

# **Woolsington Parish Council**

Chairperson of the Council: George Pattison  
Clerk to the Council: Andrew Richardson

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## **Minutes of the meeting of Woolsington Parish Council held on Wednesday 16<sup>th</sup> July 2025**

Present: Councillor G. Pattison (Chair)  
Councillors J. Couchman, A. Hay, L. Kenndey, J. Littleton,  
L. McGuinness, J. Robinson, J. Sabarre, L. Spencer and A. Thomas

In attendance: A. Richardson – Clerk  
Katie Innes – Callerton Academy  
Gavin Jordan – Resident

### **47. Apologies for absence**

Apologies for absence were received from Cllr L. Wright.

### **48. Minutes of Previous Meeting**

The minutes of the meeting of the Parish Council held on 21<sup>st</sup> May 2025 were agreed as a true record.

### **49. Matters Arising from the Previous Minutes**

Item 37, the clerk advised that a meeting hadn't took place yet with Newbiggin Hall Football Club.

Item 30, following Cllr Sharon Pattison's decision to step down at the previous meeting, the clerk read out an email from Sharon thanking all members, and advised that it had been an honour and a privilege for the last 20 years to be part of a voluntary team, working hard to improve the area and serve the people in the Parish.

Item 41, The clerk advised that the Police were unable to attend.

Item 39, Cllr Kennedy expressed her thanks to Cllrs Littleton and Couchman on providing an update with regard to the bridlepath.

### **50. Callerton Academy**

Katie Innes, the Principal from Callerton Academy advised that the new building on Bedeburn Road will be open from September 2025 following four years at the temporary home in Grainger Town, Newcastle. Katie informed members that the Academy had received substantial funding from the Department for Education, and that the Academy is part of the Gosforth Trust. Cllr McGuinness inquired as to the locality for children, Katie advised that it was predominantly within a mile and half of the school. Before Katie left the meeting, all members were invited to visit the new Academy once opened.

## **51. Airport Update**

Cllr Littleton provide an update regarding the Airport, the draft masterplan document is still going around the Airport Board for review, which should be complete in July with a view to launch the document soon after.

Consultation events are being held on

- 5 August 2025 Airport Terminal 10:00AM – 16:00PM
- 12 August 2025 Cramlington (Concordia) 16:00PM-19:00PM
- 10 September 2025 Woolsington (Falcons Rugby Club Kingston Park) 16:00PM-19:00PM
- 24 September 2025 Ponteland (Ponteland Leisure) 16:00PM-19:00PM

It was advised that masterplans are undertaken because:

- Airports are required by government to produce a Masterplan every five years
- A Masterplan sets out the long-term vision of an airport and the infrastructure that will be required to deliver the vision. (including roads & rail)
- Masterplans help to support local authorities when preparing local plans. They ensure land is allocated for airport related development.

Masterplans must feature:

- Economic and social benefits of growth, based on forecasting
- The Development Plan, including access implications
- Environmental Considerations.

## **52. Woolsington Parish Area Biodiversity Plan**

Cllr Littleton and Cllr Couchman provided a detailed progress report.

Two reports prepared which are available on request from the clerk

- Woolsington Parish Council Biodiversity Project 25/26 to date
- Special Projects CIL expenditure from 17 July 24 -16 July 2025

Biodiversity Project 25/26 to date - Wards

- £100 expenditure to date. First quarterly payment made to Arthur Robson for maintenance at Sov Lodge Bed. Sadly, Mr Robson has retired due to ill health we need to find a replacement as soon as possible.
- Callerton Residents Association and Woolsington Residents Association will be submitting requests during the year
- Members for Woolsington & Bank Foot will be liaising with representatives of Bank Foot.

There are no known residents' groups so emails will be sent to existing contacts in Woolsington Grange and Kenton Bank Mill

(An alternating system being used, to date Kenton Bank Hall and Kingston Park areas received grants in the previous 2 years) Revised proposals are being planned for the September meeting.

- For Newbiggin Hall and Bedeburn Wards. It was proposed more spring bulbs to be planted on sites either side of Newbiggin Lane, this has proved very popular in the past. It was suggested that members for Newbiggin Hall & Bedeburn might wish to organise a community planting event, or alternatively use NCC Grounds Maintenance services.

Decision from Members sought as the Parish Council will need to order spring bulbs before the end of August.

Members agreed to ask Grounds Maintenance to supply and plant.

Biodiversity Project 25/26 to date – Schools

Summer holidays looming, proposals not expected before the autumn.

Except Farne putting next steps in place for their Nature trail, following on from the successful introduction of three sections of wildflower turf.

Now plan to install two lectern panels with illustrations & text and six trail posts with metal discs of birds etc for rubbing:

- Enabling children to do rubbings off and create their own nature journals from the prompts on the 2 lecterns and trail posts.
- This would also include artwork in the design of the panels and workshops for pupils & staff on art and nature in school - led by local artist Steve Pardue.

Estimated cost up to £6,600 however because it will act as important pilot scheme which will benefit not only other schools, but for similar plans in Abbotswood and the Parish Ponds, Members agreed to ringfence the balance from the W&BF CIL budget.

