

WROUGHTON PARISH COUNCIL



FULL COUNCIL MEETING

Minutes of the meeting held on 23rd February 2026 at 7.30pm
At the Ellendune Community Centre, Barrett Way, Wroughton. SN4 0RX

Councillors: Cllr J Hewer (Chair)
Cllr L Campisano
Cllr G Cook
Cllr W McGregor
Cllr W McGregor
Cllr M Smith
Cllr M Trigg
Cllr H Woodward

Officers: Emma Freemantle, Clerk & RFO
Zoe Dyer, Finance & Administration Officer.

FC/334 **Apologies**
Apologies received Cllr G Overbury, Cllr A Varma, Cllr D Hooper, Cllr N McMahon.

FC/335 **Declarations of Interest & Applications for Dispensation**
There were no Declarations of Interest required by the Code of Conduct adopted by the Parish Council on 24 May 2025.

FC/336 **Public Questions**
There were 4 members of the Wilts & Berks Canal Trust present to provide an update, a copy of the slides are attached as Appendix A in the Minute Book.

The Chair suspended standing orders and moved the Canal Trust agenda item forward.

FC/337 **Wilts and Berks Canal Trust**
Members reviewed and RESOLVED to agree to the Memorandum of Understanding which outlines the following responsibilities:

For the Council to support the priorities of the Trust as they apply to the restoration of the canal in or adjacent to the Wroughton Parish

To seek support and assistance from the Council in delivering specific projects related to the restoration of the canal.

To ensure that the canal restoration project maximises economic, recreational and environmental benefits for the Wroughton area.

To receive a report and verbal update from representatives of the Wilts & Berks Canal Trust.

- Chloe will circulate presentation slides to Emma.
- The Canal Trust provided an update on the proposed route, including relevance to the Magic Roundabout, boundary considerations, and the revised route through Swindon.
- The canal currently terminates at Locks View.

Footpath Connections:

- A query was raised regarding the potential for a pathway along Wharf Road to Mill Lane, and from Mill Lane to the canal path.

- Chloe confirmed she will put Holly's suggestion forward to the Joint Venture Trust (JVT).

Parish Support:

- The Canal Trust is seeking support from all parish councils, not just Wroughton.
- A non-legally binding document is being circulated to demonstrate parish support, which will assist with grant funding applications.

Project Focus & Funding:

- The Trust's main focus over the next five years is securing a route under the highway, with priority on connecting Swindon to Royal Wootton Bassett.
- A question was raised regarding potential funding support from National Highways.
- Members were encouraged to show support for the Canal Trust. Increased membership was noted as beneficial for future funding opportunities.

Additional Information:

- Paul (Development Director) highlighted ongoing work on towpaths and walkways, including collaboration with Royal Wootton Bassett to complete pathway links.
- The Canal Trust hosts quarterly online meetings (Wednesdays, 5:30–6:30pm). It was agreed this will be added to a future agenda for member attendance where possible.

The Canal Trust representatives left the meeting at 20:01.

The Chair reinstated standing orders and continued the agenda items

FC/338

Minutes of the Previous Meeting

Members RESOLVED to agree as a true record the minutes of the Full Council meeting held on 19th January 2026.

FC/339

Chairs Report

To receive a report of the Chair.

B4005 – HGV Movements: Ongoing concerns continue to be raised regarding heavy goods vehicle traffic along this route.

Parish Council Newsletter: The parish newsletter is currently being printed and will be distributed shortly.

M4 Bridge Closure: An overnight closure is scheduled to allow for white line painting works only.

FC/340

Parish Councillor Drop In sessions – Meet your Parish Councillors

All NOTED that the meet your parish councillor public events taking place on:

Saturday 28th February 2026 10.00-12.00

Saturday 14th March 2026 10.00-12.00

Location: Ellendune Community Centre, SN4 9LW

The Chair encouraged everyone to attend that was available.

FC/341

Ward Councillor Update

To receive a report from Swindon Borough Ward Councillors.

Highways & Transport

Ongoing complaints regarding Stagecoach Bus Route 9, including:

Oil leakage reported opposite 10 Kings Road (near Berkley Farm access).

Rubbish accumulation along sections of the route.

Request for a 20mph speed limit on Wharf Road:

Noted that speed cushions ("sleeping policemen") are not suitable due to noise concerns.

Any formal request must be submitted by Parish and Ward Councillors to SBC.

To be considered for inclusion in a future P&H Committee agenda.

Devizes Road zebra crossing:

Concerns raised about proximity to the roundabout.
SBC Highways will only attend if flooding is present.
Proposal for improved "Car Park" signage near ECC car park to help reduce traffic speed.

Flooding & Drainage

Perrys Lane flooding:

Emergency team attended; sandbags issued only where properties were directly affected internally.

Flood report submitted to Gary.

Priors Hill:

Gullies and drains reported as full (MT).

Request for a copy of the maintenance plan.

General concern raised regarding: Lack of preventative measures for flooding.

Policy of not issuing sandbags unless flooding has already entered homes.

