

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

**ON MONDAY 13<sup>th</sup> May 2024 COMMENCING AT 6.30. P.M.**

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

S Sainthouse (Parish Clerk)

**1. To receive apologies for absence**

None

**2 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 - Food Bank

**3 Public – To receive questions and comments from members of the public (time limited to 20 minutes)**

Shop behind CO OP – Any plans? – MW Shops belong to Grainger Trust – Mr Lawson. Units had an order placed

On them a few months ago stating that they had been returned to a new owner (Pensions Investments Company) but there has been nothing since.

MW – There is an order in place that nothing can be sold in the units that is sold in the COOP

**Questions – R Thompson – Trees in People’s Park** – Are there to be any further trees planted in the park?

**MW** – At this time due to the expenditure needed for the play parks and the budgeting throughout the Year ahead, there are no plans to plant any trees. We are unable to clear the mound at this time as the costs to clear are huge.

**Seat in Bus Shelters** - Why are there no seats in the bus shelters in Widdrington? – **MW** – This is to stop local

Youths congregating in the shelters where they have been witnessed drinking, graffitiing the shelters and General disorder

**Notice Board – Mile Road** – The NB is still not repaired – **MW** – We will have our operative look at the notice

Board with a view to repairing it.

**4 Minutes of the Parish Council Meeting held on the 8<sup>th</sup> April 2024 for approval and adoption**

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

**Agenda**

**Drop-in session – Karbon Homes**

The first drop-in session with Karbon Homes is place at the Community Centre with Natalie Barrack on 10<sup>th</sup> June 2024 at 10-12pm. There are two further sessions booked for 19/9/2024 & 12/12/2024. To be added to notice boards Nearer the time.

**Drop-in sessions for Bernicia Homes** are to be arranged in due course. Parish Clerk to email Bernicia with a request

**Sovereign – Toddler Park** – The Toddler park in Stobswood . An appointment is to be arranged with Sovereign to discuss

The park and what would be required to refurbish the park to a safe and usable condition. Cllr Willoughby, Cllr Batson to Attend. Updated will follow

**Leylandii Trees – Play Park** – **MW** -There appears to be a TPO (Tree Preservation Order) on two leylandii trees in the park. The

Trees require cutting back due to their size and they are overhanging the road. **PC** to email NCC planning to inquire about TPO

**Funding** – MW asks Cllrs to look at all funding that maybe available for Parish to help with the costs of the toddler park and

The Peoples Park which also require repair

**Cllr Jerdan** – Informs meeting that she has an appointment tomorrow with Pelican Play to look at quotes for parks. Update

To follow at next meeting.

**2024 Pantomime** – PC informs meeting that the pantomime has been booked for 30<sup>th</sup> November 2024 at 6pm – Aladdin  
**Refurbishment of Community Centre** – Update – MW Explains the ongoing refurbishment of the toilets. Disabled

toilet is

Finished and all agree that it is much brighter and inviting than the previous toilet. The ladies toilets and gents are now being refurbished and are coming along.

**Container- Cllr Batson** advises that the container has been removed to make way for the footpath to the EV points and gated

Entry/exit to the car park. Operatives – Roy & Ken are to be asked to clear away the debris and cut back the hedge to clear

The site

Cuppa with a Copper – MW explains to the meeting that the session was well received by the residents and that all who attended felt listened to. MW – Mentioned during session about the off-road motor bike disorder and was advised that there is an operation being set up to deal with the problems. MW also discusses Northumbria Connect and how the email received from Northumbria Police about anti-social behaviour incidents does not appear to note the disorder experienced in Widdrington. (i.e. fire) Police explain that this would not be tagged in as anti-social behaviour. It would be tagged as a fire. MW advises that this is not being tagged correctly and needs to be looked at how this can be tagged in more effectively. Police to take this back to supervision to discuss

**Car Park – Community Centre -MW** The car park at the CC belongs to NCC but planning appears to believe this to be incorrect.

A document held by the library clearly shows that the car park is the responsibility of NCC and belongs to them. This has

been forwarded to planning to investigate. The issue is with the parking issues of late that need to be resolved and if signs

can be added by NCC to leave parking for the library users.

**Lawn Mower** – The mower has had to be sent off for repair and the cost of this repair is £2273.50

**Cllr Batson** – Explains the cost of P/X the machine – quotes - £10,000

**New Mower** - £18,600

### Planning Applications

Widdrington 1<sup>st</sup> School – Granted

### 13. Finance

i) Parish Clerk's financial statement – monthly update – Bank of Ireland Account as at 31 May 2024 £NYR

**Reconciled** with Bank Account monthly Statement for cheques NOT yet presented £NYR

**TO BE UPDATED ON RECEIPT AND PLACED ON NOTICE BOARDS**

**Audit** – Notice discussed and **agreed** in meeting that the Annual Governance statement is approved 13/5/24

Risk Assessment carried out and approved 13/5/24

Notice of unaudited notice of Public Rights and publication – Year ending 31<sup>st</sup> March 2024

Dates – Monday 3/6/2024 – Friday 12<sup>th</sup> July 2024

Cllr Mrs Willoughby proposed approval of the payments; the proposal was seconded by Cllr Batson and carried.

**. 14. 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. 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: -**

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

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

9.

7.

