

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 13st May 2026

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

In attendance: A. Richardson – Clerk

27. Apologies for absence

Apologies for absence were received from Cllrs A. Hay, J. Sabarre, L. Spencer and L. Wright.

28. Report of the Parish Council

The Chair read out a report of the Parish Council's activity for the previous 12 months

29. Election of Chairperson

Resolved that: Councillor G Pattison be appointed Chair of the Parish Council for the ensuing municipal year

30. Election of Vice Chairperson

Resolved that: Councillor J. Robinson be appointed Vice Chair of the Parish Council for the ensuing municipal year.

31. Appointment of representatives on other bodies

Resolved that: the following appointment be made -
Newcastle Airport Consultative Committee -
Councillor J Littleton will attend as required

32. Minutes of Previous Meeting

The minutes of the meeting of the Parish Council held on 11th March 2026 were agreed as a true record.

33. Matters Arising from the Previous Minutes

No matters arising.

34. Newbiggin Hall Ward Vacancy

Following the resignation of Sharon Pattison, a vacancy arose in the Parish Council Newbiggin Hall Ward. A notice of vacancy was posted stating that an election would be held if any ten local government electors for the said parish submit a written request to the Returning Office, otherwise the vacancy would be filled by co-option. No interest was received, therefore members were able

to co-opt and agreed to accept the expression of interest received from Gavin Jordan. It was therefore:-

Resolved: That Gavin Jordan be co-opted to the vacancy in the Newbiggin Hall Ward for the current term of office.

35. Grant Applications

The Clerk advised that there were two grant applications to be considered.

Inspire Youth Tyne & Wear

An application was received requesting funding for £2,250.00 to establish a new youth provision for young people aged 13 and over at the Gala Field Centre.

After a long discussion, it was agreed that the application couldn't be granted in full, however the Parish Council decided that the scheme can be supported and donate £1,000 to the project.

Action for Children Grant

An application was received requesting funding for £2,100 to offer 100 free packed lunches per week during the summer holidays from the Gala Field Centre.

After a long discussion, it was agreed that the application couldn't be granted in full, however the Parish Council decided that the scheme can be supported and donate £1,050 to the project.

36. Woolsington Parish Area Biodiversity Plan

Cllr Littleton and Cllr Couchman provided a detailed progress report.

Early in financial year therefore not much to report.

Wards - no requests for projects received to date

Sovereign Lodge beds being maintained to high standards

Farne School - discussions still ongoing with contractor on Nature Trail specifications but plans are almost complete. Expect to be installed later this year

Cheviot School – more work completed by contractor (Nick Craigs) on Edible Garden and other proposals have been made for maintenance. School currently considering these.

The Parish Council has also donated Tomato, Celery & Runner Bean Plants for the Edible Garden.

The work previously undertaken in planting the Hawthorn Hedging has been successful, with a high survival rate, and should provide the required privacy in the next 2 or 3 years.

Abbotswood Trust agreement (NIA/WPC) – The Parish Council has a new contact at the Airport for Abbotswood project. The NIA Communications Manager Janine Lamb.

The success of the current phase, the Wildflower scheme, will be judged in summer. In the meantime, Bellway has been asked to assist with watering in dry spells.

The next phase of the project and any further investment will be considered by the partnership later in the year

Parish Ponds

Work continues on site maintenance, removal of litter and habitat improvements.

The project continues to gain momentum, wildlife is thriving, the community events being hosted by the NHSN are proving very popular.

Anti-Social Behaviour continues to be a problem with criminal damage to benches, fencing and gates.

Also, the grassland and trees have been targeted with fires.

The City Council, Northumbria Police and the Landowner are working together with the Parish Council to introduce preventative measures.

37. Update on Archie's Nature Trail

The inaugural Archie's Nature Trail event is on Friday 29 May, a leaflet for details of itinerary had been distributed. Waymarker Posts, New Bench, Litterbin and Metal Gate all scheduled to be installed in the days leading up to the event.

This project has given the Parish Council a great opportunity to support a wonderful cause, however, this has turned out to be a massive project with many demands on Members time.

Following the event, Members recommended discussions must take place with the City Council, the Landowner, the Ponds Steering Group regarding longer term sustainability of the trail and an agreement must be reached on 'ownership', including the maintenance of infrastructure, challenges of Anti-social behaviour and funding, will be managed going forward.

38. CIL Discussion

Due to the escalating popularity of the Parish Ponds, Members proposed to ring fence a further £25,000 from the W&BF CIL allocation. This is to support requirements for site maintenance, habitat improvements and Community Events in 2027/28. This was agreed by Members.

39. Ward Councillors Update

No update, however discussions to take place with new Ward Councillors going forward.

40. Planning Matters

The Clerk provided an update on planning applications received which had previously been circulated to members.

