

Minutes of the meeting of Wimblington Parish Council held on Tuesday 8th July 2025 at Wimblington Parish Hall, Addison Rd. Wimblington PE15 0QT, at 7.00 pm.

Present M T Davis (Chairman), Mrs P Amos (Clerk), Cllr. Clark; Cllr. Abbott; Cllr. Campbell; Cllr. Dent; Cllr. Hennen; Cllr. Johnson; Cllr Chris Thornhill
4 members of the public.

Number	Title & Agenda No		Action
106/25	Apologies for Absence - 1	Cllr Best holiday; Cllr Harding Family birthday;	
107/25	Absentees	None	
108/25	Chairs Additional items - 1a	<i>Any items for consideration, which the Chairman deems urgent by virtue of the special circumstances to be now specified:</i> There were none	
109/25	Declarations of interest - 2	i)declaration: Cllr Clark re 123/25c; Cllr Abbott re F/YR25/0433/F 17 Bridge Lane and F/YR25/0493/F 12 Bridge Lane; Cllr Dent re 115/25c ii)written dispensation requests: There were none. iii)dispensation grants: There are none.	
110/25	Public Participation - 3	Cllr Davis introduced our new County Councillor Mr Chris Thornhill. A resident asked when the verge opposite data shredders will be cleared as per advice at a previous meeting - this will take some while as the Community payback team have a lot of paperwork to complete before they are able to bring a team out.	
111/25	Confirmation of minutes - 4	Clerk advised Cllrs that during investigating whether the Annual Parish meeting minutes could be approved at the monthly meeting/s following the Annual Parish meeting, or whether they had to wait until the following year's Annual Parish meeting for approval, the new Arnold Baker says: 3.1:'Every Civil Parish has a parish meeting consisting of the electors in that parish. Such meetings take place annually. Many parishes do not hold such meetings and <u>there is no sanction for not holding such a meeting</u> . A properly constituted parish meeting has limited powers to act on behalf of its electorate.' '10.19 Minutes: The rules on the signature and admissibility of the minutes of a parish meeting and its committees are in effect the same as those in force for a parish council.' Given this information, the clerk believes that Council can approve the Annual Parish meeting minutes today and should Cllrs decide in future not hold an Annual Parish Meeting, as in past years it has been very difficult to get speakers and public attendance was extremely poor, then there appears to be no comeback for not holding it. However, it is also listed as a duty to hold an annual Parish meeting - LGA 1972, Schedule 12paragraph 23. August agenda item. RESOLVED – that the minutes of the Annual Parish Meeting ¹ held on 8th April 2025 and the meetings held on 13th May 2025 and 11th June 2025 ² were correctly recorded and that they be signed as being a true record. Proposed ¹ : Cllr. Johnson, Seconded: Cllr. Clark; Proposed ² : Cllrs Campbell; Cllr Dent All in favour.	PA
112/25	Fenland District Council - 5	Cllr Davis reported that: There hasn't been a full council meeting so there is nothing new to say.	
113/25	Cambridgeshire County Council - 6	Cllr Thornhill introduced himself and said that as with District Council there have not been any meetings, so he had nothing to report.	
114/25	Clerks report - 7	March Museum have agreed to have the old village sign and the handyman has delivered it to them. We have a form to sign which gives us first refusal should they ever want to dispose of it or close down. - Form signed by the Chairman at this meeting. FDC have replied regarding the benches on Meadow Way, they have been removed. They said that we could replace them, but on further investigation FDC tell me that they do not own the land. Clerk advised them that as they have maintained it for more then 10 years they could claim it and they are going to look into that and they may then gift that piece of land to the Parish Council. They were advised that it was used regularly by children, walkers and dog walkers. Highways have advised that our 2024/5 LHI bid - improvements to the road markings at the Sisco Junction - went to consultation from Wednesday 25th June. (CCC advice forwarded to Cllrs 25.6.2025) Pending results, if the proposal is approved, it will then advance to finalising the order and scheduling the works for implementation.	

