

**GREATER WILLINGTON TOWN COUNCIL**  
**Minutes of the Ordinary Meeting**  
**13<sup>th</sup> June 2024**

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**IN ATTENDANCE**

Councillor D Hales, Councillor C Hales,  
Councillor Elgie, Councillor Savage, Councillor McArdle  
Councillor Jackson, Councillor Tinsley,  
Emma McCann (DTC) (Minutes)

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**1. ACCEPTANCE OF APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE**

Apologies were received from Helen Cogdon Town Clerk, Councillor Henfrey, Councillor Smith, and Councillor Berry and Councillor Jordan.

Proposed Councillor Elgie

Seconded Councillor Jackson

**2. DECLARATION OF INTEREST**

*Members are invited to declare any personal and/or prejudicial interest in matters appearing on the agenda and the nature of their interest.*

None declared.

**3. PUBLIC PARTICIPATION**

***Resident agenda items requested through the Clerk.***

None received.

**4. TO APPROVE THE MINUTES OF THE ANNUAL PARISH MEETING HELD ON 21<sup>ST</sup> MAY 2024**

The minutes of the Annual Parish Meeting held on 21<sup>st</sup> May 2024, as written, and circulated, there was an amendment made as Councillor Jackson was omitted from the attendance list.

Councillor D Hales signed the minutes.

Proposed Councillor Elgie

Seconded Councillor McArdle

**MATTERS ARISING (FOR INFORMATION ONLY)**

None.

**5. TO APPROVE THE MINUTES OF THE ANNUAL MEETING HELD ON 21<sup>ST</sup> MAY 2024**

The minutes of the Annual Meeting held on 21<sup>st</sup> May 2024, as written, and circulated were agreed as a true record.

Councillor D Hales signed the minutes.

Proposed Councillor Jackson

Seconded Councillor C Hales

**MATTERS ARISING (FOR INFORMATION ONLY)**

None.

## 6. TO CONSIDER PLANNING APPLICATIONS

### New Planning Applications

- DM/24/00419/FPA – Rose Hall, Lydia Street, Willington – Demolish part of old Church Hall. Convert remaining building into a dwelling. Provide additional pitched roof areas. Provide external parking area, fences and boundary treatment.

For Information Only – Determination Deadline 11 June 2024

<https://publicaccess.durham.gov.uk/online-applications/applicationDetails.do?keyVal=S8W6NPGD0LT00&activeTab=summary>

- DM/24/00481/FPA – 13 Russell Place, Willington – Dormer style extension to second bedroom

For Information Only – Determination Deadline 14 June 2024

<https://publicaccess.durham.gov.uk/online-applications/applicationDetails.do?keyVal=S97U16GDGKR00&activeTab=summary>

- DM/24/00758/FPA - Unit 1, Brockwell Court. Low Willington Industrial Estate, Willington - Change of use to dog day care and training centre with creation external exercise area and alteration to insert external door

For Information Only – Determination Deadline 28 May 2024

<https://publicaccess.durham.gov.uk/online-applications/applicationDetails.do?keyVal=SANOQWGDGZF00&activeTab=summary>

- DM/24/00787/FPA - Hadrian Lodge 1 North Lane Willington - Two storey extension to rear and replacement cladding to front

For Information Only – Determination Deadline 18 June 2024

<https://publicaccess.durham.gov.uk/online-applications/applicationDetails.do?keyVal=SAREK6GDH0000&activeTab=summary>

- DM/24/01044/FPA – 18 Fleming Way, Willington – Single storey rear extension

For Information Only – Determination Deadline 17 June 2024

<https://publicaccess.durham.gov.uk/online-applications/applicationDetails.do?keyVal=SC763AGDHCE00&activeTab=summary>

- DM/24/01121/FPA – 23 South Acre, Oakenshaw – Bedroom extension above garage  
Standard Consultation Expiry Date – 10 June 2024

<https://publicaccess.durham.gov.uk/online-applications/applicationDetails.do?keyVal=SCIA9VGDHG900&activeTab=summary>

- DM/24/01391/NMA – 8 Prospect Place, Sunnybrow - Non-material amendment pursuant to planning permission DM/22/01284/FPA. Changing pitched roof over single storey garage to a flat roof, removal of two of the roof lanterns, changing folding door set to window in new extension, blocking up existing window, minor internal layout changes  
Standard Consultation Expiry Date 5 June 2024

<https://publicaccess.durham.gov.uk/online-applications/applicationDetails.do?keyVal=SDZZF9GDHU600&activeTab=summary>

### Previous Planning Application Decisions

None since last meeting.

### Previous Planning Applications Waiting Decisions

- DRC/22/00261 - Land Adjacent To (East) Ash Drive, Willington - Discharge of Conditions 5 (Construction Management Plan and Method Statement), 6 - (coal mining legacy), 8 (off-site highways), 10 (Arboricultural Impact Assessment), 14 (contaminated land) and 16 (archaeology) pursuant to planning permission DM/18/03443/OUT (erection of up to 200 dwellings).