2026/0260/01/HOU	9 The Crescent, Kenton Bankfoot, Newcastle Upon Tyne, NE13 8AE	No Objection
2026/0324/01/LBC	The Granary, Bullock Steads Farm Ponteland Road, Newcastle Upon Tyne, NE13 8AH	No Objection
2026/0418/01/HOU	15 Anson Place, Newbiggin Hall, Newcastle Upon Tyne, NE5 4AA	No Objection

2026/0477/01/TPO	Ivy Cottage, Bullock Steads Farm Ponteland Road, Newcastle Upon Tyne, NE13 8AH	No Objection
2026/0417/01/LD	Redlands Main Road, Newcastle Upon Tyne, NE13 8BW	No Objection
2026/0414/01/ADV	The Co-op - Callerton Rise Unit 3, Carnation Way, Newcastle Upon Tyne, NE5 1DH	No Objection
2026/020/APPEAL, Planning Application 2026/0129/01/HOU	New Planning Appeal at Peel House Main Road, Newcastle Upon Tyne, NE13 8BL	
2026/0311/01/ADV	Briardene Care Home, Newbiggin Lane, Westerhope, Newcastle Upon Tyne, NE5 1NA	Holding Objection
2026/0315/01/HOU	13 Brunton Road, Kenton Bankfoot, Newcastle Upon Tyne, NE13 8AF	No Objection
2026/0632/01/TPO	28 Woolsington Park South, Woolsington, Newcastle Upon Tyne, NE13 8BJ	No Objection
2026/010/APPEAL, Planning Application 2025/1277/01/DET	PLANNING APPEAL at REDLANDS Main Road, Newcastle Upon Tyne, NE13 8BW	
2026/0377/01/HOU	25 Crane Street, Kenton Bank Foot, Newcastle Upon Tyne, NE13 8DD	
2025/1951/01/HOU	10 Woolsington Gardens, Woolsington, Newcastle Upon Tyne, NE13 8AR	
2024/0689/02/RVC	6 South Drive, Woolsington, Newcastle Upon Tyne, NE13 8AN	
2025/2056/01/HOU	38 Woolsington Park South, Woolsington, Newcastle Upon Tyne, NE13 8BJ	

Cllr Littleton provided an update on the plans for Newcastle International Airport international Freight Storage service (Airlink)

Last year, in the Woolsington Parish Council response to the Newcastle International Airport Masterplan, 2040 residents have already flagged concerns that the Airport's plans for growth are not aligned to the capabilities of the existing local road infrastructure, particularly to the south side of the runway. Members for Woolsington & Bank Foot have now written to the City Council's Assistant Director of Planning asking for more information about plans for the

Newcastle United Football Club Training Complex which is linked to Woolsington Park to determine the impact on the surrounding area and emerging Airport plans.

This is required in order for the Parish Council to make an informed response to the forthcoming AIRLINK Planning Application

Members need guidance/understanding on the Newcastle United Football Club plans for nearby Woolsington Park and the road structure.

Two problems have been highlighted, Newcastle United Football Club's plans may have a bearing on the Airlink development as there is potential conflict of access/egress to these sites, and Cumulative impact on the road infrastructure for the surrounding area for past, proposed and future plans are unknown.

The Airport has already moved the free waiting area and the short stay drop off service to this area since the last Local Plan.

Plans to double the capacity of the Callerton Parkway Car Park have been approved.

Clarity from the City Council is required before any more planning applications which impact on road capacity in this area are considered.

41. Financial Matters / Accounts for Payment

The Clerk provided an update to Members with regard to the 2025/26 Annual accounts.

41a. The members approved the Annual Governance Statement, and

41b. The members approved the Financial Statement.

The Chair thereafter signed the AGAR documents.

41c. Approval was given to the following payments, itemised in the Report of the Clerk circulated with the papers for the meeting –

Clerk Salary	Mar/Apr 26	£ 1,054.60
HMRC	Mar/Apr 26	£ 263.60
St Wilfrid's Church (Mar)		£ 40.00
CI Accountancy		£ 264.00
Andy Mackenzie (CIL–Wards)		£ 100.00
D2 Youth Zone Ltd (Grant)		£ 1,500.00
Cal Sherlock (Maintenance Feb/Mar) (CIL-Archies Trail)		£ 368.00
St Marks RC School (CIL-Schools)		£ 1,144.00
Friends of Callerton (CIL–Wards)		£ 471.25
Andrew Richardson (Printer)		£ 435.95
Cal Sherlock (Reimbursement) (CIL - Archies Trail)		£ 318.55
Steve Pardue Art & Design (CIL - Archies Trail)		£ 3,260.00
Border Signs and Graphics (CIL - Archies Trail)		£ 9,285.60
HFF Garden Services (CIL – Cheviot School Bio)		£ 115.00

41d. The Clerk shared the financial statement document.

42. For Consideration and Agreement

The Clerk shared the following documents and requested Members approval;
Financial Regulations 2026-27
Standing Orders 2026-27
Statement of Internal Control 2026-27
Risk Assessment 2026-27
Asset Register 2026-27
These were all agreed.

43. Any Other Business

Cllr Kennedy reported that the Newbiggin Hall Junior football team had been having to train at other facilities due to issues with the Gala Field pitches. Following a discussion, it was agreed to invite Noel Hanlon (Newcastle City Council) to a forthcoming meeting.

A grant application was received from D2 Youth Zone Ltd after the agenda had been circulated, the Chair agreed to it being considered under any other business. It was a request for funding for £4,000 to support an activities programme across the School Summer holidays.

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

44. Date of next meeting

The next meeting was scheduled for 8th July 2026, 6.30pm at St Wilfrid's Church.

Chairman

Date