Emergency Support:

Gayle met with the team; confirmed SBC policy on sandbag distribution.

Parking & Highways Works

ECC Car Park:

Relining works planned; no confirmed timescale.

Lack of clear signage indicating car park location.

Inverary Road works (SSE):

Ongoing complaints from residents and the school.

Works relate to installation of a new switch station.

Action: Share further details with Gayle.

Query regarding overflow car park footpath ownership (Inverary Road) remains outstanding.

Environmental & Community Concerns

Clarification requested on legitimate clothing recycling bins and associated charities (to be referred to CA&OS).

Continued complaints regarding litter and environmental maintenance along key routes.

FC/342

Committee Memberships

Members RESOLVED to elect Cllr A Varma onto the Community Assets and Open Spaces Committee.

Members RESOLVED to remove Cllr L Coady and elect Cllr M Trigg onto the Planning and Highways Committee.

FC/343

Wroughton Community Library

Members received an update from the Library Supervisor regarding the Community Library provision, a copy is attached as Appendix B in the Minute Book.

FC/344

Friendship Café (Warm & Welcome Space)

Members received a verbal update from Cllr D Archer and Cllr L Campisano regarding recent activities at the new Friendship café in the Wroughton Library.

FC/345

Parish Council Representatives' Report

To receive reports from Members of outside bodies:

Transport Reps (Cllr G Overbury & Nathanael Hooper – **Copy attached as Appendix C in Minute Book**).

Carnival Committee (Cllr L Campisano & Cllr D Archer)

Wroughton & Wichelstowe Churchyard Representatives (Cllr D Hooper)

Wroughton History Group (Cllr D Archer) **4th April opening over the Easter Weekend. New Museum in Wroughton.**

Ellendune Community Centre Management Working Party (Clerk)

To note the next working party meeting is being held on 16th March 2026 at 10am.

- FC/346** **Youth Team Update**
Members received verbal update regarding Youth work in Wroughton however DEFERRED the formal report to the March meeting.
- FC/347** **Abra Bra Collection Initiative**
Members consider a request from a resident in support of for the Ellendune Community Centre to become a collection point again for the charitable cause, a copy of the request is attached as Appendix D in the Minute Book.
- All NOTED that The clothing recycling project is supported by two Wiltshire branches of Soroptimists and Swindon's Phoenix Rotary - AfreeBra initiative, which collects and donates pre-loved bras to women in need across Africa.
All present RESOLVED to agree with the initiative and offer a collection point at the ECC.
- FC/348** **Neighbourhood Plan Working Party (NHP)**
Members reviewed the notes and feedback from the meeting with the selected consultant from the NHP Working Party on the 17th February 2026 a copy of the notes are attached as Appendix E in the Minute Book.
- Members NOTED that the parish councils previous agreement to allocate £15,000 CIL funds for the provision of a new and revised NHP, and consider the recommendations from the working party to agree the attached cost proposal, copy attached as Appendix C. Members RESOLVED to agree the recommendations within the attached report.
- FC/349** **Wichelstowe Sports Hub Update**
Members NOTED the response to the Joint Venture Team following recommendations of the Community Assets and Open Spaces Committee on 11th February 2026 a copy is attached as Appendix D in the Minute book.
- Members RESOLVED to agree that the Clerk would make contact with the JVT to seek what timescales and budgets / projects the management team have on the go, so that the parish council can consider funds in line with any potential CIL funds and or budget setting for 2027/2028.
- FC/350** **Aqua Bags**
Members received a briefing note from the Community Projects and Events Officer for the purchase of Aqua Bags to assist with local flooding issues, a copy is attached as Appendix E in the Minute Book.
- Members RESOLVED to agree that this was a good idea however more thought needs to be given over how to identify which household would qualify for flooding and how this would be evidenced and recorded.
- Clerk to bring back more information to a future meeting.
- FC/351** **Thermal Imaging Cameras**
Members considered whether there is interest from the parish council in bringing the thermal imaging camera initiative idea forward for use in Wroughton and Wichelstowe Parish Council. A copy of the information and original proposal from South Swindon Parish Council is attached as Appendix F in the Minute Book.
- Members RESOLVED to agree to investigate further and confirm costs at the next appropriate meeting.

FC/352

Financial Wellbeing Drop in Sessions (Citizens Advice)

Members received and NOTED correspondence from Citizens Advice regarding the current monthly Financial wellbeing drop in sessions in the Wroughton Community Library and the lack of funding to support the sessions moving forward, copy is attached as Appendix G in the Minute Book.

All agreed that currently there are no additional parish council funds to apply to this initiative and that whilst the sessions are well attended my members of the public – this is not a parish council responsibility.

FC/353

Parish Councils Risk Management 2026-2027

Members reviewed and RESOLVED to agree the parish councils risk assessment for all areas of business, a copy of the risk assessment is attached as Appendix H in the Minute Book.

FC/354

Future Agenda Items

No new ideas put forward

The meeting closed at 20.45pm.

Signed:

Chair of the Council

Date: