

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

**ON MONDAY 9<sup>th</sup> December 2024 COMMENCING AT 6.30. P.M.**

In attendance were Councillors Mrs S Willoughby (Chair), K Batson, S Horton, T Jerdan, W Childs

S Sainthouse (Parish Clerk).  
4 members of the public.

**1. To receive apologies for absence**  
none

**2. To receive declarations of interest**

Cllr Batson declared a non-pecuniary interest in regard to any matters relating to the Stobswood Welfare.  
Cllr Jerdan - Scouts  
Cllr Childs - Widdy Welcomes

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

State of the village with litter and pot holes – Who has jurisdiction?

MW – NCC are responsible for the upkeep of the highways and littering is kept on top of by handy person in village  
However, on highways it the street cleaning crews from NCC who are responsible for this and Neighbourhood services for grass cutting and alike

MW – addresses the boundary changes that are forthcoming. The issues that will bring with the lack of understanding or knowledge of the local area by others

KB – Outlines that the Parish are responsible for the bus stands, litter bins, and planters but NCC cover everything else

George Brooks – Disappointed in the lack of response from NCC to concerns and suggestions made.

**4 Matters arising on the Minutes**

T McKenna advised that he had found the response from Karbon Homes rude and unhelpful over the tree complaint

**6. Reports from Outside Bodies**

none

**7. Correspondence Received**

- a) The Salvation Army – Letter of thanks received for the Parish Council's donation of £200.00.  
b) Healthwatch Northumberland – Letter received giving details of the annual survey requesting publicity to be given to posters in regard to the scheme.  
c) Northumberland County Council – Roadside Litter Campaign – The NCC had launched a new campaign to encourage motorists to play their part in keeping the county clean and green. Litter and rubbish which is either dropped in the street or thrown from vehicles casts a real blight and clearing up litter costs the council around £2.6m each year. The Campaign is aimed at encouraging people not to drop litter and be proud of their county, posters were supplied.  
d) Coquet Children's Group – Cllr Mrs Willoughby had learnt from concerned mothers and child minders that sessions of the Toddler Group which had been available at the Community Centre on Tuesday afternoons from 1.00 pm to 3.00 pm for many years during school term time was being reduced to approximately one session every seven weeks together with an online booking system. The Clerk confirmed that notification of the change had not been made to the Parish Council by the Coquet Children's Centre based at Hadston. Cllr Mrs Willoughby proposed that the Coquet Children's Centre are advised that the Community Centre will no longer be available to them on such a limited basis and alternative provision for a weekly toddler group for a Tuesday afternoon and a Friday morning is being considered. The proposal was seconded by Cllr Batson and carried.

**8. Planning Applications**

- a) Planning Ref 18/03703/FUL- Proposed 2 x semi detached 3 bed dwellings on land north of 71 The Gables

**9. Finance**

i) Parish Clerk's financial statement – monthly update – Bank of Ireland Account as at December 2024

**£86,232.91**

Reconciled Balance - **£82,106.93**

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**Debits to date**

2676 Wage £1,310.99	2677 Wage £185.56	2678 Wage
£661.31		
2679 Wage £869.04	2680 Wage £317.48	2681 Wage
£244.80		
2687 HMRC £536.80		
Jan 2025	2683 Mazars(Auditor) £474.00	2684 HMRC
£295.43		
2685 Wage £912.41	2686 Wage £293.80	2687 Wage
£342.83		
2688 Wage £624.24		

10. 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.  
none

**The meeting closed at 8.00 p.m.**

Signed..... Date.....

