

WENTWORTH PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of a Meeting of Wentworth Parish Council which was held at The Wentworth Pavilion at 6.30pm on Monday June 15th 2026

- PC/038/26 **Members present.**
Councillor Mr B. McNamara (Chairman)
Councillor Mr S. Peace (Deputy Chairman)
Councillors Mr J. Knight, Mrs V Sykes, Mrs C Shaw, ,
Mr P. Martin, Mr D. Booth. Also attending Jane Hutchings (JH), acting financial officer and Sharon Peace (SP), minute taker.
- PC/039/26 **Disclosures of Interest & Dispensations** To receive declarations of interest in respect of items on this agenda in accordance with the Localism Act 2011 s32 and the relevant Authorities (Disclosable Pecuniary Interests) Regulations 2012 from Members or Officers and to consider any dispensation requests received by the Clerk under the Localism Act 2011 s33. **No interests were declared**
- PC/040/26 **Annual Governance and Accountability Return 2025/26-** Section 1 To consider the findings of the review of effectiveness of the system of internal control and approve the Annual Governance Statement as shown on the Annual Governance and Accountability Return for the year ended 31 March 2026. **Approved : Cllr S.Peace, Seconded : C.Shaw**

Appointment of Internal Auditor for the Year Ending 31 March 2027.To approve the appointment of Clare Smith Internal Audit to act as the Internal Auditor for the financial year ending 31 March 2027.
- PC/041/26 **Annual Governance and Accountability 2025/2026-**Section 2 To consider and approve the Accounting Statements as shown on the Annual Governance and Accountability Return for the year ended 31 March 2026 **Approved : S.Peace, Seconded : C.Shaw**
- PC/042/26 **Annual Governance and Accountability 2025/2026-**Section 3. External Auditor Report 2025/2026.To receive the report from the Internal Auditor for the year ended 31 March 2026. External Auditor report will be displayed on or after 30th September 2026.
- PC/043/26 **AGAR Recommendation:** Cloud Based Storage. The Parish Council should consider moving from hard-drive storage to a cloud-based system. Cloud storage offers improved data security, automatic backups, and resilience against data loss from hardware failure or theft. It also supports better access control, version management, and business continuity, helping the Council meet data protection and good governance requirements. Any system adopted should be UK GDPR-compliant with appropriate access controls in place. (Cost per year is £100.00 plus vat) B McNamara advised he had researched this, and Eskia Computers can set this up. Jane Hutchings agreed to contact them. **Approved : Cllr J.Knight, Seconded Cllr Sykes**
- PC/044/26 **Absence.**
Cllr J. Annetts
Cllr T. Hill
a) To receive apologies for absence.

Cllr J. Annetts

Cllr T.Hill

b) To consider the reasons for absence given by Councillors.

Reasons considered and accepted.

PC/045/26 Public Participation.

There was no public participation

PC/046/26 To receive and consider matters raised for and by RMBC.

Cllr B McNamara advised that he had contacted RMBC Streetpride re concerns raised with him by the Fitzwilliam Estate regarding the general State of the village of Wentworth including road signs being obscured, overgrown verges, overhanging trees and hedgerows and blocked gullies. This was seen as impacting on the Village as a tourist attraction. The Estate agreed to contact local farm tenants to ensure they dealt with hedges they were responsible for .

RMBC Highways and Street pride have advised the PC that the growth was due to this year's weather conditions and that Wentworth was on a twice-yearly weedkilling programme. Cllr BJ McNamara has contacted Cllr Williams and also Cllr Brent who now involved.

PC/047/26 To receive and consider matters raised for and by Fitzwilliam Estate.

The Fitzwilliam Estate have confirmed they do not want a bench installed on the Timberland Trail footpath. Their response is below:

"Because a permissive path remains private property and does not carry a public right of access, the landowner controls all fixtures on the route.

Installing a bench on a permissive path involves the following key considerations:

· *Landowner Agreement: The landowner has the final say. They are entitled to dictate where the bench goes, what type of bench is allowed, or even deny the installation altogether.*

· *Liability & Maintenance: The landowner is liable for maintaining the bench. If the bench falls into disrepair and causes injury to someone using it, the landowner could be held responsible and requires proper public liability insurance".*

Therefore, the estates have denied the WPC permission to proceed with a bench.

