Widdrington Station & Stobswood Parish Council

Meeting Minutes
Monday 9th February 2026
Started at 6pm

In Attendance: Cllr J Bexfield (Chair), Cllr Trudy Jerdan (Vice Chair), Cllr W Childs, Cllr R Longstaff, Cllr S Bexfield, Cllr J Juszczyk + 5MOP and Cllr Ed Dungait.

Formal Parish Council Meeting:
Parishioners are welcome to stay and listen to proceedings but may make no input to the meeting and remain silent

1. To receive Apologies for Absence: Cllr T Wills-Porter
2. To receive Declarations of Interest: Widdy Welcomes + Grange Garage
3. Minutes of the Parish Council Meeting held on the 12th January 2026 for approval and adoption: Approved – Cllr W Childs + Cllr R Longstaff Seconded
4. Matters Arising on the Minutes:
5. Amendments to standing orders:
6. Agenda Items:
    - Standing agenda item: Banking – Paperwork completed – awaiting finalisation of addition of clerk to account for HSBC (Community Centre)
    - Standing agenda item: AGAR 2024/25 progress – update – Notice of Electors rights published 29.1.26 – 30 day period wait until AGAR returned to parish council (on website). Teams meeting completed with MAZARS now finalised – wait till 30 day period up then will be returned back to us.
    - Standing agenda item: AGAR 2025/26 plans – finance info being gathered and now being documented – correlation of receipts and finance records.
    - Contacted Citron/PHS Group regarding sanitary bins and hand dryers – sent email back to revise quote from 4 bins to 3 – upon receipt this was motioned to move forward with this – All in favour.
    - Christmas Lights – awaiting prices for electric install on lamp posts – waiting for written confirmation.
    - Precept 2026 (Chair) – sent & awaiting confirmation.
    - Policies being reviewed – new policies discussed and being created by Clerk – Appraisal policy complete and agreed. Disciplinary policy complete and agreed. Complaints policy completed and agreed.
    - Further policies given to review: IT policy and assertion 10 policy.
    - Website / Facebook – update – link for new website sent to all for review – awaiting feedback. FB -Currently at 56 members. Second admin now added for security – Bonnie.
    - Job descriptions updated – Clerk and Handyman/Caretaker – awaiting approval. Approved – now new pay increase added and sent for signing.
    - Bus shelter update – Handyman supplied pricing for all 6 shelters for supplies – this comes to just over £500 in total excluding the time it will take to complete.

Signed _____ Dated _____

Further costings to be gained from Screw fix by Cllr Longstaff to see if this is cheaper. Sent information over – awaiting response.

- Doorbell – this is no longer active new wireless bell to be purchased – Approved by all – this has been ordered and will be installed.
- Sign for the Play park (After dark usage) – all approved – requested to have the signs to be reflective and additional 'No dogs allowed' signs to be made – awaiting costings.
- Notice Board – suggested move from Widdrington community centre to replace one at Stobswood – Stan Timmins will complete upon better weather.
- Change of Generator for Eon Next solar panels letter signed and sent off awaiting confirmation.

7. Actions:
8. Reports from outside bodies:
    - Community Police Report.
9. Correspondence Received:
    - Request for a larger bin on mile road – Cllr Scott Dickinson – Email sent to state which bin this is in relation to.
    - PSPO Dog control order* Deemed not for WS&SPC.
    - Play Area, Maple Drive/Beech court – response received – next steps required. Cllr Ed Dungait/Cllr T Jerdan will look further in to this alongside the rights we have of claiming this land as ours as we have been seeing to the upkeep for a long time.
    - Carla – Northumberland's locality coordinator – permission granted to add to the list.
    - Wendy Childs contact re kids on motorbikes on 31.1.26 between 10&11 am.*
10. Planning Applications:
    - 54 Elizabeth Street
    - 18 Mary Street
    - Pine View
11. Financial:

Current balance £37,690.41 as of 9.2.26 am.
Out = £4384.38, In = £0, To Pay = £130 – see below.
Payments completed or for Approval:

- Wages: Bonnie £1613.49 (including overtime) / Phil £390.72 – Paid
- Cleaning company £360 – Paid
- Fence repair £180 – paid
- Ink cartridges £28.89 – paid
- Viking outstanding bill £25.84 – paid
- Repayment of overpayment to NCC £513.58 – paid
- HMRC payments – £218.28 & £570.38 – paid
- Playdale outstanding amount £23,222.23 – fully paid
- Pentagon Play outstanding amount £7243.20 – fully paid
- Repair of floor polisher to pay £140 paid
- Northern Tubs – 8 x tubs ordered - £343.20 – paid

Signed _____ Dated _____

- M Tulley accountant £130 – Paid
- Once HSBC account sorted to move payment made by WS&SPC for insurance for the community centre from HSBC back to BOI.

12. Any Other Business:
    - Next service user meeting 16th February – item to discuss – safety and storage of items for groups and not to block cleaning cupboard doors.
    - Community centre hire agreement to be reviewed and signed off.
    - Police Engagement @ Widdrington Community Centre is on Saturday 7th March @ 4pm. To be advertised on the Website and on Widdy Facebook page.
    - Finally we would like to acknowledge Aaron Carrier and the years of services he has given providing support with the WS&SPC website. With us soon moving to another carrier to move in line with the other councils in the area his services are no longer required but will always be remembered. Thank you Aaron.

13. Next Meeting: 9th March 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: Clerk hours update and backdated money since pay rise April 2025.

Parish Clerk – Bonnie Watson
Email: Pcclerkwiddstob1@outlook.com

Signed _____ Dated _____