WROUGHTON & WICHELSTOWE PARISH COUNCIL

PARISH COUNCIL MEETING

MONDAY 21st September at 7:30pm

The Deanery CE Academy, Peglar's Way, Wichelstowe, Swindon, SN1 7DA

Minutes

Attending

Cllr J Hewer
Cllr M Smith
Cllr M Trigg
Cllr G Cook
Cllr H Woodward
Cllr D Hooper
Cllr R Easter
Cllr M Barrett
Cllr S Pajak
Cllr Y Bangalore
Cllr M Smith

Officers: Clerk, Emma Freemantle
Finance Officer, Zoe Dyer
Deputy Clerk, Thomas Haworth
Community, Projects & Events Officer, Amanda Woodhead

FC/066 **Apologies**
Apologies received from Cllr L Coady, Cllr L Campisano and Cllr D Archer.

FC/067 **Interviews for Co Opted Parish Councillor**
Members interview perspective candidates for the co-option vacancy.

FC/068 **Declarations of Interest & Applications for Dispensation**
There were no Declarations of Interest required by the Code of Conduct adopted by the Parish Council on 17 May 2026.

FC/069 **Public Questions**
There were 3 members of the pubic present.

FC/070 **Minutes of the Previous Meeting**
Members RESOLVED to AGREE the minutes as a true record the minutes of the Full Council meeting held on 20th July 2026.

FC/071 **Co Option of parish councillors.**

Members RESOLVED to AGREE to Co-opt Dhatri Sundaresh as a new parish councillor and to sign their declaration of office.

The Clerk invited Cllr D Sundaresh to a follow up meeting in the parish office during the following week and provide further information.

FC/072 **Chairs Report**

No update from the Chair.

FC/073 **Wroughton and Wichelstowe Parish Council**

Members RESOLVED to formally adopt "Wroughton and Wichelstowe" as the name of the Parish Council and parish area, reflecting the established geographic area and ward designation since the parish's creation.

Action: Clerk to forward on Minute Reference to the Monitoring Officer at Swindon Borough Council.

FC/074 **Ward Councillor Update – Cllr G Cook, Cllr M Courtliff and Cllr M Barrett.**

Members received a verbal update from Swindon Borough Ward Councillors.

Cllr M Courtliff

- Joints ward walk/drive around the village with Sam Mowbray, CEO to Swindon Borough Council have taken place. Road to motorway should be open next week which connects Wichelstowe.
- School peeks time – hazard parking, need enforcement to be put in place.
- Mill Lane – Wharf Road due for road re-surfacing.
- Elcombe – a request has been put forward for road calming to be put in place.
- Devizes Road – lots of littering and in need of clearing.
- Ellendune car park – needs resurfacing and re- lining, SBC have advised that this is scheduled to take place.
- Weirfield – the footpath to the left which is owned by the borough has been highlighted as a resurfacing request.
- Thorney Park – the road needs sorting.
- Langton Park – enforcement measures need to be put in place.
- Brimble Hill – 30mph sign needs moving to the top of the hill.
- Ward Cllrs have requested that the CEO chase up the ICB and involve the MP's now to get the new Wichelstowe surgery moving.

Cllr G Cook

- Timber Trail – the path which leads from Inverary Road to Wichelstowe (past the Ridgeway School) needs repairing and we have referred to street works. 1st Oct is the escalation date. Paths have been dug up and not repaired/replaced. Ward Cllrs are chasing up the contractors OCC to make sure they come back and tidy the site.
- John White – Fly tipping and speeding along a private road. This should still come under road safety – needs looking into. Questions put back to SBC for the filling of pot holes and resurfacing on that road.
- Woodland View – contractors are now moving on to building the road into the site and Mark Tinson from Hills (Developer) has confirmed he will attend a public meeting to help with public questions.
- Bus shelters – information regarding this has been handed to the Clerk and the parish will arrange to visit the Park and Ride site and meet with officers and transportation reps.

Cllr Martin Barrett

- Big holes need fixing towards amazon data centre. The was dismissed from Swindon Borough Council.

- Cllr M Barrett is keeping in Contact with the homeless person at Alexandra Park and is trying to piece the resident together with Swindon Borough Council for help and support. Progress is slowly being made.
- Fly tipping rubbish at the Methodist church, fly tipping reported.
- There are also issues concerning council tenants and tree works that need to be carried out for a resident of Brimble Hill. The costs of tree removal are currently being charged directly to the resident, which appears to be unfair and excessively expensive. This is now being looked into.

FC/075 **Committee Membership**

Members RESOLVED to elect Cllr Stan Pajak onto the Community Assets and Open Spaces Committee.