Discussions continued regarding the Thorncliffe & Wentworth CC Score hut. Cllr Booth suggested that if the PC requested the planning permission on behalf of the CC it would cost them less. The PC agreed that the CC had to establish whether planning permission was required first, and that the CC was to contact RMBC Planning Department to find out if planning would be required at their cost.

Cllr McNamara reported that he had spoken with the Estates regarding any new Benches and had and agreed the type of base in future.

The Estate have raised issues re the hedges at the gate entrances to the Wentworth playing field which require cutting back, also, the gates in general are in a bad state of repair. Cllr McNamara proposed a working party day for PC members to cut back the hedges themselves. All agreed. Date to be arranged

Cllr McNamara had also been approached by our window cleaning contractor who cleans the red phone box at Street Lane (Defibrillator) who was concerned about the overgrown shrubs making access to the defibrillator difficult and also damaging the paint work on the phone box. The Estate advised him that they would contact the tenants to cut the

hedges as this was the tenant's responsibility.

PC/048/26 Minutes of previous meetings

To consider any alterations to the minutes of the previous meeting

Amendments were requested to item 024/26 for the previous minutes.

b) To accept the minutes of the previous meeting as a true record and authorise the Chairperson to sign accordingly

RESOLVED that the minutes of the Council meeting held on the 18th May 2026 were accepted as a true record and were authorised to be signed by the Chairman.

PC/049/26 Matters arising from previous minutes

The action point log was reviewed by all and updated. Key issues were :

PC/014/26 :

- Cllr McNamara proposed that the best quotes to repaint the Village Beacon and reinstall the sign were from Paktek - £386.90 for the Beacon Basket and £371.40 (both ex VAT) for the new bench base PC approved this – Cllr McNamara to contact Andy Gittings of Pactek.

It was agreed by the Parish Council for the work to commence. Proposed by Cllr McNamara, seconded by Cllr Shaw

PC/220/25:

- Cllr Knight and Cllr McNamara had received and were reviewing the documentation from HAG for the village day event. They will continue to pursue the correct documentation insurance/liability documents.
- Cllr Knight reported that the Gala poster had gone out without final clearance by WPC. He has contacted HAG to remind them the PC must clear these before publication and to reiterate that HAG would be liable for any damage to the grass. If for any reason if rains and vehicles become stranded accessing or egressing the field.

PC/0220/25:

- It was agreed that the Harley playing field grass would need cutting the week before the event, 12th July. Cllr McNamara to contact AWS.

PC/032/26 :

- PC agreed that the Kirby Lane noticeboard should be removed as it was rarely used and becoming dangerous. Cllr Sykes agreed to inform Kirby Lane tenants, redirect them to the WPC website for up-to-date information and share any urgent or important information via the WhatsApp group she had set up. Cllr McNamara to contact Andy Gittings and obtain a cost to remove ~~to remove~~ the noticeboard.

PC/050/26 Financial Matters

- Financial matters were discussed. Jane Hutchings queried the EDF payment as it looked high. Cllr Peace will check this while he is considering switching to EON.
- Cllr Peace confirmed he would raise payments for the invoices recently received, plus the outstanding Salary and HMRC payments. Cllr McNamara confirmed he would authorise these.
- All payments approved at the meeting recorded below.

