

WIGTOFT VILLAGE NEWS & VIEWS

September / October 2025

Walking for the Butterfly Hospice - the Conclusion.

For all those who walked, cycled, donated money or helped in any way towards our walk from Wigtoft Church to Boston Stump a **HUGE, HUGE thank you.**

You all raised the grand sum of **£1,500.** Absolutely brilliant! Well done everyone.

The cheque was gratefully received at the open day at the Butterfly Hospice; they were of course, delighted.

So, next year!! Well, we have time to think of where we will walk next. In the meantime if anyone would like to join the walking group please do so. We walk to suit everyone, short and longer walks at a varied pace. Always finishing with a coffee and chat. You will see further information in these pages.

Remember, that by keeping active - we can add to our fitness level and keep healthy.

See you out there!!

Libby Craggs.



The Blisbury Trust

It is that time of year again when we ask the students to apply for a grant.

If you live in Wigtoft and are staying on at school to do A levels or are going on to college or university, you will be eligible to apply to the Blisbury Trust.

You need to send us your name and address, details of your course and whether you will be living at home or living away from home. Send your application in writing to

Jane Barkham at Vinland, Boston Road, Sutterton, Boston Lincs PE20 2HD.

Or email me at wbarkham@btinternet.com

Please get your applications in by September 27th 2025.

Jane Barkham Blisbury Trust Clerk

Meet Your Local Councillor

**Councillor James Cantwell will be in the Village Hall on Saturday
October 11th from noon until 1pm to answer Village residents questions**

**Please remember that the clocks go back 1 hour
at 2am on Sunday 26th October**

Wigtoft Village Contact Details

Parish Council Members

Ian Mills (Chair) - Steve Baxter (Vice Chair)

Bruce Leggott, Simon Collingwood, Sally Smith, Sandra Brigham, Kim Redhead

Clerk - A. Fletcher 07473 061278 email: wigtoftpc@gmail.com

Website: wigtoft.parish.lincolnshire.gov.uk

Follow on Facebook (Wigtoft Parish Council)

Village Hall Committee

Virna Atkinson ... 01205 460259

Janet Sargeant ... 01205 460017

Sandra Brigham ... 01205 460536

Sally Smith ... 01205 460117

Wendy McCombie ... 01205 461005

St Peter & St Paul Parish Church

PCC Contact Jane Barkham 01205 460714

Vicar Revd. Mark Williams07572 888998 Email vicarhavengroup@gmail.com

Sutterton Methodist Church

Contact - Darren Charlton 07354 662522

Police

Boston Police Station ... 01523 532222

Police Non Emergency ... 101

Medical Non Emergency ... 111

General Contacts

Sutterton Doctors Surgery ... 01205 460254

Boston Pilgrim Hospital ... 01205 364801

Boston Borough Council ... 01205 314200

BBC out of hours emergency .01205 360300

BBC Refuse Department .. 01205 311112

Anglian Water Emergency ... 03457 145145

Western Power Distribution ... 0800 6783105 or just 105 (to report a power cut)

Wigtoft Parish Council

You can find details from Wigtoft Parish Council, including members, meeting agendas, full meeting minutes etc, plus other information about the village on the Parish Council website at:

wigtoft.parish.lincolnshire.gov.uk

There is lots of details there including previous meeting minutes going back to 2018 and details of how to contact the parish council.



Boston Borough Council

Bin Collection Dates for September / October



September

Friday 5th Green Bin
Friday 12th Purple / Brown Bins
Friday 19th Green Bin
Friday 26th Blue / Brown Bins

October

Friday 3rd Green Bin
Friday 10th Purple / Brown Bins
Friday 17th Green Bin
Friday 24th Blue / Brown Bins
Friday 31st Green Bin

Wigtoft Village Activities and Events To Join In

Wigtoft Church Events For September & October

Craft Weekend

13th & 14th September 10a.m to 3p.m
Stalls, Raffle, Tombola and Refreshments

Annual Harvest Festival Event

Sunday 12th October Harvest Service at 3p.m in the Church
Harvest Tea 4p.m in the Village Hall followed by the Auction and Raffle
Tickets for the Tea are £7.50
To book contact Jean on 01205460 546 or Jane on 01205 460714

MacMillan Coffee Morning

Thursday 16th October 10a.m to 12noon

Wigtoft Walkers



*Walking is one of the ways we can keep healthy and fit.
Also it enables us to enjoy the wonderful Lincolnshire countryside.
So why not join us.*

**Monday September 22nd and Wednesday October 22nd
Starting at 10 am outside the Village Hall.**

For further information contact Kim on 01205 460711

Litter Picking

*Our lovely village of Wigtoft needs your help.
Please join with the litter pickers*

10 am Monday September 1st and Monday October 6th

Everyone very welcome. For Further information
please contact Kim on 01205 460711.



