

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 12th November 2025

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

In attendance: A. Richardson – Clerk

73. Apologies for absence

Apologies for absence were received from Cllr A. Hay, L. Kennedy and L. Wright.

74. Minutes of Previous Meeting

The minutes of the meeting of the Parish Council held on 10th September 2025 were agreed as a true record.

75. Matters Arising from the Previous Minutes

Item 71, the Clerk advised that the local schools had taken up the Parish Council's offer of a real Christmas Tree and wanted to pass on their sincere thanks to all members.

76. Woolsington Parish Area Biodiversity Plan

Cllr Littleton provided an update.

Two reports were prepared in November and are available on request from the clerk

- Woolsington Parish Council Biodiversity Project 2025/26 to date
- Special Projects CIL expenditure 2025/26 to date
- Biodiversity Project 25/26 to date – Wards update
- Sovereign Lodge flower bed. Maintenance Contract issued to local gardener Andy Mackenzie, this commenced in October.
- Woolsington £450 of seasonal bulbs planted by residents, £50 ring fenced for Prestwick Terrace to follow.
- Newbiggin Hall and Bedeburn Wards.
 - Following July meeting, Cllr Littleton and Couchman asked NCC Grounds Maintenance to supply and plant bulbs in verges on Newbiggin Lane in Autumn, the cost of this is approx. £1,000, however no confirmation of date yet.
 - Buxton Green work completed for stone chippings, (cost from Cllr Pattison) and 2 x Oak Tubs (£125)
- Bank Foot: Kingston Open Spaces given grant for £500 for spring bulbs/plants across their Bank Foot sites. Kingston Open Space will inform the Parish Council when work completed for inspection and supply receipts.

Schools update 2025/26

- St Marks - Members visit taken place. Agreed to order outdoor learning plants and equipment to be bought throughout the season.
- Simonside - visit not yet arranged
- Farne – Nature Trail being Planned (£6,000 of W&BF CIL ring fenced as agreed)
- Cheviot – repairs to hedgerow required plus ongoing work to Edible Garden allotments.

Special Projects update

Abbotswood

- The latest phase is being prepared. Wildflower turf and seasonal bulbs to be carried out by Pictorial Meadows, work scheduled for November.

Parish Ponds

- Excellent article written by The Ouse Burn Way project, praising project and the Parish Councils biodiversity work
- Successful community events continue. The latest on Wetland Birds & Fungi.
- Anti-Social Behaviour continues in small doses, getting less as popularity increases
- Community Litter Pick arranged for Sat Nov 15 10.00-12.00 with Landowner. Landowner to supply coffee/soft drinks & biscuits

77. Archies Nature Trail

Cllr Littleton provided an update.

Archie`s Trail (to commemorate the life of Archie York) now gathering momentum under the stewardship of the City Council.

- Press release issued by City Council 16 October first anniversary of the tragedy
- Annual event planned, starting in May 26 (Archie`s birthday)
- WPC has held discussions held with
 - Helen Sammut-Smith (NCC)
 - Nick Howell (Rights of Way Officer) (NCC)
 - Landowner (Taylor Wimpey & Persimmon Homes)
 - Steve Pardue (Pardue Art) doing Nature Trail for Farne School also did commemorative artwork for Holly Newton (girl murdered in Hexham)
- City Council will oversee project and liaise with family but have requested the Parish Council to manage project and provide financial support.
- Project Plans so far are for:
 - Signpost on Whorlton Lane
 - Litterbin on Whorlton Lane
 - New metal seat and litter bin by Duke`s Pond
 - New metal litter bin with nature Trail logo by Lily Pond
 - Nature Trail posts/waymarkers around Main Pond
 - Archie`s Wildlife Observation Point on Main Pond
 - Get support for emptying litterbins and keeping nature trail tidy

Proposal agreed to use Cal Sherlock for a few hours a week for a period of 6 months. Starting in Feb 26 in the lead up to the project going live.

Cal has already been used by the Parish Council for maintenance work and is extremely reliable

- It is proposed to ring fence a budget of £20,000 to meet these costs.

Subject to advice from the Parish Council, Members for W&BF are prepared to fund part/all this requirement from their CIL allocation. This was agreed subject to the Parish Council receiving recognition of their involvement. Following proposal from Cllr McGuinness. Agreed to ringfence £20,000 and 25% (£5,000) to be committed from each Ward CIL allocation

78. Litter Bin – Whorlton Lane

Further to previous correspondence, Newcastle City Council have agreed to install a litter bin on Whorlton Lane.

79. Grant Application

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

D2 Youth Zone Ltd Xmas Holiday Grant

An application was received requesting funding for £1,000 to support an activities programme across the school Xmas holidays.

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

80. Ward Councillor's Update

Cllr Robinson provided an update, the main issue being the parking around the new Callerton Academy on Bedeburn Road. There is a kiss and drop parking facility however this isn't being utilised due to the main gates being closed.

81. Community Orchard

Further to previous discussions regarding the vandalised trees outside D2 Youth Zone, estimate costs were provided, however Cllr Littleton advised that these looked a little on the high side and didn't look accurate. Cllr Littleton to liaise with D2 Youth Zone and Newcastle City Council to establish more accurate costs. Following this, it was agreed that the Parish Council would match fund costings.

