

WENDOVER PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of the Parish Council Meeting

7th October 2025 at 7:40pm

Wendover Community Library, High St, Wendover HP22 6DU

Present: Councillors Atwell, Ballantine, Coupland, Gallagher, Mackinlay, Porter, Thornton, Walsh, Washington and Worth.

In attendance: Cllr Field

Clerk: Phoebe Sharps

Members of Public: 5

1. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

PC25/236 Cllrs Tipper, O'Donnell and Standen offered their apologies, and they were accepted by the Committee. Buckinghamshire Councillor Strachan sent his apologies.

2. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

PC25/237 Cllr Washington declared an interest in the item on the Christmas Event, due to a family member working for the nominated Christmas charity.

3. MINUTES

PC25/238 The minutes of the Parish Council of 2nd September 2025 were **RESOLVED** as a true record to be signed by the Chair of the meeting.

4. CHAIR'S ANNOUNCEMENTS

PC25/239 The chair updated the Council on the school road closure that was planned for 13th Oct, being discussed in item 11 a) ii. and that it's no longer taking place on this date as the school buses are yet to agree, this update was noted.

5. PUBLIC PARTICIPATION

PC25/240 A presentation from a member of the Wendover HS2 MAG was given and noted.

6. REPORTS FROM BUCKINGHAMSHIRE COUNCILLORS

PC25/241 Cllr Field received an enquiry about housing asylum seekers in Wendover and sent his concerns to the appropriate department, he has had confirmation that has been scrapped. Cllr Field is going to ask Buckinghamshire Council why the Parish Council wasn't informed of this. Cllr Field will bring anything to Clerk when he is made aware of it.

PC25/242 A question was asked by Cllr Thornton about the Buckinghamshire Council priorities, this was further discussed in item 12j.

7. CLERKS REPORT AND CORRESPONDANCE

PC25/243 The Clerk's report was noted. It was further noted that the flag query that was noted in the Clerk report was raised on Everything Wendover on 07/10/2025.

8. FINANCE AND PAYMENTS

a) Payments to consider.

PC25/244 The payments to consider, totalling £31,458.21 were considered and questions answered. The payments were **RESOLVED** and signed. It was noted that Cllr Porter questioned the number of Amazon payments.

b) Latest financial reports

PC25/245 The financial reports were noted.

c) Flagstone statement

PC25/246 The statement was noted.

d) End of year projection

PC25/247 The projection was considered, and it was noted that there is a potential to end the year with a deficit that would mean a small reduction in the general reserve.

9. REPORTS FROM MEETINGS WITH OUTSIDE BODIES

a) HS2 Mitigation Action Group

PC25/248 The report was noted. Cllr Gallagher thanked Cllr Porter for her work and dedication in the group. It was noted that the Council have been asked to nominate a new Cllr to join the group.

b) Library Trustee Meeting

PC25/249 The report was noted. Cllr Worth noted that an application for the library to become a community asset is being submitted.

c) Other organisations

PC25/250 It was noted that the Memorial Hall have disposed of tree that was causing concern and issues and will be developing the area in the future, bookings are good.

PC25/251 It was noted that Cllr Atwell attended an East Bucks Community Board meeting, where they set out their hope to empower youth in Bucks, and will be contacting Wendover Youth Club to engage young people. Another focus was road safety around schools. Cllr Field noted that the Parish Council should be encouraged to put in more projects to the Community Board. The Council will speak to WYC and the Transport Working Group and schools about applying for funding based on the Community Board's priorities.

10. REPORTS FROM STANDING COMMITTEES

a) AMENITIES COMMITTEE

PC25/252 The draft minutes of the meeting on 16th September 2025 were NOTED.

11. REPORTS FROM WORKING GROUPS

a) Transport Working Group

PC25/253 i) The update was noted.

PC25/254 ii) **Road Closure on school campus** – It was noted that the Wharf Road closure is not taking place on 13th Oct. The school buses have yet to agree. it may take place on 20th Oct.

PC25/255 It was **RESOLVED** to approve and support the event being undertaken by the Transport Working Group and School Campus Group

- PC25/256** **iii) HS2 Works and reinstatements** - It was **RESOLVED** to approve Transport Working Group to develop community proposal for Ellesborough Road reinstatement, Greenway cycle route and reuse of the old cricket ground.
- PC25/257** It was **RESOLVED** to approve the budget request of up to £2000 (to come from Transport Working Group EMR 359) for a Highways Consultant to assist.
- PC25/258** It was **RESOLVED** to approve the Parish Council to formally write to Buckinghamshire Council to:
- I. Notify WPC opposition to the current highway re-instatement designs shown to the WPC.
 - II. Request responses to WPC communication in August including provision of copies of latest designs.
 - III. Inform that alternative proposals are being developed by the community.

b) Open Spaces Working Group

PC25/259 No update given.

c) Sustainability and Biodiversity Group

PC25/260 i) – No update given.

