

WIGTOFT VILLAGE NEWS & VIEWS

January / February 2026

Happy
New Year
2026

Well, welcome to 2026 in our lovely little village of Wigtoft

The village is a very nice place to live with a history that goes back many, many years. The Church itself is over one thousand years old, if you look on page 8 you will find some more news on some historic things that have been found recently.

Unfortunately, in recent years we have lost some of the village facilities, like pubs and shops. But we still have a few things left for community use and some good activities that village residents can take part in or help with. We still have the church and village hall plus activities such as the bowls club, a walking group and a some litter picking volunteers. We also have the Parish Council to look after the village, and the newsletter to keep villagers informed about what is happening.

We need to try and keep these things going, but that can only happen with your help. Both the church and village hall need your support at events that take place. They also need more volunteers to help run them and to organise these events. There are already a few hard working people who help, but more are needed. Going along to these venues helps to support them and keep them going.

We are trying to keep the newsletter going, but some new ideas for content would be good and we need more help with putting it together and delivering it.

The litter picker group work hard to try and keep the village tidy, but again more help would be appreciated. If you want some regular exercise and friendly chat then the walking group would be good for you.

The Bowls club keeps on going and they have improved the facilities there, less people seem to take part in bowls these days but we should try and keep it going.

The Parish Council do things for the village, but some suggestions from residents on how the village could be improved would be useful. We all pay our council tax but should expect more than just having our bins emptied. We could do with having the roads and footpaths maintained better and grass verges kept tidier. If you have any ideas on what the Parish Council may do to improve our village then you may wish to speak to a council member or go along to one of their monthly meetings at the village hall. The dates for coming meetings are on page 14.

If you would like to get more involved in any of these village things then please contact the people already giving up their time to support them, most of the contact details can be found in the newsletter, or email us at wigtoftnewsletter@gmail.com and we can contact you.

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: clerk@wigtoft-pc.gov.uk

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 January / February



January

Saturday 3rd Purple Bin

Friday 9th Green Bin

Friday 16th Blue Bin

Friday 23rd Green Bin

Friday 30th Purple Bin

February

Friday 6th Green Bin

Friday 13th Blue Bin

Friday 20th Green Bin

Friday 27th Purple Bin

**The Brown Bin, Garden Waste collections finish on Friday 21st November
and start again in March 2026**

Wigtoft Village Activities and Events To Join In

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.*

**Wednesday January 21st and Monday February 16th
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 January 5th and Monday February 2nd

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



WIGTOFT & DISTRICT GARDENING CLUB

Good News, things are looking up for the Gardening Club,
we have some new members, which is great.



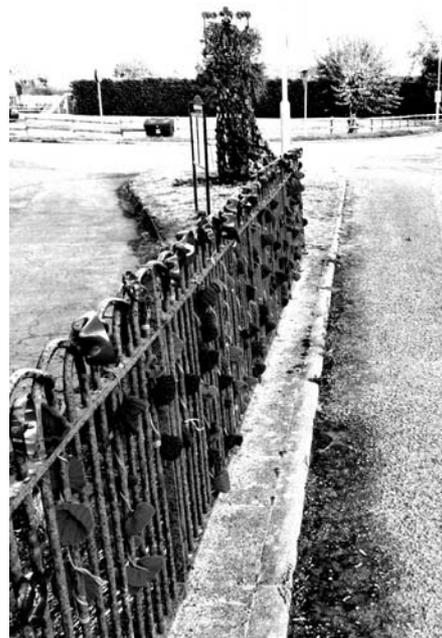
In August we painted horse shoes and in September decorated bird boxes. It was a lot of fun and so friendly.

We do not have meetings from November to February. Our next meeting will be on March 16th 2026 in the Village Hall, please come and join our friendly group, we look forward to seeing you.

Have a happy Christmas and New Year.

A Warm Thank You.

Thank you to all those who made poppies and helped to display them in our village. Each year kind people make more. Your generosity enables us to remember those who gave their lives freely for us.





St. Peter & St. Paul WIGTOFT PARISH CHURCH

News from St Peter & St Paul Church

Well here we are again in another new year and we will soon be having a meeting of the Friends Group to decide what events we will be putting on. That meeting will take place on 9th February 2026 at 1p.m in the Church, if you would like to join the Friends Group then please come along to that meeting.

At the Christmas Tree Festival we raised about £2000.00 for church funds but we have some money to come in, so I will let you know the exact amount in the next Newsletter. This was a very good event and we would like to thank everyone that helped and everyone that supported us.