WIGTOFT & DISTRICT GARDENING CLUB

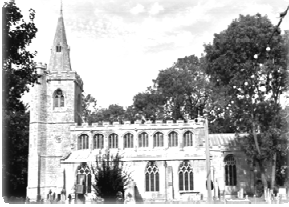


GARDEN CLUB MEETINGS 2025



**All meeting are held on third Monday of the month at 7pm
in the Village Hall**

Above are the events for this year's garden club. We try to have an entertaining programme .
We are a friendly bunch so come and join us.



St. Peter & St. Paul

WIGTOFT PARISH CHURCH

News From St Peter & St Paul Church Wigtoft

First, I need to correct two dates that were wrong in the last newsletter. The first date is that of the Harvest Event, the date of this event is 12th October 2025 with the service at 3p.m followed by the Harvest Tea and Auction at 4p.m.

The second is the Carol Service which is on Sunday 7th December at 3-30p.m. We have changed the date and time of this service so that Revd. Mark Williams can take the service.

As you will all know by now, we had a break in at the church on the night of Friday 27th June, the thieves took our two battery mowers. The break in was discovered on the Saturday morning when Jean arrived to open up for Bacon Butties. When I got to the church at about 9a.m I called the police to report the break in and within the hour the police were at the church. They took the details from us and on the Sunday morning after the service the forensic police lady came to see if she could find fingerprints or any other forensics. We have nothing but praise for the police for their fast action of coming to the church.

The Churchyard is looking very good at the moment thanks to the Community Payback team. They have worked extremely hard for us getting the churchyard looking so good. We are hoping that they will be able to come back every six weeks until the grass stops growing, but if they cannot then we will need some help to keep the grass cut.

Jane Barkham
Church Secretary

Wigtoft Church Services

September	Sunday 7 th	Holy Communion 9:30a.m - Rev. Mark Williams
	Sunday 14 th	Holy Communion 9:30a.m - Rev. Sue Hentley
October	Sunday 5 th	Holy Communion 9:30a.m - Rev. Mark Williams
	Sunday 12 th	Harvest Service 3pm - Rev. Mark Williams

Please do come and join us, all are welcome.

Church Lottery Winners

July 2025

- 1 William Barkham
- 2 Elizabeth Leggott
- 3 Jonathan Wheatley

August 2025

- 1 Sue Tunnard
- 2 Pete Smith
- 3 Jean Knight

News From The Vicar Of Wigtoft

I suppose for many of us, the months of September, and October turn our minds towards the season of Harvest. Indeed, our church celebrations on the 12th of October mean that we will be singing the hymns that we associate with such occasions. Yet as modern technology becomes more, and more part of our everyday life, I am informed farming too is very different to what it once was.

I look both in our churches, and in museums at the ancient equipment used for thousands of years to plough or sow crops. Visiting the village shows, the machinery now on display perhaps bears little resemblance to the old manual, and horse drawn equipment. The seasons too vary, as crops are harvested at all kinds of times, and in so many changing ways.

Perhaps it is too easy to just dismiss this time of year as an old observance no longer relevant to our modern way of existence. Yet I somehow can't stop thinking that no observance at all means that we lose something of our thankfulness for our daily living. Whatever we may, or may not believe in, there must be a value in stopping for a moment to give thanks for our food, and those who provide it.

In our sanitised world of easy shopping, it's all too simple for us to just become accustomed to accepting what we eat. Maybe, as we come to this time of year again, it calls us to remember the labour, and the transport that means our tables are blessed with such variety, and substance not known to former generations.

To give thanks in whatever way we feel is appropriate, which for me is summed up in that wonderful harvest hymn 'all good gifts around us are sent from heaven above, then thank the Lord, O thank the Lord, for all his love.

With my very best wishes
Fr Mark (Vicar of Wigtoft)

Saturday Coffee Mornings

Coffee mornings continue in the Church until the end of September when they move to the Village Hall for the winter months. These are every Saturday from 10am until noon. Come along and enjoy a bacon butty, plenty of delicious cakes and meet friends for a chat.



CHURCH EVENTS FOR 2025

The following is a list of events for 2025 Please make a note of them. We hope to see you all at some or all of them.