- DM/23/02084/DRC - Land Adjacent To (East) Ash Drive Willington - Discharge of Conditions 7 (drainage) and 9 (pedestrian, cycle and bus infrastructure) pursuant to DM/18/03443/OUT (as amended by DM/23/02103/NMA) in relation to Phase 1
- DM/23/02085/DRC - Land Adjacent To (East) Ash Drive Willington - Discharge of Conditions 3 (internal highway network), 4 (materials), 5 (surface treatments) and 6 (landscaping scheme) pursuant to DM/21/04140/RM
- DM/24/00171/RM - Land To The East Of Ash Drive, Durham Road, Willington - Reserved matters application (appearance, landscaping, layout and scale) within parts of Phases 1 and 2 for the erection of up to 112 No. dwellings with associated landscaping and engineering works pursuant to DM/18/03443/OUT
- DM/24/00170/FPA - Land To The East Of Ashfield Drive Durham Road Willington - Erection of up to 20 dwellings with associated access, car parking, landscaping, engineering and infrastructure
- DM/24/00758/FPA - Unit 1 Brockwell Court, Low Willington Industrial Estate, Willington - Change of use to dog day care and training centre with creation external exercise area and alteration to insert external door

Discussions were had in relation to 79 Commercial Street and the possible change of use. Also, the amount of rubble etc on DCC land next to the premises. The DTC confirmed that planning had been notified and an investigation is underway.

Councillor Tinsley explained the application regarding the old St John Ambulance building was discussed last week and the appeal was refused. It has been requested the building revert back to previous condition before it was purchased.

## **7. TO CONSIDER THE FINANCIAL REGULATIONS REVIEW**

The Model Financial Regulations template was produced by NALC in April 2024 for the purpose of its member councils and county associations.

Cllr D Hales has reviewed the Financial Regulations with the DTC in her role as RFO.

These Financial Regulations have been adapted to suit our councils size and structure. The Financial Regulations Policy has been made available to Members and no comments have been received.

Members are requested to endorse the Financial Regulations Policy and an annual review in May each year.

Proposed by Councillor Elgie

Seconded by Councillor McArdle

Resolved1. That the Financial Regulations provide appropriate guidelines for the management of the Councils business and financial matters. The Policy is approved.

## **8. TO APPROVE THE BANK RECONCILIATION (APRIL 2024 AND MAY 2024)**

The DTC reported,

The Council began in April 2024 with a starting balance of £4,347.52.

There was expenditure of £9,693.44 and credits of £123,208.27, leaving an end balance of £117,862.35.

Credits include allotment rents, Precept of £117,745.59, LCTRS £897, Donation from William Clark, Murphys Fun Fair following the Autumnus Mabon Event, Refund from Baker Ross for damaged items and income from businesses who wanted to retain a second hanging basket on their property.

The Council began in May 2024 with a starting balance of £117,862.35.

There was expenditure of £11,877.39 and credits of £1,631.71, leaving an end balance of £107,616.67.

Credits include allotment rents and income from dog bags.  
Proposed Councillor C Hales  
Seconded Councillor Jackson

**9. TO RECEIVE THE BUDGET REPORT AND APPROVE FINANCIAL DECISIONS (MARCH 2024)**

The DTC reported,  
The budget for 2024-2025 is £123,642.59. This is made up of Precept, LCTRS and Allotment Rent Income.  
There is a Spend to Date of £19,940.25. This leaves an Available Resource on Budget of £103,702.34.

There are some headings outside the budget which are agreements made outside of the Annual Budget. This includes approved costs from 2023-2024 that covers bills generated in 2023-2024 and only cleared in this new financial year 2024-2025, Fun & Food Easter Fun 2024, and Welcome Space. These three items are due to be signed off soon.

Proposed Councillor McArdle  
Seconded Councillor C Hales

The DTC said TalkTalk had been in touch about the contract we hold with them. Our current contract is renewing at £31.95exc VAT but this package won't exist nationally in the next 2 years as copper pipes are being ripped out. We can upgrade to the newer service at a cost of £38.45exc VAT on a 24 month contract. This provides a faster speed internet, ultra-reliable connection, brand new router and more. An activation fee of £24.95 is payable.

Resolved1. To upgrade to the new package at a cost of £38.45exc VAT per month.

Proposed Councillor Tinsley  
Seconded Councillor Savage

**10. RECEIVE THE TOWN COUNCILLORS MONTHLY REPORT**

Councillor Savage expressed how the Thank You event was a lovely thing to do. Certificates and chocolates were given out to all the unsung heroes of the community. Councillor Jackson said the hanging baskets are all ordered and just waiting for the date of when they will be installed.

Councillor McArdle said she had attended another Patient Participating Group along with Councillor C Hales. She said the Chair of the group is continuing for another year. Councillor C Hales expressed that the new housing will have an impact on the doctor's surgery due to the 300+ extra homes in the town. Councillor Tinsley said there is money from s106 available that can support. Schools in the parish are not at capacity yet. Councillor C Hales also explained they have introduced a new phone system at the doctors which offers a call back option. They are also hoping to take on another doctor and 2 senior practice nurses.

Councillor Tinsley explained the grass cutting within the parish isn't getting done as it should due to the weather, its holding them back.

Councillor D Hales said the first session of Youth Provision took place on Monday evening. Along with the DTC, they remained in the building for the session. It was nice to meet the Youth Workers who will be managing the project. Some youths were present, and ideas and suggestions were presented for coming weeks.

The Little Brass Bash will take place on the Town Green on Wednesday 10<sup>th</sup> July 2024 between 6.30pm – 8.30pm. In the event of inclement weather, we will discuss moving this to the Open Door Church.. The new coffee shop would like to be involved. 100 goody bags will be provided for the first 100 children at the event. We will be advertising for

volunteers to join an Events Team. We also require litter pickers and marshals for the night.

**11. TO RECEIVE THE COUNTY COUNCILLORS MONTHLY REPORT**

Nothing to report. We are in Purdah.

**12. TO CONSIDER COMMUNITY FUND APPLICATIONS**

None received.

**13. TO CONSIDER CIVIC FUND APPLICATIONS**

None received.

**14. ANY OTHER BUSINESS (FOR INFORMATION ONLY)**

None.

**15. DATE AND TIME OF NEXT MEETING**

Thursday 25<sup>th</sup> July 2024 at 6pm.