All that is left is for us to wish you all a very Happy New Year.

From Wigtoft Church Council

Church Lottery Winners

November 2025

- 1 Peter Hardy
- 2 Peter Bland
- 3 Molly Berresford

December 2025

- 1 Virna Atkinson
- 2 Muriel Bland
- 3 Jackie Core

Church Lottery Annual Renewal Time

As we are in a new year the Church Draw fees are due, so if you wish to stay in the Church Draw could you please let your usual collector or a member of the PCC have you fees by the end of January 2026. If you wish to join the Church Draw then please contact a member of the PCC. The fees have stayed the same as last year which is £12.00.

**From Jane Barkham
Church Treasurer**

St Peter & St Paul Church Services

January

Sunday 4th Holy Communion 9:30a.m - Rev. Mark Williams
Sunday 11th Holy Communion 9:30a.m - Rev. Sue Hentley

February

Sunday 1st Holy Communion 9:30a.m - Rev. Mark Williams
Sunday 8th Holy Communion 9:30a.m 9.30am - Rev. Sue Hentley

Please do come and join us, all are welcome.

News From The Vicar Of Wigtoft

Thank you again for the opportunity to write for the Wigtoft magazine. I trust that you have all had a wonderful festive season, and enjoyed your celebrations.

The months of January, and February are not, I have to admit my favourite times in the year. For some, I am told the winter is a great joy, and the cold inspires them to work harder, or stay indoors in the warmth of a heated room. Yet for me, I look forward to the arrival of spring and summer.

One of the things that cheer me through these months is the arrival of snowdrops. Where I lived previously, the pathway from my house to the church would be full of white flowers as soon as the worst of the winter was over. Occasionally they would truly be snow drops, as they intertwined with actual snow giving hope on a bleak but beautiful morning.

Here also, their arrival heralds a new dawn, and the beginnings of new life. In Christianity the month of February too signals a new beginning. The arrival of Lent, with the imposition of ashes, is a very powerful sign of the frailty of our humanity. In a world obsessed with power, wealth, and control, we reflect on our vulnerability, and our reliance on something greater than ourselves.

There is a beautiful prayer, said at Compline, the very last service of the day, which reads 'we who are wearied by the changes, and chances of this fleeting world, may repose upon Thy eternal changelessness'. Whatever your belief, or not, may you know the sense of eternal changelessness that surrounds us, even in the darkest winters of our lives.

**With my very best wishes,
Fr Mark**

A HAPPY NEW YEAR TO ALL

Another Year Older?

I'm easing into the New Year gently -
The same way I get out of a low chair

My New Year goal is to be more punctual
I'll start tomorrow

This year I plan to live in the moment, as
soon as I can remember why I walked
into the room

I'm get getting older this year
I'm just becoming classic



Wigtoft Village Hall News

We hope that you had a great Christmas and wish you all the very best for 2026.

What a busy time in the run up to Christmas it was, we held several crafting afternoons including tote bag decorating, pumpkin carving and making Christmas decorations.

The Christmas Fayre was at the beginning of November and what a day it was!

Huge thanks to all the wonderful creative people that displayed lots of lovely gifts and to everyone that came along. We sold lots of butties, and our tombola almost sold out, in fact we raised an amazing £500 to go towards paying the bills and keeping the hall open.



Pumpkin Carving



Christmas Decoration Making

Our last event of 2025 was Christmas Wreath Making. This proved such a popular event that we extended it and made wreaths in the morning AND the afternoon. Nearly 40 people joined us and made beautiful wreaths. What a day !! Wonderful! Thank you to everyone that joined us and made this such a lovely time.

We continue to be open every Saturday morning 10am to 12 noon open for Cake, Coffee and a chat until the end of March.

However, on the following three dates we will be again offering our full English Breakfast. So, butties will be on the menu as well as the breakfast and the usual home-made cakes.

The dates for your diary are: Saturday 10th January, Saturday 7th February and Saturday 7th March. We will be open 9am to 12 noon on these dates only.