		Cllrs. Dent and Harding, the clerk and handyman visited Stainless metalcraft on 24.6.2025 to look at the new village sign. It was difficult to imagine it with a further piece on the top, as in the workshop it almost touched the ceiling. The arrangement is that the handyman has collected it in 2 pieces, he will install it and once we're all used to looking at it, if we feel it does need a simple steel image on the top, then they will take just the top part and put something on the top. We looked at simple images of a horse drawn plough which the apprentices thought could be cut and installed if needed. They did ask that if we have an unveiling ceremony, could the 3 apprentices who made it be invited please? Clerk to write a letter of thanks to Stainless Metalcraft and in particular to the 3 apprentices - Jack Ison, Calum Markwell and Daniel Baglietto. Ref minute number 075/25 - clerks report: Our local food bank collector advised that all food that is donated to the March branch of the food bank, is now collected and driven to Ely for re-distribution and then some of it is driven back to March for collection, so whilst we may be able to donate food to March, there is no guarantee that it will stay in this area, so would be difficult to justify donating to Cambridgeshire as a whole. Do Cllrs Want this to be an agenda item for August? - No by show of hands. Clerk has received the plans for the flat roof replacement from Morton & Hall. They believe that we will need planning permission for the work which clerk has asked them to apply for with a quote of the cost for this to come.	
115/25	Other Matters - 8	a) New rubbish bin near Cemetery: Further to clerks report at June meeting, a quote from FDC has arrived to supply and install a rubbish bin next to the bus stop outside 22a Doddington Rd./Cemetery gates - Quote is £388.02 net. After discussion resolved to order. Proposed: Cllr. Johnson Seconded: Cllr. Dent Litter Act 1983, subsections 5 and 6 b) Cyber insurance: Further to minute 076/25d, clerk forwarded limited information found via SLCC to Cllrs on 17.6.2025. After discussion resolved not to take out this cover. Proposed: Cllr. Johnson Seconded: Cllr. Campbell c) Recycling credits from FDC: Clerk advised that FDC have paid us £83.30 for 2023/24 recycling credits and £93.62 for 2024/25 recycling credits, would Cllrs like to donate the total of £176.92 to Thomas Eaton School PTA as we have done in the past? After discussion resolved to donate this money to the PTA. Proposed: Cllr. Campbell. Seconded: Cllr. Hennen d) New village sign brick plinth: The new sign has now been collected and is ready for the post to be concreted in. This will also need a brick layer to re-instate the part of the plinth which had to be removed to take out the old post. 2 Quotes have been received: Quote 1 is £550.00 to include all material and have a sloping brick as the top layer. Quote 2 is £302.69 for the same. After discussion resolved to employ quote 2 Proposed: Cllr. Clark seconded: Cllr. Abbott. e) Council computer security addition: As Norton computer security is due to run out in 28 days whilst the clerk pays for that, she asked whether Council would buy Ccleaner professional as an additional utilities cleaner as it is better than Norton's utilities which she intends to remove from her package. It has additional components which would be helpful to keep the computer up to date. Cost is £14.28 per year. LGA 1972, section 137. After discussion resolved to approve. Proposed: Cllr. Abbott Seconded: Cllr. Campbell.	PA PA PA PA

116/25	See July	Payments - 9	a) The members to consider the following: accounts for payment:				
			Payments		NET	VAT	£
			Salaries	*Including tax & NI			3148.96
			Wave	WMPF Pavilion water Mar-Jun			18.19
			Wave	Cemetery water Mar-June			72.11
			Wave	Hall water Mar - June			140.18
			FDC	Cemetery rates			109.78
			Lloyds	Bank charges April-May			4.25
			Southern electric	Hall electricity March-May	56.46	2.82	59.28
		Complained	Southern electric	Pavilion electricity March-May	465.64	23.28	488.92
			Southern electric	Street light electric Mar-May	1137.14	68.03	1205.17
			Giff gaff	Pavilion data	8.34	1.66	10.00
			BT	Hall phone June-Aug	118.92	23.78	142.70
			Idverde	Grass cutting June	584.47	116.89	701.36