Craft Weekend 13th & 14th September 10a.m to 3p.m

Harvest Festival Event 12th October (Service 3p.m, Harvest Tea & Auction 4p.m)

MacMillan Coffee Morning 16th October 10a.m to 12noon

Carol Service Sunday 7th December 3.30pm

Christmas Tree Festival 29th & 30th November and 6th & 7th December 10a.m to 3p.m

If anyone would like to help at any of these events, then please contact either Jean on 01205 460546 or Jane on 01205 460714.

PCC Of Wigtoft Parish

Wigtoft Village Hall News

Great News From Wigtoft Village Hall... Saturday Mornings are Back On !!

Further to our update in the last issue having to reduce opening on Saturday mornings, we are very happy to say that due to wonderful volunteers coming forward to help, we will now be able to open EVERY Saturday from the beginning of October 2025 to end of March 2026.

Things will be slightly different in that the first Saturday of the month there will be a full English breakfast available, and any combination of, ie. bacon butty, beans on toast, sausage butty egg on toast etc. This will be from 9am to 12 noon.

All other Saturdays we will be open for Coffee, Cake and Chat from 10am to 12 noon.

Make Sure to Make A Note in Your Diaries

Opening details until the end of December are:-

October	4 th	Full breakfast, butties etc + cakes	9am to 12 noon
	11 th	Coffee, Cake & Chat	10am to 12 noon
	18 th	Coffee, Cake & Chat	10am to 12 noon
	25 th	Coffee, Cake & Chat	10am to 12 noon
November	1 st	Coffee, Cake & Chat	10am to 12 noon
	8 th	Christmas Fayre	10am to 3pm
		To include bacon or sausage butties and Cakes	
	15 th	Coffee, Cake & Chat	10am to 12 noon
	22 nd	Coffee, Cake & Chat	10am to 12 noon
December	13 th	Coffee, Cake & Chat	10am to 12 noon
	20 th	Coffee, Cake & Chat	10am to 12 noon

We are also hoping to have tables offering local crafts, bric-a-brac, tombola, items for sale etc at each Saturday morning. Monies raised will go to help local clubs such as the Newsletter, Bowls Club, & Charities

Booking Wigtoft Village Hall

The Village Hall is available for hire at a cost of just £10 per hour.

This includes use of all the facilities including all crockery, cutlery etc.

For further information or to check the booking diary contact Virna on 01205 460259

We could do with some help at Wigtoft Village Hall!!

If you have some spare time, whether it be an odd hour here or there, or more, we have a wide range of things you could help out with, from helping to put events together, serving teas, helping us to come up with new events/ ideas, organising raffles, helping with promotional ads, to small maintenance jobs, painting, decorating etc.

Please call Sandra on 01205 460536 or Sally on 01205 460117

Crafting Afternoon With Cream Tea

Join us for a Crafting Afternoon Decorating
Tote Bags whilst enjoying a Cream Tea

On Friday 19th September 2pm to 4pm



Places are limited and tickets are just £15,
to include taking home the finished tote bag

To book your place please contact
Sally on 01205 460117
Or Sandra on 01205 460536

Bake it or Donate It !

Saturday mornings from the 8th October we
need cakes... lots of lovely cakes for our Butty
and our Coffee, Cake and Chat mornings.

If you would be happy to bake a cake, for one
of our Saturday morning get togethers, then
we would love to hear from you. You DO NOT
need to be a professional baker, great home
baking is what we need. All proceeds from the
sale of the cakes will go to the upkeep of the
Village Hall.

If you don't bake you can always make a
donation and it will buy wonderful catering
cakes.

You can donate or bake as often or not as you
wish. Cakes can be collected. All cakes very
gratefully received. For further info contact

Sally on 01205 460117

Sandra on 01205 460536



Wigtoft Village Hall Calendar For September & October

September 2025

Mon 1st Village Hall Meeting
Sun 7th Private Booking
Mon 15th Garden Club 7pm
Tues 16th Private Booking
Tues 23rd Scraps 10 - 11.30am

October 2025

Sun 5th Private Booking
Mon 6th Parish Council Meeting 7.30pm
Sun 12th Church Harvest Festival 3 - 7pm
Sat 18th Councillor James Cantwell 12 - 1pm
Mon 20th Garden Club 7pm
Tues 21st Private Booking
Tues 28th Scraps 10 - 11.30am

Halloween

- Why shouldn't an angry witch take her broom trick or treating?
She might fly off the handle.
- How do ghosts do their makeup before they go out trick or treating?
They use vanishing cream.
- What do vampires take to get around on Halloween night?
A blood vessel.
- How did the zombie become great at trick or treating?
Dead-ication

Where Hope Grows: Footprints Academy, Kenya

As school children across the UK return to classrooms this term- some with crisp uniforms, packed lunches, and familiar routines, it's worth pausing to reflect on how education looks elsewhere in the world. In one small corner of coastal Kenya, children wake before sunrise and walk up to 5 kilometers each morning, often in blazing heat or heavy rain, just to reach school. And yet, they arrive smiling.