Wigtoft Village Hall Calendar For January & February

January 2026

Sat 10st Full English Breakfast 9am -12
Sat 17th Coffee & Cake 10am -12
Mon 19th Parish Council 7.30pm
Sat 24th Coffee & Cake 10am -12
Sat 31st Coffee & Cake 10am -12

February 2026

Sat 7st Full English Breakfast 9am -12
Sat 14th Coffee & Cake 10am -12
Sat 21st Coffee & Cake 10am -12
Sat 21st James Cantwell 12 - 1pm
Sat 28th Coffee & Cake 10am -12

COFFEE



Wigtoft Village Hall

Coffee & Cake

Catch up with friends and enjoy coffee & cake for only £2

Enjoy delicious homemade cakes & tea/coffee every Saturday morning 10am to 12 noon

NOTE FOR YOUR DIARY: Jan 10th, Feb 7th & March 7th we will be serving full English Breakfast, including bacon/sausage butties from 9am to 12 noon.



CAKE

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

Help us to keep the heart of our village beating.

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

Wigtoft Yields Its Secrets

A Day of Discovery in August 2025

On 14th August, a brand-new 25-acre field at Wigtoft opened its gates to Digging History U.K.

For many detectorists, it was the first chance to walk this untouched land, and the soil wasted no time in giving up its treasures. What followed was a day filled with history, camaraderie, and remarkable finds.

Silver of the Kings and Queens

The morning began with hammered silver. One of the earliest finds was a Henry III penny, lifted from the soil after lying hidden since the 1200s. The coin's portrait still stared back across the centuries, a tangible link to a king who reigned during the building of Westminster Abbey.

Later, the regal tally was added to with a stunning Elizabeth I sixpence dated 1579, alongside a jetton, a spur end, and other intriguing relics. These hammered coins once passed through the hands of merchants, farmers, and travellers in a very different Wigtoft.

Gems and Gold

The day's showstopper was without doubt a gold ring. Initially found with soil clinging to it, but later after cleaning, it revealed a delicate green stone still set proudly in its mount.

It's not hard to imagine the story behind it – perhaps once worn as a token of love or faith, lost in the fields for centuries until Glen's detector brought it back into the light.

Nearby, a group uncovered what appears to be a medieval mount still inlaid with striking purple and yellow stones – a reminder of the colour and splendour of jewellery in the past.



Everyday Life in the Past

Not every find was gold or silver, but each artefact told its own story, including: part of a purse bar with inlaid decoration, a pipe tamper, a jaw harp, a book hinge, and coins ranging from a 1921 George V shilling to fragments still needing careful cleaning.

Others added to the story of daily life through their finds: a Royal Corps of Signals badge, a George III coin, and even a 1943 threepence.

A Field That Keeps on Giving

By the end of the day, the range of finds was staggering – from Roman brooch fragments and medieval hammered silver, to Georgian tokens and 20th-century buttons. Each layer of history was represented, showing how Wigtoft has been lived in, worked, and walked across for thousands of years.

Wigtoft's Story Lives On

From Roman jewellery to medieval coinage, from Tudor silver to Georgian tokens, Wigtoft's field has told stories that span centuries. Thanks to the enthusiasm and dedication of the Southlincs Searchers, these stories are no longer buried and forgotten – they live again in the hands of those who found them, and in the imaginations of all who hear about them.

Disappointment.

Pete Smith, who lives on the corner of Asperton Road, decorates his garden and house to celebrate festivals throughout the year.

It's a wonderful display which takes huge time and effort and is much enjoyed by all.

On Halloween (All Saints Day) Pete placed a skeleton on the village sign, just outside his house. Sadly, overnight, this was taken!!

We cannot believe that anyone from our lovely village of Wigtoft would do such a thing. We think, more than likely, perhaps someone passing through succumbed to temptation.

If you are reading this, and have the skeleton, please would you return to Pete. You can leave it outside his front door, no need to knock!!!!

January Fields

The fields lie hushed beneath the frost
Brown earth in silver dressed
Each shining blade of grass whispers
That stillness, too, means rest
Beneath the cold the future waits
Though hidden from the eye
The quiet ground holds promises
The spring will soon reply

“

Never make a resolution
which won't be as
important on the eighth
of April or the tenth of
July as it is on the first
of January.”