The Farne Biodiversity budget to contribute £1,000, Note: This work is not part of Smart Academy's base budget and therefore the school would not be able to finance this project without support

Special Projects CIL expenditure

Abbotswood

- The wildflower scheme is still in preparation stage, waiting for Pictorial Meadows final recommendations.
- Bellway Homes have now offered to support the Trust Partnership set up by the Parish Council and NIAL. Attracted by the success of the scheme and the results can clearly be seen from their HQ

This is in terms of financial support and staff. Providing Biodiversity expertise and staff time (each member of staff has 1 day a year allocated to community work)

Parish Ponds

- Next steps are to plan the replacement of litter bins as litter continues to be a problem in certain spots.

Difficulties with collection of the bins as both the landowner and Local Authority wont empty bins. Members' comments were sought.

Cllr Spencer inquired as to the possibility of writing to the City Council to investigate the possibility of litter collection in the Ponds/Whorlton Lane Area, the Clerk advised that it might not be good timing due to internal issues at the City Council and that he would try to speak to Mick Murphy.

- Great news is that the Ouse Burn Way Partnership is supporting the project now (indirectly by funding Natural History Society expertise)

Delighted that we can now host 3 FREE community events over the school holidays

- Fantastic World of Bats: Thursday 24 July 21.30
- Pond Dipping: Monday 12 August 12.30
- Dragonflies, Damselflies & Insects: Saturday 23 August 14.00

### **53. Grant Applications**

The Clerk advised that there was one grant application to be considered.

#### **D2 Youth Zone Ltd Summer Holiday Grant**

An application was received requesting funding for £2,000 to support an activities programme across the school summer holidays.

After a short discussion, the members voted in favour to grant the application in full.

**54. Ward Councillor's Update**

Cllr Robinson informed members that the PCP building (Old Clinic) is possibly getting demolished, with Newcastle City Council having plans for the site. Cllr Robinson advised that she had carried out her first event / speech as Deputy Lord Mayor at the Theatre Royal, and it went very well. Newcastle City Council officers/wardens had been carrying out site visits around Newbiggin Hall Estate.

**55. CIL Discussion**

The clerk provided a balance on the updated funding figures and welcomed suggestions and ideas on projects that are in the pipeline. Cllr G Pattison advised that he was still in discussions of possible resurfacing at Langleeford Road. Cllr Littleton and Cllr Couchman's had previously provided a CIL update for Woolsington & Bank Foot under the Biodiversity plan item. Cllr Littleton advised that Newcastle City Council had quoted a price to remove the notice board in Woolsington Village as it had become a Health & Safety hazard, Members agreed to this work.

**56. Planning Matters**

Cllr G Pattison declared a non-pecuniary interest and left the meeting for the following planning items.

Cllr Robinson took the Chair, the Clerk provided an update on planning applications received which had previously been circulated to members.

2025/0618/01/HOU	Broadfield Meadows, Kenton Bank Foot, Newcastle Upon Tyne, NE13 8BB	Holding Response
2025/0675/01/TPO	37 Station Road, Kenton Bankfoot, Newcastle Upon Tyne, NE13 8AG	No Objection
2025/0678/01/TPO	37 Station Road, Kenton Bankfoot, Newcastle Upon Tyne, NE13 8AG	No Objection
2025/0702/01/TPO	38 Woolsington Park South, Woolsington, Newcastle Upon Tyne, NE13 8BJ	No Objection
2025/0376/01/HOU	32 Burnview Court, Callerton, Newcastle Upon Tyne, NE5 1PF	Holding Objection
2025/0916/01/DET	Terminal Building Newcastle International Airport, - Woolsington, Newcastle Upon Tyne, NE13 8BZ	
2024/1065/01/DET	39 The Oval, Woolsington, Newcastle Upon Tyne, NE13 8AS	

**57. Financial Matters / Accounts for Payment**

a. Approval was given to the following payments, itemised in the Report of the Clerk circulated with the papers for the meeting –

Clerk Salary	May/June 25	£ 1,021.46
HMRC	May/June 25	£ 255.40
St Wilfrid's Church (May)		£ 40.00
Gordon Fletcher (Audit)		£ 125.00
Andrew Richardson (Stationary, Cartridges, Postage)		£ 93.64
Andrew Richardson (Misc)		£ 38.00
St Marks RC Primary (Bio)		£ 467.35
Sparkie Electrical Services (St Wilfrid's Church)		£ 16.00
HFF Garden Services (Cheviot)		£ 60.00
Sparkie Electrical Services (Etal Lane)		£ 290.00
Sparkie Electrical Services (St Wilfrid's Church)		£ 315.00
Arthur Robson (Sovereign Lodge)		£ 100.00
John Littleton (Signs-Ponds)		£ 196.69
John Littleton (Various)		£ 290.00

b. The Clerk shared the financial statement document.

**58. Any Other Business**

Cllr Thomas advised that Simonside Primary School have appointed a new headteacher Emma Hill, to commence in September due to Louise Thompson retiring.

**59. Date of next meeting**

The next meeting was scheduled for 10<sup>th</sup> September 2025, 6.30pm at St Wilfrid's Church.

Chairman .....

Date .....