This is *Footprints Academy*, the education arm of *The Footprints Family*, founded by Kerry Watson almost 17 years ago, and supported by a dedicated team. A UK-registered charity, Footprints was established to care for orphaned and vulnerable children - offering not just shelter, but a future.



Footprints Academy, developed within the grounds of the home, providing a place where children can access quality learning in a loving, faith-filled environment. It's more than a school - it's a lifeline. Pupils begin the day with a simple cup of porridge and gather again at lunchtime for a warm, traditional Kenyan meal of rice, beans, and *sukuma wiki* (kale). Nourishment, both physical and spiritual, is part of the rhythm of daily life.

What began as an act of rescue has become a story of renewal. Under Kerry's compassionate leadership, Footprints walks with its children far beyond the classroom - supporting many well into adulthood as they forge their paths through higher education, training, and employment. Rooted in the belief that every child should be nurtured and cherished, Footprints offers not only care and learning, but lifelong encouragement, dignity, and hope.

**By Sarah Morton - who teaches in a school in Kenya
Daughter of Libby Craggs**

<https://www.footprintsfamily.com/>

SUTTERTON METHODIST CHURCH The Church with the Yellow Door

SERVICES FOR SEPTEMBER

Sunday 7th Own Arrangement
Sunday 14th Darren Charlton
Sunday 21st At Kirton
Sunday 28th Own Arrangement

SERVICES FOR OCTOBER

Sunday 5th Pat Gooding
Sunday 12th Revd. David Curran
Sunday 19th Revd. Alan Barker **Harvest Festival**
Faith lunch for Harvest, All are welcome
Sunday 26th Odile Stringer

All services are at 10.30am followed by tea and biscuits

September and October COFFEE MORNINGS

Held on the 1st and 3rd Wednesday of the Month
(3rd and 17th of September & 1st and 15th October)
10 a.m. to 12 noon

All Are Welcome

Contact: Darren Charlton Mobile: 07354 662522

Wigtoft Bowls Club



When writing this we still have a few games left to play and then another season will be over. So far it has been a bit up and down. We are currently mid table in the two Boston Leagues and Bottom of the Coningsby league division 2. We have done well in the cup competitions and are in one cup final and another semi final, so fingers crossed when we report back in the November/ December issue of the Newsletter we may have won a cup or two !

As we have been blessed with such good weather, we will be continuing to play on a Wednesday evening here on our Wigtoft Green. Everyone and anyone is welcome to come and join us. You don't have to have played before, just to give it a go. We have spare sets of bowls for you to use, the only thing you need to do is wear flat shoes. We are happy to help you learn to play.....you never know you might have a great time !!!

We start at 6pm, follow the blue "Bowls Club" sign situated near the church. If you can't find us or want further information contact Peter on 07919991429. We hope to see you.

November and Poppies.

Well, my garden is beginning to change. Although I don't like saying it, I feel an early autumn is just around the corner. Last year we commemorated Remembrance Day by asking for poppies made out of crochet, knitted or plastic, even wood or indeed any material you wished to work with. We then decorated the village sign.

Our request this year is for even more poppies! If we have sufficient we hope to decorate the iron railings leading to the village car park.

So, now is the time to start being creative so we are ready in plenty of time. Also, perhaps you would like to help us display them?

Closer to the time we will gather them all together and display accordingly.

If you wish further information please don't hesitate to ask.

Libby Tel:- 01205 460 430.



Community RePaint Store

Boston Borough Welcomes the Community RePaint Store! Boston Borough residents have another opportunity to live sustainably, through a new Community RePaint Store opened at the Bittern Way, Household Waste Recycling Centre. The store, which opened on Friday 8 August 2025, gives residents access to free, reusable paint.

The Community RePaint initiative collects unused and leftover paint that would otherwise go to waste and makes it available to local people completely free of charge. Whether you're refreshing a room or tackling a creative project, the store offers a wide variety of paints in different colours and finishes.