- Cary Grant

SUTTERTON METHODIST CHURCH

The Church with the Yellow Door

SERVICES FOR JANUARY

Sunday 4th Pat Gooding
Sunday 11th Covenant Service at Broad Street
Sunday 18th Revd. David Curran
Sunday 25th Darren Charlton

SERVICES FOR FEBRUARY

Sunday 1st Geoff Carter
Sunday 8th Own Arrangement
Sunday 15th At Kirton
Sunday 22nd Revd. Angy Long

All services are at 10am followed by tea and biscuits

January and February COFFEE MORNINGS
Held on the 1st and 3rd Wednesday of the Month
(7th and 21st of January & 4th and 18th February)
10 a.m. to 12 noon

All Are Welcome

Contact: Darren Charlton Mobile: 07354 662522

A Healthy Recipe for January/ February

Broccoli Parmesan Casserole

Ingredients

- 4 bunches broccoli, cut into florets
- 6 tablespoons butter, divided
- 1 small onion, finely chopped
- 1 garlic clove, minced
- 1/4 cup all-purpose flour
- 2 cups milk
- 1 large egg yolk, beaten
- 1 cup grated Parmesan cheese
- 1/2 teaspoon salt
- 1/8 teaspoon pepper
- 1/2 cup seasoned bread crumbs



Directions

1. Preheat oven to 400°. Place half broccoli in a steamer basket; place basket in a large saucepan over 1 in. water. Bring to a boil; cover and steam 3-4 minutes or until crisp-tender. Place in a greased 13x9-in. baking dish; repeat with remaining broccoli.
2. Meanwhile, in a small saucepan over medium heat, melt 4 tablespoons butter. Add onion; cook and stir until tender. Add garlic; cook 1 minute longer.
3. Stir in flour until blended; gradually add milk. Bring to a boil; cook and stir for 2 minutes or until thickened. Stir a small amount of the hot mixture into egg yolk; return all to the pan, stirring constantly. Cook and stir 1 minute longer. Remove from heat; stir in the cheese, salt and pepper. Pour over broccoli.
4. In a small frying pan, cook the bread crumbs in the remaining butter until golden brown; sprinkle over the top.
5. Bake, uncovered, 15-20 minutes or until heated through.
6. Eat and enjoy.

Items For Sale

**2 CHURCH PEWS FOR SALE
SUTTERTON METHODIST CHURCH
ANY OFFER CONSIDERED**

**IT IS THE RESPONSIBILITY OF THE BUYER TO TAKE AWAY
THE PEW(S).**

**PLEASE CONTACT JANICE (01775 820524), OR ROSEMARY
(01205 460902) OR SUE (01205 460651) TO ARRANGE VIEWING**

Important Notice Avian Influenza (Bird Flu) Case near Donington

Attention Resident:

A confirmed case of Avian Influenza has occurred at a premise near Donington.

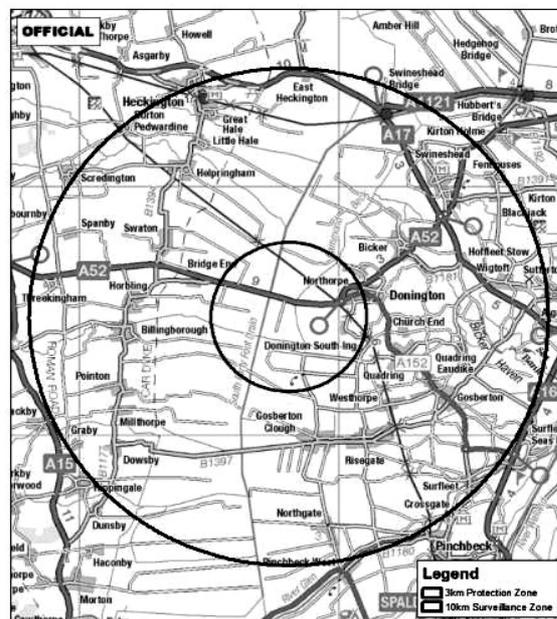


The Government has declared:
3 km radius Protection Zone (PZ)
10 km radius Surveillance Zone (SZ)

The risk to public health from the virus is very low, however it is important that people don't pick up sick or dead birds.

APHA staff may contact known poultry/captive bird owners within the next few days to gather further information. This information will help veterinary staff to assess the risk of Avian Influenza spread. APHA veterinary staff may need to carry out an inspection of your birds to assess their health.

Please be reassured there is no automatic culling policy for Avian Influenza outbreaks. Birds will only be culled if Avian Influenza is confirmed in the flock following laboratory testing of samples, or if a veterinary risk assessment indicates a strong likelihood of significant links to an infected premise.



Compulsory registration of poultry and captive birds with APHA has been required since 1st October 2024.

