

WITTON-LE-WEAR PARISH COUNCIL MINUTES – JULY 2025

Minutes of the ordinary meeting of Witton le Wear Parish Council held on **Monday 14th July 2025** at Witton le Wear Community Centre commencing at 18-15.

- Present: Cllrs Murray-Leslie (Chair), L Docherty, C Cook, M Campbell, L Langstaff-Wood, L Bentley.
- Residents: None present.
- 25/37** Cllr Murray-Leslie welcomed everyone to the meeting.
- 25/38** The agenda being considered by the Cllrs there was no declaration of interest.
- 25/39** Apologies received from M McLaren (Parish Council Clerk)
Residents: No apologies
- 25/40** Both the minutes of the regular meeting and AGM held on Monday 14th July were accepted and signed by Cllr Murray-Leslie with the following amendments:
- 25/41** Amendments to minutes:

Paul Parsons is no longer a signatory on the Parish Council Bank Account

Parish clerk is to propose and Councillors Murray Leslie and C Cook approve payments from the Parish Council Bank Account
- 25/42** Vice chair – resolved, Councillor C Cook has been elected and has accepted the position. Nominated by Councillor Murray-Leslie, seconded by Councillor Campbell.
- 25/43** The AGAR was approved. The Parish Council thanked the Parish clerk for his work with the AGAR. (This was resolved)
- 25/44** Pecuniary interest forms have been completed by the Councillors and given to the Parish Clerk to be filed in the DCC system. (This was resolved)
- 25/45** Councillor Murray-Leslie said all Declaration of office forms were now complete and would be handed over to the Parish Clerk. (This was resolved)
- 25/46** Councillor Cook presented a financial report and agreed to forecast ongoing annual costs to be used to support other potential future projects.
- Actions from previous minutes:**
- 25/47** Councillor Bentley advised that the path strimming was ongoing. The works by the strimming company had been increased to include the removal of a dangerous tree by the river. The tree has been removed and the costs will be reclaimed from DCC. Strimming works are now complete.
- 25/48** Councillor Langstaff-Wood has addressed the Facebook comms issues so the account can now be accessed.
- 25/49** Parish clerk action – to contact DCC regarding lack of public transport though the village during the school holidays.
- 25/50** A68 – Progress report to be given at September meeting

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Working Groups - New Actions

- 25/51** Contact from residents about the appearance of the village.
Action: Cllrs Cook and Bentley have agreed to get prices from 3 x local companies to carry out strimming work around the Green.
- 25/52** A Microgrant for £400 has been granted to The Weardale Railway.
Action: Cllrs Murray-Leslie and the Clerk to review the process for ease of use.
- 25/53** Footpaths and trees
Action: Cllr Bentley to remind residents to let the Parish Council know about overgrown paths and fallen or dangerous trees.
- 25/54** Electronic Decisions - None
- 25/55** Witton Word
Cllr Langstaff-Wood reported that the layout of the Witton Word, now in colour, has been favourably received. A timetable for publication has now been issued to regular contributors.
Action: Cllr Langstaff-Wood to manage distribution of Witton Word.
- 25/56** Planning Issues
None
- 25/57** Dog Bins
Cllr Docherty requested a change in the position of the dog bin near the old bridge to make it more user friendly.
Action: Cllr Docherty to investigate with DCC

Meeting closed at 19-15

Next ordinary meeting of the Parish Council – 10th November 2025, 18-15, at WLW Community Centre

Signed by the Chair ...

H Murray-Leslie

Date 08-09-2025