Top 10 Gardening Tips for September and October



September

1. There's still plenty of life left in the garden and lots of things to do on the planting and sowing front, don't put the garden to bed and hack everything back. Leave your perennials to fade naturally, then the leafy stems will carry on feeding the plant for next year.
2. Sew Umbellifers - are best sown now because they need a cold period of roughly three months before germinating. Prick them out next February or March and plant them out in April.
3. **Plant bulbs** - Plant daffodils, alliums and all other bulbs (except tulips) so that develop good root systems. Tulips wait for cooler weather, from the end of October onwards
4. Sow Winter Salad - Sow winter salads now and grow them in a sheltered place, in a large pot or in the greenhouse as a follow up act for tomatoes.
5. Order Peonies for bare-root planting in October.
6. Note which perennials need dividing. With wetter winters becoming the norm it's best to divide perennials in spring, but do make a note now of which ones need doing.
7. Order bare-root roses
8. Ease off Watering and Feeding
9. Keep Deadheading
10. Tidy your Topiary

October

1. Care for your lawn by raking or brushing leaves off the grass. Try collecting them in a leaf bag, which will turn them into useful leaf mould. You can also cut the grass for one last time this year. Make that last cut slightly higher to protect the lawn from winter frost.
2. Trim hedges so they are crisp and tidy for the winter.
3. October's the time for clearing up. Greenhouses, ponds, gutters and water butts may all need cleaning out, wooden garden furniture will need covering or storing for the winter and terracotta pots will need bringing inside.
4. Divide herbaceous perennials. Plant some back in the ground; take others to pot up and give away to friends in the spring.
5. In the veg patch plant garlic cloves with their pointed ends up, and spaced 10cm apart.
6. Plant bulbs for a colourful spring display. Try planting clumps of five or seven bulbs of the same variety through a border for a really effective display.
7. Plant out spring bedding and biennials, such as wall-flowers, for spring displays. Pots and hanging baskets can be planted with spring bedding, and teamed with bulbs, grasses, cyclamen and violas for a colourful and textural display.
8. 'Plant' prepared hyacinths in vases for winter scent and colour in the house.
9. Harvest pumpkins for eating as well as carving.
10. Enjoy the apple harvest! Why not visit an apple day in your area, where you can taste local varieties?

Recipe of the Month - October

Apple Cake with Crunchy Topping

Ingredients

1½ Braeburn or Bramley apples (about 300g), peeled and cored
 225g self-raising flour
 1 tsp baking powder
 ½ tsp ground cinnamon
 ½ tsp mixed spice
 125g butter, plus 25g melted
 125g light brown sugar
 1 lemon, zested
 2 eggs, beaten
 2 tbsp demerara sugar
 clotted cream or ice cream, to serve



Method

Heat the oven to gas 4, 180°C, fan 160°C. Grease and base line a 20cm loose-based cake tin.

Cut one apple in half, then slice one of those halves into 8 and set aside. Chop the remaining two halves into small dice.

Sieve the flour, baking powder, cinnamon and mixed spice into a bowl. Rub in the butter. Stir in the sugar, lemon zest and diced apple. Stir in the eggs and mix well.

Spoon the mixture into the tin and level the surface. Arrange the apple slices on the top and brush with the melted butter. Sprinkle over the demerara sugar and bake in the oven for 30-40 mins. Serve warm with clotted cream or ice cream.

SUDOKU PUZZLE

The rules of Sudoku are simple. Place a digit from 1 to 9 in each empty cell so every row, every column, and every 3 x 3 box contains the digits 1 to 9.

	7					8		
			2		4			
		6					3	
			5					6
9		8			2		4	
	5			3		9		
		2		8			6	
	6		9			7		1
4					3			

8	9	5	3	2	6	7	1	4
1	2	7	5	4	9	3	6	8
3	6	4	7	8	1	2	9	5
2	7	9	8	3	4	1	5	6
5	4	1	2	6	7	8	3	9
6	8	3	1	9	5	4	2	7
7	3	2	9	5	8	6	4	1
9	1	6	4	7	2	5	8	3
4	5	8	6	1	3	9	7	2

Wigtoft Parish Council

PHONE: 07473 061278

Website: www.wigtoft.parish.lincolnshire.gov.uk

MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF WIGTOFT PARISH COUNCIL HELD ON the 6th of June 2025

SHORTENED FORM OF MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF WIGTOFT PARISH COUNCIL CONDENSED FOR THE NEWSLETTER. A FULL VERSION OF THE MINUTES CAN BE FOUND ON THE PARISH COUNCIL'S WEBSITE

Present: Cllr I Mills; Cllr S Baxter; Cllr B Leggott; Cllr S Smith; Cllr K Redhead;
Cllr S Collingwood and Cllr S Brigham.