82. NCC/ Parish Council's Meeting

Cllr Pattison and the Clerk provided an update on the previously circulated documents regarding the Parish Council's meeting with Newcastle City Council, this included renewing the Parish Council Charter, Parish Council election costs for 2027, and also the Community Governance review.

83. 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 Sabarre declared an interest as he is a school governor for Cheviot and Farne, however advised that both of these schools were in need of refurbishment, it was also suggested a sensory room which would be ideal for the children with special needs. Members requested what the costings would be, Cllr Sabarre to inquire.

Cllr Sabarre also commented on the poor lighting in Bluebell Dene, and if anything could be done using CIL funding.

Cllr Littleton commented that the Parish Council should be receiving significant CIL funding in the future for Kingston Village.

84. 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.

2025/1258/01/HOU	32 Woolsington Park South, Woolsington, Newcastle Upon Tyne, NE13 8BJ	No Objection
2025/1056/01/HOU	5 Woolsington Gardens, Woolsington, Newcastle Upon Tyne, NE13 8AP	No Objection
2025/0986/01/HOU	2 Snowdrop Drive, Newcastle Upon Tyne, NE5 1EX	Holding Objection
2025/1277/01/DET	Redlands Main Road, Newcastle Upon Tyne, NE13 8BW	No Objection
2025/1391/01/HOU	No 2 Cottage, Bullock Steads Farm Ponteland Road, Newcastle Upon Tyne, NE13 8AH	Holding Objection
2025/0841/01/HOU	9 Hollywell Grove, Woolsington, Newcastle Upon Tyne, NE13 8AT	No Objection
2022/1495/01/DET	Phase 2c, 2d and 2e, Airview Park Main Road, Woolsington, Newcastle Upon Tyne,	No Objection
2025/1396/01/TPO	Saint Marks Rc Church Trevelyan Drive, Newbiggin Hall, Newcastle Upon Tyne, NE5 4BT	No Objection
2025/1372/01/DET	Crescent Farm Ponteland Road, Throckley, Newcastle Upon Tyne, NE15 9RE	No Objection
2025/1339/01/ADV	Land East of A696 And West of Station Road, Kenton Bankfoot, Newcastle Upon Tyne	No Objection
2025/1414/01/DET	Broom Hall Farm Callerton Lane, Newcastle Upon Tyne, NE5 1NS	Case Officer advised that this application was now Invalid
2025/1496/01/TPO	6 Woolsington Park South, Woolsington, Newcastle Upon Tyne, NE13 8BJ	No Objection
2023/1076/07/RVC	Callerton Parking, Callerton Station Callerton Lane, Newcastle Upon Tyne, NE13 8BP	No Objection
2023/0269/01/DET	Land to the South of A696, West of Newbiggin Lane and North of Hareydene (upper Callerton), Newcastle Upon Tyne,	No Objection

2019/0666/06/RES	Land to the West of Brunton Lane, North of Brunton Bridge and East of Sunnyside , Newcastle Upon Tyne,	Objection
2024/0115/02/RVC	8 Woolsington Park South, Woolsington, Newcastle Upon Tyne, NE13 8BJ	No Objection
2025/1595/01/TPO	20 South Drive, Woolsington, Newcastle Upon Tyne, NE13 8AN	No Objection
2025/1623/01/TPO	35 Woolsington Park South, Woolsington, Newcastle Upon Tyne, NE13 8BJ	No Objection
2025/1737/01/HOU	54b Watson Road, Callerton, Newcastle Upon Tyne, NE5 1BU	
2025/1719/01/HOU	87 Broadfield Meadows, Kenton Bank Foot, Newcastle Upon Tyne, NE13 8BB	

85. 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	Sept/Oct 25	£ 1,054.60
HMRC	Sept/Oct 25	£ 263.60
St Wilfrid's Church (Sept)		£ 40.00
Zurich Insurance		£ 383.76
Green Eagle (CIL – W&BF)		£ 200.00
Green Eagle (CIL – W&BF)		£ 200.00
Open Spaces (CIL – Wards)		£ 500.00
John Littleton (CIL – N/B Hall)		£ 125.00
NCC (Callerton Signs/CIL – Callerton)		£ 1,956.05
Newbiggin Hall FC (Grant)		£ 7,180.71
HFF Garden Services (CIL – Cheviot)		£ 70.00
Curae Group (CIL – W&BF)		£ 331.20

b. The Clerk shared the financial statement document.

86. Any Other Business

Cllr Spencer raised whether there was a possibility of the Parish Council funding two new bins on or near to the Taylor Wimpey development at Kenton Bank Foot if the developer wasn't prepared to fund, a discussion as to who's responsibility this was took place, it was suggested that Planning should be insisting on the developer installing bins on the new developments. The Clerk read out a written update around crime and anti-social behaviour which had been provided by Northumbria Police for the previous six months.

87. Date of next meeting

The next meeting was scheduled for 14th January 2026, 6.30pm at St Wilfrid's Church.

Chairman

Date