



WINSHILL PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of the Meeting of the Winshill Parish Council held at the Neighbourhood Resource Centre 7.30 pm on Wednesday 17th December 2025.

Present:

Councillors J Batten, S Bullock, D Fletcher (also a Borough Councillor), M Fletcher, A Lawrence, M Metcalfe, I North and K Smith (also a Borough Councillor) .

Also present:

S Taylor (Clerk).

Apologies:

There were apologies from Councillors Cope and Wileman.

MATTERS RAISED IN PUBLIC PARTICIPATION

There were no members of the public present.

PART I

205/25 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

.Councillors Lawrence and Smith declared an interest regarding the Resource Centre.

206/25 MINUTES

The Minutes of the Meeting held on 21st November 2025 were agreed and signed as a correct record of events.

207/25 CORRESPONDENCE.

The Clerk updated members on correspondence with St Mark's Church regarding the joint publicising of information.

208/25 PLANNING APPLICATIONS

Members considered and raised no objections to the following applications:

P/2025/01313 – Application for a Certificate of Lawfulness for the continued use of 14 self-contained flats at 160 Newton Road

209/25 MEMORIAL TREES IN WINSHILL

The Chairman referred to a request that he had received from a parishioner wishing to buy and plant a tree in memory of her husband.

The nearest place where memorial trees had been planted was in Stapenhill near the church, but this was now full. The Borough Council's Open Spaces and Facilities Officer had no objection to the creation of a garden of remembrance on an area of land around the corner from the Peace Wood leading to Kinver Road and the Greenway. Councillor Bullock advised that she had discussed a similar small area on Newton Road Park near the tennis courts with the Borough Council's tree officer.

To avoid some of the problems experienced in the past the following regulations were suggested:

1. The deceased must have been a resident of Winshill.
2. The cost of the tree would be borne by the applicant. Should the tree die, it would be replaced by the Borough Council Outdoor Spaces Department.
3. The type and size of tree would have to be agreed with the Parish Council.
4. Applicants may place in front of the tree a small free-standing plaque bearing the name of the deceased and a simple message.
5. Cut flowers may be laid in front of the tree on the understanding that the Grounds Maintenance team will remove them when they are past their best.
6. No other adornment will be allowed.

Resolved:

That the area adjacent to the Peace Wood be adopted as gardens of remembrance along with an area in Newton Road Park subject to the above regulations being adhered to.

210/25 NEWTON PARK ROAD DEFIBRILLATOR & BLEED KIT

The installation of the defibrillator and bleed pack on Newton Road Park, which had received a Borough Council Community Grant subject to the funds being paid to the Centre Charity was discussed with regards to the purchasing arrangements and future servicing and maintenance costs.

Resolved:

That the defibrillator and bleed kit be purchased by the Parish Council at a cost of £ 1543.20 inc. VAT - subject to the community grant being passed over to the Parish Council from the Centre Charity and the Parish Council funding all future servicing/maintenance costs.

211/25 APPLICATIONS FOR FUNDING

There were no new applications for funding.

212/25 FINANCIAL REPORT

Members reviewed and agreed the accounts for the year up to 17th December 2025. Members considered and approved the updated Financial Regulations 2025.

213/25 BUDGET FOR 2026/27

With regards to the need to set the budget for 2026/2027 members were made aware of the Government's Council Tax Support Grant of £3722 being the same as for the previous financial year. It was agreed to set the budget for 2026/2027 at £83,200 (see attached) with the precept set at a figure of £73,278 with the difference being met from grants, other income and reserves. This would result in a Parish Council Tax Rate increase of 2.81%. This equates to a rise of £0.82 to

£29.81 per year for an average Band D property equating to a charge of approximately 57 pence per week.

Members agreed to the principle of allocating up to £36,550 in support grants to other organisations working within the Parish.

It was agreed that the annual payment to Citizen's Advice be increased to cover additional costs.

Resolved:

That the budget for 2026/2027 be set at £83,200 with the precept for 2026/2027 being set at £73,278.

214/25 **REPORT ON ACCOUNTS PAID**

		£	cheque no	minute no
JRB Engineering	Poop Scoop Bags	209.95	1625	215/23
ESBC	Nov 2025 Salary Charges	1,262.87	1626	215/23
Clerk	Office Costs & Equipment	108.21	1627	215/23

Resolved:

That payment of the above account is confirmed.

215/25 **CLERK AND MEMBERS' REPORTS**

The Chairman advised that the Borough Council's Tree Officer had visited the residents of Newton Lees who back onto Wheatley Lane Recreation Ground and agreed to bring the cutting back of the trees forward in the programme. Concerns were raised about the muddy state of the footpaths leading into the recreation ground and the location of the play area in the same context. These were considered matters for the Borough Council to address.

It was suggested that the Parish Plan working Group could revisit the Emergency Plan at some time in the future

216/24 **DATE OF THE NEXT MEETING**

Resolved:

That the next Meeting of the Parish Council be held on Wednesday 21st January 2025 at 7.30 pm.

PART II

MATTERS OF A CONFIDENTIAL NATURE

There were no matters of a confidential nature to discuss.

The meeting finished at 8.40 pm.

Chairman

AGREED BUDGET FOR 2026/27

	FORCAST 2025/26 £	PROPOSED 2026/27 £	
OPENING BALANCE	40341.34	40,352.65	
INCOME			
Precept + Gov. CTS	75,000.00	77,000.00	
Other Income	169.51	200.00	
VAT Return	<u>821.37</u>	<u>1,000.00</u>	
Total Income	75,990.88	78,200.00	
EXPENDITURE			
Allotments Management Grant	2,000.00	2,000.00	#
Sponsorship & Grants S 137	4,000.00	4,000.00	#
Citizen's Advice S 137	6,500.00	7,500.00	#
Insurance	272.83	300.00	
Gardening Contractors	10,851.00	11,000.00	
Employment Costs inc.NI	14,775.00	15,000.00	
Parish Fayre Grant	2,500.00	2,500.00	
Environment & Planting	5,000.00	5,000.00	
Travel Expenses	0.00	200.00	
Training Expenses	0.00	300.00	
Parish Plan	2,000.00	4,000.00	
Publicity	0.00	1,000.00	
Notice Board/Benches	0.00	800.00	
Office Costs, Equipment & Stationary	600.00	600.00	
Audit Fee	600.00	600.00	
Subs- SPCA etc	830.74	850.00	
Youth Work	1,000.00	1,000.00	#
Election Expenses	0.00	0.00	
Res. Centre Maint.	00.00	500.00	
Resource Centre Charity Grant	22,050.00	22,050.00	#
Contingency	<u>3,000.00</u>	<u>4,000.00</u>	
Total Expenditure	75,979.57	83,200.00	
CLOSING BALANCE (Reserves)	40,352.65	35,352.65	

NOTES.

1. Precept of £73,278 + ESBC grant of £3,722 would result in a Parish Council Rate Increase of 2.81%.
2. Grounds Maintenance - year 3 of three-year contract for grounds maintenance including Peace Wood.
3. Grant of £22,050 towards NRC Charity management costs and £500 toward maintenance of the Centre.
4. Citizens Advice budget provides for an agreed increase in Citizen's Advice costs and provision.
5. Reserves should be between 3 and 12 months of the net revenue expenditure but should make provision for any earmarked non-recurring items and schemes (Audit Commission advice). The level of reserves should also provide an adequate working balance.

Denotes total support grants and financial contributions of £36,050 to be approved subject to conditions/agreement with the respective organisations (equals 45% of Budget)