Also present: Borough Councillor James Cantwell

Public Forum. (The Public Forum does not form part of the meeting of the Parish Council) - None.

The Chairperson, Cllr Mills, opened the meeting at 19.30.

Notes of the meetings held on 12.5.25 to be confirmed and signed as minutes.

The above notes were agreed and signed as minutes by Cllr Mills. It was resolved to accept the notes as minutes.

Financial matters: To resolve to accept the accounts for payment for May 2025, to be checked and signed by two Councillors at this meeting and present budget figures for the year to date. Bank balance £11599.97 as at 27.5.25.

The accounts for payment were checked against the invoices and the lists and signed by Cllrs Smith and Brigham. It was resolved to agree the payments. The clerk had circulated the budget figures up to date for the current financial year to the Councillors prior to the meeting. The clerk advised that there was nothing new to comment on or explain for the current year to date. It was resolved to accept the budget figures year to date as an accurate copy of the Parish Council's receipts and payments and the balance of the bank account at £11599.97.

<u>Date</u>	<u>Details of Payment</u>	<u>Amount ex vat</u>	<u>Vat reclaimable</u>
15.5.25	Pay	291.20	
15.5.25	PAYE	72.80	
31.5.25	Payroll services	18.00	
15.5.25	Clerk use of home as office	35.00	
14.10.25	Grass cutting	324.00	64.80
15.5.25	Grass cutting	790.00	158.00
11.4.25	Monthly bank charges	4.25	
12.4.25	Mobile phone monthly plan	6.00	
5.5.25	Removal of tree branches from the playing field	50.00	
9.5.25	Internal Audit	43.50	
31.5.25	Wigtoft Newsletter donation towards running costs	200.00	
31.5.25	Citizens Advice Bureau donation	30.00	
31.5.25	Wigtoft PCC donation to support church.	300.00	
31.5.25	Wigtoft Village hall donation towards upkeep and use of hall for PC meetings	250.00	
TOTAL		2414.75	222.80
RECEIPTS			
TOTAL		NIL	

ACTION: Clerk to make payments and add budget to website

Planning: B/25/0038 – The Old Farmhouse, Washdike Drove, PE20 2QA, to confirm response sent to Planning Dept. following email consultation with Councillors by email.

It was confirmed and resolved that there were no comments. Clerk advised that the response was sent to Planning Dept. on the 23.5.25.

Councillors' Reports

Cllr I Mills: there has been some plastic fly tipped on Fishmere End. I will report it.

Borough and County Councillors reports.

Borough Councillor Cantwell – Boston Borough Council is using Rural England Prosperity Funding (REPF) to support projects that boost rural businesses and community infrastructure. The council has been allocated £128,779 for 2025/26, which it's dividing equally between community facilities and supporting rural businesses. Boston Borough full Council has agreed to purchase 10 new pod vehicles for food waste collection from April 26 onwards. The Emergency Group will be undertaking Risk Walks around the parishes to identify any issues. The group is planning to work with Parish Councils to create a list of addresses of vulnerable residents. No other data will be collected other than addresses.

Clerk's report

Noticeboard update – I am hoping that it now erected and in use.

Cllr Brigham reported fallen branches in the playing field. I arranged for them to be removed at a cost of £50.

UPDATE – now removed.

The Annual Audit paperwork is now complete. The required documents have been added to the Website. The Notice of Public Rights has been displayed on the noticeboard today and the dates for inspection are 3.6.25 to 14.7.25. They have also been published on the website. The Certificate of Exemption was sent to the external auditors on the 18.5.25. I have not had confirmation of receipt yet.

Following the last meeting I emailed the grass cutting contractors about the queries on their latest invoice, see copy below:

“Following the meeting of the Parish Council last night, I am writing to raise a couple of points with you. This follows a conversation and messages between me and Julian. Ever since you have cut the grass for us, I have always sent you a document with our requirements when asking you to quote for the coming year. I have attached a copy. The Parish Council have noticed that the alternate cuts of the Wild Life Garden with the schedule requested for the Playing Field is not happening so far this year. Looking at the dates on invoice 13744, both areas have been cut approximately every two weeks. The other point, this time from me and I know Julian is aware of this, is to have the texts to me giving the date the cut happens and which areas have been cut. Our annual budget is set for grass cutting based on the information in the attached document and, as we are spending public money, we have to account for everything we spend against our budget. Finally, one of our Councillors has asked if the paths in the Wildlife Garden could be cut no shorter than approximately 4 inches long. If that is an issue for you, please let me know.

