

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

ON MONDAY 16th October 2023 STARTING AT 6.30 P.M.

Attendance: In attendance were Councillors Mrs S Willoughby (Chair), Cllr K Batson, Cllr S Horton
S Sainthouse(Parish Clerk)

1 Apologies for absence - Cllr A Carrier

Members of the public – 6

2 To receive declarations of Interest

Cllr K Batson – declared a non-pecuniary interest in regard to matter relating to Stobswood Welfare.

3 To receive questions and comments from the public (20 minutes)

Q. Who is our County Councillor?

Cllr Willoughby responds and advises that Cllr Davis Towns is our County Councillor

Q LJ – Community Centre décor. The CC is in a poor state of décor and required updating and

Decoration throughout. We have £70,000 ringfenced for work on the centre. When is this

Going to commence?

MW – The CC does require decorating and this will be undertaken once the toilets have been

Upgraded. We are struggling to find anyone who will undertake the work involved.

Anti-Social Behaviour in the Village –

MW – I have emailed the Inspector in Alnwick outlining the ongoing issues with ASB in the

Village. I have pointed out that there is little or no police presence. A complaint was

Received from a resident of Maple Drive that is ongoing

Parish/
PCSO L Sutcliffe has been invited to meetings to discuss concerns and meet the

Residents but as of yet has not attended. She has advised that she cannot deal directly

With offenders or act of information for the public and we should ring 101 or 999 for

help

MW – On learning this and the ASB continuing. Cllr Willoughby is to email the Police & Crime

Commissioner with her concerns

Public – Voice concerns that parents show no or little responsibility for their children's Behaviour

Examples – Motorbike disorder around the Park. Woods at Stobswood. Fire reported to the

Police. Suspect known and parents spoken to by **GT**
Land ownership – Maple Drive – MW – This has been sold to an unnamed person.
They had
Plans to build houses on the mound in front of Maple Drive but this was refused by
planning
at County Hall. Unsure if they are aware of the restrictions before purchased and/or
their
Responsibilities for the grass cutting and upkeep of the parks. Trying to get a Face to
Face
Meeting with owner
GT – Woods have been sold to a couple from Felton who intend to turn them into a
Nature
Reserve, Conservation minded. Footpaths through the wood refused by CC due to
insufficient
Evidence. However. New owners are happy to place designated footpaths through woods

4 Minutes of last Annual Meeting held Monday 14th August 2023

Cllr K Batson proposed to accept the minutes as a true record. The proposal was seconded by Cllr S Horton and carried

5 Matter arising from Minutes

Spacehive – GT – Spoke to Space hive about possible purchase of woods. Now no longer required.

GP Surgery – Gleeson – S106 – FOI submitted for information on any funds that may have been received From Gleeson for new Surgery. Awaiting reply

6 Reports from Outside Bodies

Nothing to add

7 Correspondence Received

2023 Xmas Pantomime booked for **16th December 2023 – 7pm – 50p admission to be charged this year**
To cover cost of performance

Xmas Tree – Ordered and to be delivered on 24th November 2023

An email was sent to County Hall to question the costing for dressing the tree

Brickworks – Cussins – MW to have a meeting with Cussins to discuss the housing development

Due to the recent power outage thought to be caused by then in Stobswood

CCTV camera - Community Centre – Faulty camera has now been replaced and fully operational

BOXAP_ Disabled Equipment – Disabled play equipment has been added to the Peoples Park. This was Installed in September and was due to money ringfenced from **CLLR S Dickinson**. 8 items of equipment

MW – Explains that further investment is to be made in 2024 to the Toddler Park – A Basket Swing – after Pricing

8 Planning Applications

120 The Gables – refused

COU – Border Transit Passenger – No decision – Bungalow

Hulda – Dormer window – agreed

9 Parish Council Events

Fireworks – 5th November 2023 – MW – Thanks to Stobswood Welfare for event organisation

GT – Will provide medical cover for event

KB – Requested One Way system be put in place for traffic- No

Elderberries Lunch – Will be held on 8th December 2023 at the Community Centre

Remembrance Sunday – Servicemen Involved. – Invite to the Brownies & Guides
2 x Wreaths. Laying at Widdrington and Church Service

Lloyds Banking – Waiting to hear from Lloyds for new banking

10 Finance

Parish Clerks financial Statement – monthly update Bank of Ireland Account Balance as at 31 October 2023

Balance £121,502.66

Reconciled balance £114,256.49

Debits

M Tully - £264.00

Fish electricals £360.00

G Tate £300.00

Wage £690.24

Wage £543.40

M Tully £72.00

A Carrier (WiFi) £422.59

NCC (Xmas Tree Dressing) £705.60

HMRC (NIC Paye) £423.20

Viking Direct (Admin) £267.40

Wage £842.47

Wage £545.18

Wage £330.46

Wreaths £39.98

HMRC (Tax) £1479.59

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 inclusion on the relevant agenda

Co-Option applications – This was discussed and decisions were made and agreed by the Chair and County Councillors.

Letters are to be sent to the interested parties in due course advising them of the outcome.

The meeting was closed at 7.30 p.m.

Signed..... Date

Closed Session –

MW commenced discussion with Cllr K Batson & Cllr S Horton in relation to the co-option Applications from Gareth Tate, Trudy L Jordon and Wendy Childs

Gareth Tate. MW suggested that it was inappropriate for G Tate to co opted back onto the Parish due to His thoughts and behaviour during the Parish meeting on December 2022 where a statement was read Out to the meeting by Gareth explaining his thoughts on the behaviour of the Chair and the Councillors. This was undermining and accusations of misconduct were alleged towards the Chair and other Councillors K Batson & A Carrier at that time

MW stated that she would write a letter to Gareth outlining her concerns and thoughts and a draft copy would be sent to the Parish Clerk to send to Mr Tate in due course.

Mrs Jordon and Mrs Child were to be requested to attend the next Parish meeting. **End**