		CAB	Outreach Qtr 1			110.00	
		Chadwick design	Web site hosting/updates etc	257.88	51.58	309.46	
	036/25a	HES Fencing Svce	Parkfield drive cement balance	9,315.00	1,863.00	11,178.00	
		Hugh Crane Ltd	Hall toilet rolls	44.38	8.88	53.26	
		Play safety	RoSpa reports 2025	260.00	52.00	312.00	
	073/25e	Invoices paid by Barclaycard					
	073/25e	Amazon EU	external hard drive 1	57.99	11.60	69.59	
		Amazon EU	External hard drive 2	58.32	11.67	69.99	
		Replacement keys	3 x Tap keys	11.33	2.27	13.60	
		Helping hand Co	Handyman 5 litter pickers	49.99	10.00	59.99	
		*See appendix a for salary breakdown  = Previously approved by Chairman or at previous meeting All payments to be made - Proposed: Cllr. Campbell: Cllr. Johnson; all in favour.					
117/25	Risk Management/ Policies & Procedures - 10	a) To review policies/procedures: Financial regulations & Standing Orders 2025 forwarded to Cllrs on 1.7.2025 & 30.6.2025 respectively; Data protection forwarded to Cllrs on 16.6.2025. After discussion resolved to accept Financial Regulations and Standing Orders with minor changes previously sent to Cllrs and read out at the meeting. Proposed: Cllr. Johnson ; Seconded: Cllr. Dent All in favour by show of hands. To agree the addition of the word 'Councillors 'at point 9 on page 6 of the Data protection policy. Proposed: Cllr Johnson Seconded: Cllr Dent All in favour by show of hands. b) Risk register: Approved at the May meeting, but with two queries - information forwarded to Cllrs on 17.6.2025. After discussion resolved to amend this at the October meeting. Proposed: Cllr. Clark Seconded: Cllr. Dent				PA PA PA	
118/25	Planning - 11	Planning: the clerk reported that the following planning applications had been received for comment: a) F/YR25/0433/F - Erect a single-storey extension to front of existing dwelling and demolition of existing extension to rear at 17 Bridge Lane - no objections F/YR25/0457/F - Erect a detached domestic garage and the formation of additional hardstanding at Land West Of 29 March Road - no objections F/YR25/0476/RM - Reserved Matters application relating to detailed matters of appearance, landscaping, layout and scale pursuant to outline permission F/YR21/1055/O to erect 7 x dwellings (outline application with matters committed in respect of access) involving demolition of existing outbuildings at Land North Of 14A Addison Road - Too densely filled plot - At the Parish Council Meeting held on 8th July 2025 councillors discussed the above planning application. Whilst previously there was no objection to the application for outline permission Councillors commented on the density of the site as it appears in the reserved matters application. This proposed site is within the historic centre of the village and as such has a number of historic, listed buildings on or close to its boundary lines. As such it is felt that the design and density of the 7 different houses is not sympathetic to its surrounding heritage. The housing design for the seven plots lends itself more to the design of an urban estate rather than a rural environment. Wimblington & Stonea Parish have adopted the Design Guidance and Codes Report and a Housing Needs Assessment, copies of which are held at FDC planning, that was created in line with the Neighbourhood Plan and highlights the village design expectations from developers. The proposed plan consists of 7 two storey houses, 3 x 3 beds, 4 x 4 beds, all enclosed behind a part 1.8 metre fence and part 1.8 metre brick wall. Councillors believe this design is too dense, and not in character with the surrounding historic environment and does not enhance the heart of the village's heritage area. The individual amenities area, which the applicant states are the required minimum of a third, around each dwelling is minimal and does not reflect the surrounding gardens and open space.				PA PA AJ MD PA PA	