FC/076 **Parish Council Representatives' Report**

To receive reports from Members of outside bodies:

Transport Reps – Clerk meeting with the Transportation reps early October before they report back to Full Council.
Duck Race Committee – No update
Wroughton & Wichelstowe Closed Churchyard – Request from councillors for the road sweeper to attend the church before remembrance to clear the path and work its way down to the memorial site.
Wroughton History Group - None
Bennet & Sutton Charity – Cllr H Woodward advised that she is working with the remaining trustees to change the bank account signatories and get the accounts in order. There is a meeting of the Charity on 1st October.

FC/077 **Friendship Café**

In absence of Cllr L Campisano and Cllr D Archer the Community Projects and Events Officer provided a verbal update. All NOTED that the sessions are going well and still well attended. Further update to be provided at the next meeting.

FC/078 **Swindon Local Councils Forum (SLCF)**

Members received the minutes from the previous meeting in September and copy of the agenda ahead of the forum meeting on 18th June 2026, copies are attached as Appendix A in the Minute Book.

All Cllrs NOTED that there is a meeting at 2.30pm on the 15th October at the Civic Offices for SBC to share information over the Boroughs new plan and the parish council involvement.

Members received a verbal update from the Cllr S Pajak ahead of the next meeting agenda which is dated 24th September. Cllr S Pajak advised that all councils are facing the same issues and it was interesting to learn that this is an overall / majority concern.

The Clerk confirmed she will e attending the SLCF this week.

FC/079 **Wroughton Community Library**

Members received and NOTED a report from the parish councils Library Supervisor, a copy is attached as Appendix B in the Minute Book.

FC/080 **Youth Work Update – Young Swindon and Wiltshire**

Members received an update from Young Swindon and Wiltshire regarding the parish council's youth provision, a copy is attached as Appendix C in the Minute Book

FC/081 **Community Projects and Events Officer Updates**

Remembrance Sunday Report – Members considered the report and recommendations for this years' service on Sunday 08th November 2026, a copy is attached as Appendix D in the Minute Book.

Members RESOLVED to approve the budget expenditure for up to £200. All costs to be met from the Remembrance budget (4760/500) which contains £2000 as provision was made to hire an external road management company for the road closures but this has been secured free of charge.

Christmas Light Switch on Event – Members considered the report and recommendations for this year's event taking place on Saturday 28th November 2026, a copy is attached as Appendix E in the Minute Book.

Members RESOLVED to AGREE the following recommendations:

The total allocated budgets for the Christmas Tree and the Switch-on event (including external lights, community engagement and light motifs on Tick Tock Pre- School) are as follows:

Budget (for Xmas tree, tree lights and other lights): 4755/500	£7,743 available
Budget (for Xmas event): 4750/500	£600 available

RESOLVED to AGREE that W&WPC costings at paragraph 3.0 totalling £560 and give authorisation for these to be authorised and actioned under the supervision of the Clerk.

RESOLVED to AGREE that WPC note that Hickman's Electrical Contractors will portable appliance test Christmas lighting motifs/garlands and connect up the tree lights free of charge as a gesture of goodwill.

First Aid Villages – members received an update from the Community Projects and Events and Officer.
All present Noted that the next session is Saturday 26th September 2pm – 5pm at the Ellendune Community centre.

FC/082 **Wichelstowe Developments**

Members NOTED the attached suggested framework plan for the site covering all of East, Middle and West Wichelstowe and note that the parish council will be meeting with the Joint Venture Team (SBC) to discuss further detail, before the plan is submitted to Cabinet in December 2026. A copy of the framework plan is attached as Appendix F in the Minute Book.

Members NOTED the South Swindon Parish Councils involvement with the land to the East of Wichelstowe.

Members NOTED that the Habitat Plan has been discussed and agreed for specific sites within the Wroughton & Wichelstowe Parish Council boundary as part of the Community Assets and Open Spaces Committee, a copy is attached as Appendix G in the Minute Book.

FC/083 **Ellendune Community Centre Kitchen Works and Grant Funding**

Members received a report of the Clerk regarding the kitchen refurbishment at Ellendune Community Centre, including the retrospective approval provided by members via email, and to

note the successful funding secured from the Nationwide Grant Scheme and the Friends of Ellendune Community Centre towards the refurbishment costs.
A copy of all documentation is attached as Appendix H in the Minute Book.

FC/084 **Future Agenda Items**

To table any future agenda items raised by members – None listed.

The meeting closed at 20:35

Signed.....

Date.....19/10/2026.....

Chair of the Council