PC25/261 **ii) Streetlight tender** – It was **RESOLVED** to Approve the tender document and process. Authorise the office to implement the tender process.

PC25/262 It was noted this should come from the Amenities Committee.

d) Strategic Planning Steering Group

PC25/263 It was noted that the group are planning a meeting soon.

e) Community Emergency Response Group

PC25/264 It was noted that the group are meeting to populate a list, and this will be looked at in November.

12. OTHER ITEMS

a) Review of sponsorship of Yardfest

PC25/265 It was **RESOLVED** that to accept the report and note the outcome.

b) Audit arrangements for 2025/26

PC25/266 It was **RESOLVED** to formally note that PKF Littlejohn are appointed as the external auditor for 2025/26.

PC25/267 It was **RESOLVED** to appoint IAC Audit and Consultancy as internal auditor for 2025/26

PC25/268 It was **RESOLVED** to authorise the Clerk and RFO to seek quotes for the internal audit for 26/27 onwards

c) Approval of insurance

PC25/269 It was **RESOLVED** to approve the insurance quote as set out by company 1 for the 2025/26 year totalling £3617.99

d) Emergency repair of playground

PC25/270 It was **RESOLVED** to waive the financial regulations requiring three quotes due to the urgent need of this safety repair.

PC25/271 It was **RESOLVED** to award the work to Company 2.

PC25/272 It was noted that Cllr Porter abstained from the vote.

e) Purchase of Tommies

- PC25/273** It was **RESOLVED** to accept the expenditure of up to £800.00 to the replace and install the Tommy.
- PC25/274** It was **RESOLVED** to authorise the office to order the Tommy Statue and fixings needed.
- PC25/275** It was noted that the Council will agree to the location of the Tommy at separate date via email.

f) Christmas Event

- PC25/276** It was **RESOLVED** to appoint Little Acorns Kindergarten as the chosen charity for the 2025 event.
- PC25/277** It was **RESOLVED** to approve the temporary road closure of Back Street for the Christmas Celebration Event 2025 in principle.
- PC25/278** It was **RESOLVED** to authorise the office to make the final decision on the temporary road closure based on feedback from the Back Street/High Street businesses and residents.
- PC25/279** It was noted that extra crowd barrier will used to make the footpath safe. It was further noted that a review with businesses and residents will take place after Christmas regarding road closures.

g) Buckinghamshire Council Local Plan

- PC25/280** It was **RESOLVED** to submit the feedback on the current stage of the local plan consultation as set out in this paper.
- PC25/281** It was **RESOLVED** to authorise the office and Chair to engage with other local Parish Councils on submitting a combined response to the final draft of the local plan.
- PC25/282** It was **RESOLVED** to agree, in principle, to contribute an amount of up to £2967 + VAT for professional services to support our combined local plan response.
- PC25/283** It was **RESOLVED** to authorise the office to seek quotes, if available, for alternative providers and make bids for funding to cover the works

h) Installation of memorial gates and sign

- PC25/284** It was **RESOLVED** to authorise the office to proceed with instructing Caswells to install the gates at the entrance to the heron path.
- PC25/285** It was **RESOLVED** to authorise the office to produce the sign artwork and purchase the sign with correct fixings.
- PC25/286** It was noted that the Council thanked Sweeneys and Wendover Football Club for their contribution and support towards this project.

i) Electricity contract

- PC25/287** It was **RESOLVED** to authorise the office to fix a deal at the best value price for the appropriate number of years with consideration of green tariffs.

j) Buckinghamshire Council priorities

- PC25/288** It was noted that Cllr Thornton asked Cllr Field questions about BC priorities. And noted that the consultations can be seen as confusing and misleading to the public and residents. Cllr Field said he would speak to Cllr Strachan about the questions and pass them on to the appropriate people at Bucks Council.
- PC25/289** It was **RESOLVED** that the survey needs a Wendover Parish Council combined response to identify the 5 priority areas and the 5 areas that are not as high a priority for Wendover.
- PC25/290** It was **RESOLVED** to authorise the office to submit a response by the deadline date with all of the comments over email from Councillors.

13. DATES OF FUTURE MEETINGS

PC25/291 It was noted next Parish Council meeting 7.40pm on Tuesday 4th November at Wendover Community Library. All agenda items and papers to be with the clerk by Mon 27th October.

14. CLOSURE OF MEETING

PC25/292 As all business was transacted the meeting was closed at 8.36pm

Signed by *Clive Gallagher*
Chair to the Parish Council

Date: 4th November 2025