The Parish Council understands that the last few months must have been very difficult for you and hope that you Richard are now much better.

A resolution was passed to pay invoice 13911 and 13744 so I will be making those payments very shortly”.

To confirm the renewal of the Insurance Policy for 1.6.25 to 31.5.26 at a cost of £547.59 with Ecclesiastical (through Clear Councils) at a cost of £547.59 as part of a 3 year deal.

Following on from minute number 006/25 at the May 25 meeting, it was resolved to accept the above quote and terms from Ecclesiastical Insurance at a premium of £547.59 as part of a 3 year deal. The premium has been paid and is in force.

To review the alternative Risk Assessment document and decide whether to resolve to adopt in place of the existing one or not.

It was resolved to adopt the new Risk Assessment document. **ACTION: Clerk to post on website.**

To review the new Publication Scheme document and resolve to adopt.

It was resolved to adopt the above document. **ACTION: Clerk to post on website.**

To discuss buying 2 goal nets for the playing field (BL).

The clerk had researched online and found 2 nets at £17.19 and £9.99. It was suggested it would be a good idea to also purchase pegs or a weighted tube to hold down the nets. It was resolved to spend a maximum of £50 on the above. **ACTION: Clerk to purchase nets and tube/pegs.**

Meeting closed at 17:52. Next meeting is on the 7th July at 19.30 in the Village Hall

Wigtoft Parish Council

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MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF WIGTOFT PARISH COUNCIL HELD ON the 7th of July 2025

SHORTENED FORM OF MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF WIGTOFT PARISH COUNCIL CONDENSED FOR THE NEWSLETTER. A FULL VERSION OF THE MINUTES CAN BE FOUND ON THE PARISH COUNCIL'S WEBSITE

Present: Cllr I Mills; Cllr S Baxter; Cllr K Redhead; Cllr S Collingwood and Cllr S Brigham.

Also present: County Councillor Paul Lock.

Public Forum. (The Public Forum does not form part of the meeting of the Parish Council) - None.

To receive apologies and reasons for absence.

Apologies and reasons for absence were received from Cllr Leggott (reason given to Council) and Cllr Smith (reason given to Council). It was resolved to accept the apologies and reasons for absence from Cllrs Leggott and Smith.

Borough Councillor James Cantwell also sent his apologies.

To receive declarations of interest under the Localism Act 2011 – being any pecuniary or non-pecuniary interest not previously recorded on Member's Register of Interests – none.

Financial matters: To resolve to accept the accounts for payment for July 2025, to be checked and signed by two Councillors at this meeting and present budget figures for the year to date. Bank balance £9409.61 as at 28.7.25.

The accounts for payment were checked against the invoices to the lists and signed by Cllrs Collingwood and Baxter. It was resolved to agree the payments. The clerk had circulated the budget figures up to date for the current financial year to the Councillors prior to the meeting. The clerk advised that there was nothing new to comment on or explain for the current year to date. It was resolved to accept the budget figures year to date as an accurate copy of the Parish Council's receipts and payments and the balance of the bank account at £9837.14. The clerk advised Council that she had completed an interim bank reconciliation to 31.5.25 which balanced.

<u>Date</u>	<u>Details of Payment</u>	<u>Amount ex vat</u>	<u>Vat reclaimable</u>	<u>VAT not reclaimable</u>
15.6.25	Pay	291.20		
15.6.25	PAYE	72.80		
30.6.25	Payroll services	18.00		
15.6.25	Clerk use of home as office	35.00		
9.6.25	Grass cutting	485.00	97.00	
12.5.25	Monthly bank charges	4.25		
12.6.25	Mobile phone monthly plan	6.00		
2.6.25	Removal of ivy on bus shelter and remove old noticeboard and erect new one.	175.00		
29.5.25	PC Insurance policy annual renewal	547.59		
TOTAL		1634.84	97.00	
RECEIPTS				
4.5.25	VAT refund	1037.34		
TOTAL		1037.34		

ACTION: Clerk to make payments and add budget to website

Councillors' Reports

Cllr S Baxter – There are trees overhanging the road from Clover Lane to Church Road which are causing a hazard to drivers turning onto this road from driveways and roads. The clerk commented that she had had a call from a resident about this and had reported it on Fix My Street.

Cllr S Brigham – asked for an update on the purchase of the goal nets. The clerk advised that the matter was in hand, just waiting for further information to purchase the correct nets and accessories.