		There is a turning head, which is actually questionable, that involves any heavy vehicles or visiting vehicles having to reverse out of the site in order to exit onto Addison Road which is the major road into the heart of the village and is already used by a large number of vehicles. This will impact on those dwellings adjacent to the site especially if larger vehicles have reversing beepers. There also appears to be no pedestrian pathways shown or parking areas for visitors other than on the street, these issues are a concern for the general public safety. Surface water and pluvial flooding does not appear to have been addressed either, the fact that the applicant states that the drains on either side are capable of dealing with run-off water and will be maintained by the plot owners raises concern. The new development to south of the site has been required to incorporate an attenuation pond because of previous flooding problems in properties to the east and north of the sites. There is a 300mm culvert that the applicant states is to be transferred to the village hall and to become their responsibility, this is has not been clarified with the Parish Council The applicant is ensuring that there will be a management company, funded via a service charge served to the dwelling owners, that will be set up to manage the 'communal suds', a SuDS Maintenance Plan is questionable! Regular maintenance of the site and the drains is imperative to avoid flooding and possible contamination of other properties and the village hall. The maintenance summary has a long list of regularly required maintenance, monthly/quarterly/yearly, reassurance of this is essential. 7 dwellings expected to pay a yearly contribution to a maintenance company can be very unstable. Taking all the above into consideration these objections are covered by FDC policies LP2, LP3, LP13, LP14, LP16, LP1 F/YR25/0467/F -Retention of 28 x monitoring boreholes and their associated headworks at Land North Of Chatteris North Of A142 And East Of A141 Isle Of Ely Way - no objections F/YR25/0493/F -Erect a part 2-storey, part single-storey rear extension and alterations to existing dwelling, including raise height and replace roof of existing rear extension, and remove chimney at 12 Bridge Lane - no objections b) Neighbourhood plan: Cllr Johnson reported that FDC has not been able to produce the maps yet, but is should be completed by about mid-July. Grants have now been stopped by the Government. So we will have to pay for the remainder of the consultants bill.	
119/25	Highway matters/Street lighting/ Transport – 12	a) Street lights reported: None; Clerk reported that UKPN had contacted her yesterday advising that a quote for over £11,000.00 would be forwarded to supply a new connection to the replaced knock down light on March Rd. They say that as the application was more than 4 months after the disconnection a new supply has to be installed, which involves 3 way traffic lights and digging up the footpaths and road to install. Clerk has disputed this as the original application for reconnection was made in Feb/March 2025 which is within 4 months of the knock down and our maintenance company has not heard of a 4 month rule. They have agreed this morning and will re-quote. Clerk asked that any advise of street light maintenance is sent to her in an email, so that exact dates and details can be recorded. b) Footpaths and highways issues: Cllr Davis said that the fence at Frontier is under investigation by CCC highways and enforcement officers. c) March Rd (Bellway site) bus shelters maintenance: Further to an email received from Cambs CC trying to give us S106 funds from Bellways for us to maintain the 2 bus shelter which we didn't want. Bellways were advised at the time that we would not maintain them and that the South bound one is in the wrong/dangerous place, CCC were advised that Councillors never wanted the bus shelters and were not prepared to accept the money or maintain them, this had been made clear to the developers whilst on site/in consultation with them as building first started. Clerk had sought advice from highways who say that FDC install and maintain bus shelters. Cllr. Davis contacted FDC who said ? Do Cllrs. now wish to accept £15,684.61 and maintain the 2 bus shelters until 21st August 2034 (9 years)? After discussion resolved not to accept responsibility for them or accept the money. Proposed: Cllr. Johnson; Seconded: Cllr. Abbott;	PA
120/25	War Memorial playing field – 13	a) Zip wire, rocker, turnstile repairs/replacement: Quote of £3,136.10 net for various repairs was forwarded to Cllr on 11.6.2025. Clerk advised that the handyman has seen larger teens using the rocker by forcing it down to the ground and then letting go so that it springs violently. Would Cllrs consider replacing it with a different type of equipment? Email sent to Cllrs 21.6.2025 with links to companies with reasonable options. Clerk to get other quote to replace rocker After discussion resolved to do all work other than the small rocker. Proposed: Cllr. Hennen. Seconded: Cllr. Abbott. Open Spaces Act 1906, Ss9-10, LGA(Miscellaneous Provisions) 1976, S.19.	PA