Approval of Payments for June

Company	Type	Description	Amount	Date paid/due
EDF	DD	Electricity charges- Wentworth	£ 189.86	20.5.26
Lloyds Bank	FPI	Service Charges	£4.25	29.5.26
Arthur J Gallagher	BACS	Insurance renewal	£ 4,491.59	1.06.26
AWS	SO	Grounds Maintenance	£ 993.63	1.6.26
EON	DD	Electricity charges-Harley	£26.39	2.6.26
J.Torry	SO	Window Cleaner	£35.00	9.6.26
Everflow	DD	Water charges Wentworth	£33.00	12.6.25
Clerk	BACS	Salary	£ 80	Due 16.6.26
RFO	BACS	Salary	£216	Due 16.6.26
AWS	SO	Grounds Maintenance	£ 993.63	(SO date change) due 29.6.26
HMRC	BACS	May's salaries	£260	15.6.26
HMRC	BACS	June's salaries	£164	15.6.26
Pactek invoice	BACS	Wentworth pavilion drains work	£380.11	15.6.26
RMBC Invoice	BACS	Harley field bin	£223.46	15.6.26
Chair's Allowance	BACS		£600	15.6.26
GM Jones	BACS	Cricket Pavillion	£10,7000	15.6.26
Total			£115,690.92	

Receipts in the month

Company	Type	Description	Amount	Date paid/due
CCLA Investment	FPI	Interest	£6.25	received 29.5.26
Total			£6.25	

RESOLVED that the Council approved payments to be processed

Bank Reconciliation June

WPC	Bank	Type	Balance	As at
	Lloyds	Current account	£29,330	
	Lloyds	32 day notice	£10,009	
Total			£39,339.00	29.05.26

PC/051/26

Planning applications

No planning applications had been received. The PC awaited feedback from the Cricket Club re the outcome of their request for planning application advice.

PC/052/26

Correspondence and emails received

A thankyou letter has been sent to the WVCA re the newly donated bench to the Parish Council. A thankyou response email from the chair of the WVCA on the was received on 25TH May. The PC agreed the bench should be installed on the playing field by Andy Gittings. Cllr McNamara to approach Andy Gittings to install. The Cost of £371.00 was agreed by the Parish Council. Proposed by Cllr Sykes Seconded by Cllr McNamara. Refer to point PC/49/26 Sub section PC/014/26.

Received from the estates re issues with the general condition of the village and immediate areas. Dated 03/06/2026. See also PC/046/26

PC/053/26 Parish Councillors Areas of responsibilities and Parish Council Plan

Cllr Peace reported that roles and responsibilities would need to be reviewed and redistributed, and the plan would need to be updated following that. Cllr Peace and Cllr McNamara to meet to review roles and responsibilities.

Cllr Booth reported that he was updating the information held regarding the benches to Cllr Martin to inform the handover.

PC/054/26 Additional items authorised by the Chairperson

No additional items authorised

PC/055/26 To start discussions on new issues (council members only) No decisions can be passed during this item

Wentworth Pavilion - Cost to the PC of disposable hand towels and toilet rolls.

Cllr McNamara reported that huge amounts of toilet rolls and hand towels are being used by the Cricket Club. He has emailed them and put up warning signs, but the usage will need to be monitored as the hand towels can block the drains. The pavilion is now being left in a much better condition after matches.

Traffic Management and joint planning for Wentworth Woodhouse events.

Cllr McNamara reported that following the significant problems caused by the recent Balloon Event at Wentworth Woodhouse the PC had been asked to participate in a tender exercise to secure a three-year traffic management contract. He agreed he would be the PC representative on the tendering panel.

PC/056/26 To note diary dates.

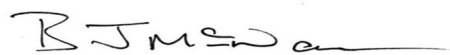
- a) 5th July Wentworth Village Day
- b) 12th Jul Harley Gala
- c) 20th September 10K Race around Wentworth
- d) 31st Oct Halloween (Mission)
- e) 7th Nov Bonfire Night (Harley)
- f) 8th Nov Remembrance Event (Wentworth)
- g) 28th Nov Harley Mission Christmas Fair
- h) 5th Dec Brass Band Concert (Mission)
- i) 6th Dec Xmas Lights (Circle, Harley)

PC/057/26 To receive an update concerning the appointment of a Clerk for Wentworth Parish Council.

An advert was sent out on the 25th May. The closing date is the 22nd June, interviews commence on the 6 & 7th July. Cynthia, Jonathan and Cllr McNamara to sit on the interview panel.

PC/058/26 Date and time of the next meeting- 20th July 6.30pm (Wentworth Pavilion)

The Chair declared the meeting closed at 8.20 pm. Signed as a True Record



Cllr B. McNamara, Chair of Wentworth Parish Council