Cllr I Mills – the fly tipping he mentioned at the last meeting has been reported. I attended the meeting of the Five Villages Emergency Group. There will be two "Emergency Bags" for each village, one will potentially be stored at the village hall and one with a volunteer resident (ideally a First Responder, if there is one in the village). Up to five volunteers will be needed for each village. There will be a Risk Walk around the village sometime in September or October. **ACTION: Speak to Cllr Cantwell about putting an item in the Newsletter.**

Borough and County Councillors reports.

- **County Councillor P Lock** – introduced himself as the new County Councillor for Boston Rural Division which covers Wigtoft. He gave a summary of his current areas of responsibility, which are:

Audit Committee

Corporate Parenting Panel

Council

Standing Advisory Council on Religious Education

Executive support Councillor for our Children's Services Executive Cllr Natalie Oliver.

I also support the Exec for IT which is the leader of the council.

Cllr Lock advised the Council about the latest notice about the proposed installation of new pylons by National grid and that there is a new tranche of funding available through the Grass Roots Foundation.

ACTION: Councillors asked that the Grass Roots funding be added to the agenda for August as a way of funding the cost of a new roundabout.

Clerk's report

The Insurance policy has been renewed and the Certificates of Public Liability and Employers Liability been posted on the website.

Clerk's hours worked – as of today's date (1.7.25), the clerk has worked 1 hour more than the monthly allowance. The cut off point is 15.7.25 which is a further 14 days away. It is very likely that this will reach something like 10 hours extra worked. I believe, as we do not have a meeting in September, I can reduce this significantly by taking TOIL (Time off in Lieu) providing that the Council agrees and no extra unexpected work comes to light.

To review the Play Area inspection undertaken by Cllr Collingwood.

The clerk had circulated the report to the Councillors prior to the meeting. There were no new items of concern to discuss other than that the trees will need attention at the right time, there are two dirty benches which are in hand to be cleaned and there is a build up of soil around half of the base of the fence around the toddler area. **ACTION: Clerk to find out when Western Power last trimmed the trees and obtain a quote to remove the excess soil.**

Meeting closed at 20:10. Next meeting is on the 4th of August at 19:30 at the Village Hall.

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The Wigtoft News and Views team are:

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12th of the month
prior to publication**

(unfortunately anything
received after this date will
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Wigtoft Newsletter

The Newsletter team would like some more help with keeping the newsletter going, new ideas for things to go in the newsletter, help with producing and delivering it and with funding it.

If you would like to help in any way please speak to one of the team or email wigtoftnewsletter@gmail.com.



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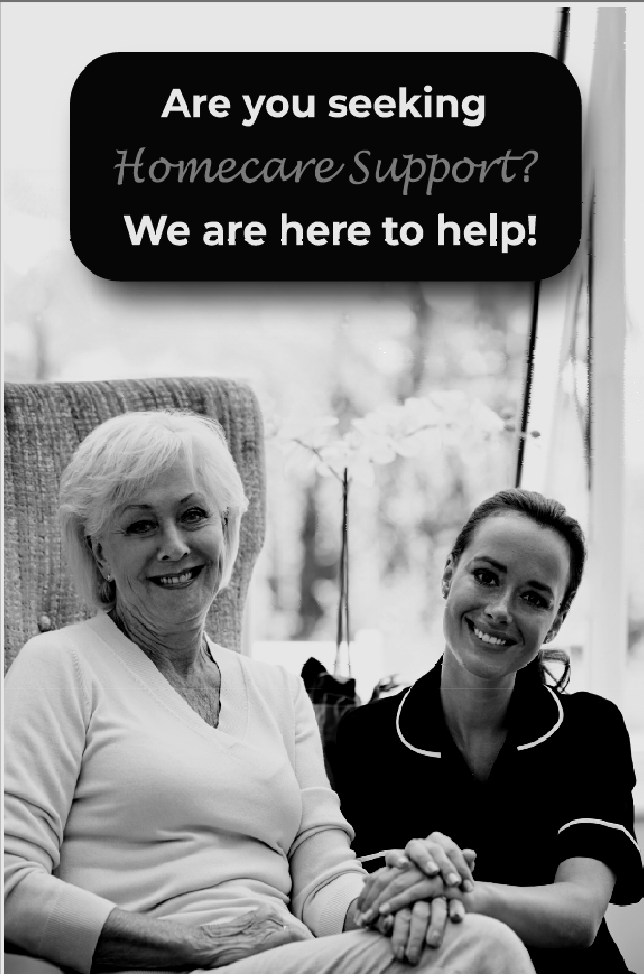
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