		b) Gates service: Further to handyman's report, request for the gates to be serviced was made in May, chased again in June, last week and today, the quote has not yet arrived.	PA
121/25	Parkfield - 14	'Overall, business has been quite tough, and this seems to be consistent with what we hear from other publicans as well. However, when we hold special events, it significantly helps our situation and keeps us afloat. The sports field is currently being used by The Archers and two cricket teams. Football activities have been suspended until September. During the summer months, the Astro turf does not see as much usage; we have tried to offer tennis, but unfortunately, there hasn't been much interest. Recently, we were approached by some villagers who run the Thursday Quiz. Last week marked the first quiz event we hosted for them, and it was very well attended. Additionally, we have been running karaoke and band nights once a month, which have also proven to be quite popular. We would like to extend our gratitude to the Parish Council for completing the driveway. It looks fantastic and has been very well received by our customers. However, we are still in disagreement with Eon regarding the supply of our electricity. They are pursuing over £25k for the last two years of energy usage. It turns out they had been using a meter that never existed and also mistakenly thought we were three-phase. Since the start of the year, we have been paying them what we believe we owe on a monthly basis. We have also struggled to find volunteers to apply for any grants, which remains a critical issue for the club's future prosperity. Unfortunately, with just Steve and me doing most of the work, time constraints have been a significant challenge. Finally, we would like to thank the Parish Council for all their support.'	
122/25	Doddington Rd. Cemetery – 15	Cllr Dent said, that all is fine there, but the flower tubs need refreshing clerk and Cllr Dent to address with more compost and flowers. LGA 1972 s.214(6)	PA
123/25	Parish Hall - 16	a) Cancellation deadlines: The hall steward has been asked whether there is any penalty for cancelling a booking on the day of that booking. To date we have very few on the day cancellations and there has not been a penalty, would Cllr like to change that? After discussion resolved not to have a penalty. Proposed: Cllr. Hennen; Seconded: Cllr. Abbott b) Water heater: Having borrowed 2 water heaters from the Church for the recent big lunch, chairman asked whether we could buy one the same, as they proved extremely efficient and useful. Clerk forwarded quote of £79.95 to Cllrs on 16.6.2025. After discussion resolved to purchase one. Proposed: Cllr. Clark Seconded: Cllr. Hennen. LGA 1972, section 133 c) Loan of 4 chairs to hall hirer: Clerk has been asked by one of our hall hirers, whether 4 of our lightweight chairs could be borrowed for an evening performance at Doddington Village hall. Clerk replied saying that previously nothing has been lent to anyone due to damage to items lent in the past. After discussion resolved not to lend them. Proposed: Cllr. Johnson Seconded: Cllr. Abbott. d) Hall steward hours: After 3 months monitoring, the hall steward has averaged 17.75 hours per month, this includes the production of invoices as well as the normal duties. Do Cllrs wish to increase his hours now or wait for a further 3 months figures to inform a decision? After discussion resolved to uplift to 17.75 hours and backdate to start of contract. Proposed: Cllr Johnson; Seconded: Cllr. Campbell.	PA PA PA PA
124/25	Correspondence /other business -17	Cllr Johnson has received correspondence from Bridge lane complainants. FDC advised them not to take the issue forward as a code of conduct issue but as a complaint. Cllr Campbell has been asked whether we can do anything about a very loud motor bike persistently disturbing residents in the village. Cllr Davis will forward info to local Police. We do now have our own PCSO. Cllr Hennen said that there are quad bikes using a public footpath, where should this be reported to - Police. Cllr Davis will address this as well. Cllr Abbott asked that where the MUGA/net is, small children are bumping their head when retrieving their ball, can we do anything about it? Clerk will ask handyman to look at it for a solution which won't get vandalised. Cllr Davis said that at the last meeting there were 2 ladies who asked PC for help with their Mathew Homes disputes. Some resolutions have been found, but there are still others to address. Cllr Davis is meeting with them in August and will attend a Lily Ave. residents meeting if they wish.	PA
125/25	Date of next meeting - 19	Next meeting: Tuesday 12th August 2025 at 19.00. Meeting closed at: 20.32	

Appendix a*

	July 2025	NET	VAT	£
Inland revenue	Staff tax & NI			562.60
Handyman 1	Handyman duties			595.79
Clerk	Clerk duties incl. home wkg all.			1300.73
Hall steward	Hall steward duties			188.15
Cleaner	Hall cleaning			317.46
Caretaker and Handyman 2	Caretaker and Handyman duties			184.23
Total				3148.96