

S Sainthouse Parish Clerk – Email pcclerkwiddstob1@outlook.com

Karbon Homes – Walk about. MW – To attend the walk about on 21/03/2023 at 10M. With Aimee Lammonby from Karbon Homes. **PC** to email Karbon Homes to confirm **MW** attendance

Allotments Annual Fee – 2023 – KB to speak to S Timmons and discuss the proposed annual fee increase

JB – Advises that the allotments at Ena Street are £50 per plot

8. Planning Applications

None

9. Parish Council Events for 2023

The Council considered a Calendar of Community Events for 2023 to be arranged by the Parish Council.

Party in the Park – 26th June 2023 - Staging confirmed for event. Entertainment – confirmed
Jimmy Slater (Slater's funfair – Confirmed)

Posters of all events will be displayed on the Parish Council Notice Boards in due course.

10. Finance

i) Parish Clerk's financial statement – monthly update – Bank of Ireland Account as at
24th February 2023 - **£108,253.37**

Reconciled balance on 24th February 2023 with Bank Account statement - **£105,984.9**

Reconciled Balance (less ringfenced £70,000 - £35,984.9 as 24/2/2023 statement

Monthly update – Bank of Ireland Account as at

ii) **Payments for Approval:** -

Parish Clerk's - Salary February 2023	£763.01
Wreath - Remembrance Day	£20.00
M Tully - Accountant fee	£72.00
HMRC - Payment - staff	£353.80
ADT (Fire) – Annual Community Centre safety check	£953.50
Viking Payment – Cleaning Materials – Community Centre	£106.16

11. 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.

12. To be held in closed session

Councillors resolved that members of the public and press are excluded from the remainder of the meeting which

is to be held in closed session due to the confidential nature of the business to be discussed.

Precept 2022/23 discussed and yet to be confirmed

Staff positions discussed and relevant correspondence discussed.

County lines discussed for Parish. To include Longhirst & Ulgham

The meeting closed at 8.00 p.m.

Signed
Date

S Sainthouse Parish Clerk Email pcclerkwiddstob1@outlook.com