If you keep poultry or captive birds and have not registered you must do so now using one of the following options:

Online Form: www.gov.uk/government/collections/register-as-a-bird-keeper

Telephone: 03000 200 301 – (lines are open 8:30am to 5:00pm Monday to Friday)

Special Measures

If you have poultry or other birds at your premises, you must adhere to the conditions and movement restrictions within the Protection Zone. Heightened biosecurity measures have been put in place to protect your birds from disease and prevent its spread. All poultry and captive birds must be housed, and licences are required for movements to and from premises in both the SZ and PZ. Further information on the current Avian Influenza restrictions and controls which apply in the area can be found on the government website. <https://www.gov.uk/government/news/bird-flu-avian-influenza-latest-situation-in-england>

Signs of Avian Influenza

If your birds become ill, **consult your vet immediately**. Avian Influenza spreads through direct contact or contaminated fluids and faeces. Symptoms in poultry include:

- Swollen head and blue discolouration of the neck and throat
- Loss of appetite and diarrhoea
- Respiratory distress (gaping beak, coughing, sneezing, gurgling, rattling)
- Reduced egg production and increased mortality

By law, if you or your vet suspects that kept birds are showing any signs of disease it must be immediately reported to APHA by telephoning 03000 200 301.

Wild Birds

If the birds are wild, no action is required. However, you can assist by reporting dead wild waterfowl (swans, geese, ducks) or other wild birds (gulls, birds of prey) to the Defra helpline on **03459 335 577**.

Wigtoft Parish Council

PHONE: 07473 061278

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

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

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

Present: Cllr S Baxter; Cllr B Leggott; Cllr S Smith and Cllr S Brigham. Also present: County Councillor Paul Lock. Borough Councillor James Cantwell and 1 member of the public.

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 Cllrs Mills, Collingwood and Redhead. It was resolved to accept their apologies and reasons for absence.

Financial matters: To resolve to accept the accounts for payment for August and September 2025, to be checked and signed by two Councillors at this meeting. Clerk to present budget figures for the year to date. Bank balance £14098.13 as at 30.9.25. To receive the bank reconciliation for the period 1.4.25 to 30.6.25 from Cllr Collingwood.

The accounts for payment were checked against the invoices to the list, confirmed as correct and for August, signed by Cllrs Baxter and Leggott, and for September 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 £14098.13. It was resolved to accept the bank reconciliation for 1.4.25 to 30.6.25 which had been checked and signed off as correct by Cllr Collingwood. The clerk confirmed to Councillors that confirmation of receipt of the Audit Declaration of Exempt status was received by email on the 5.8.25. The deadline for submission was 30.6.25. The clerk confirmed that the document was submitted on the 28.5.25 and, after chasing twice, an email confirmation was received on the 17.6.25.

Date	Details of Payment	Amount ex vat	Vat reclaimable	VAT not reclaimable
15.8.25	Pay	291.20		
15.8.25	PAYE	72.80		
3108.25	Payroll services	18.00		
15.8.25	Clerk use of home as office	35.00		
10.7.25	Monthly bank charges	4.25		
12.8.25	Mobile phone monthly plan	6.00		
2.8.25	Printer Ink	11.24	2.25	
31.8.25	Printer Ink	11.24	2.25	
		449.73	4.50	
RECEIPTS				
TOTAL		0.00		

Date	Details of Payment	Amount ex vat	Vat reclaimable	VAT not reclaimable
15.9.25	Pay	291.20		
15.9.25	PAYE	72.80		
30.9.25	Payroll services	18.00		
15.9.25	Clerk use of home as office	35.00		
11.8.25	Monthly bank charges	4.25		
12.9.25	Mobile phone monthly plan	6.00		
1.9.25	Grass cutting	915.00	183.00	
9.9.25	New goal nets for the playing field	190.00	38.00	
TOTAL		1532.25	221.00	
RECEIPTS	Precept from Boston Borough Council for 1.10.25 to 31.3.25	6,896.00		
TOTAL		6896.00		

Planning: To confirm the response to the planning application to determine if prior approval is required for proposed Change of Use of Buildings on Agricultural Units and former Agricultural Buildings to Dwelling Houses (class C3), which may include extension of the building and/or building operations reasonably necessary for the conversion at Off Spion Kop Lane, Wigtoft, Boston PE20 2PH, submitted to the planning authority following consultation with Councillors by email in line with Standing Order 15b xviii.

It was resolved to confirm the comments submitted detailed below.

The Parish Council objects to the application on the grounds that there is insufficient evidence provided to demonstrate that the building was used solely for agricultural purposes as part of an established agricultural unit on or before 20 March 2013, as required under Class Q of the Town and Country Planning (General Permitted Development) Order 2015 (as amended).

We formally request that the Local Planning Authority require the applicant to provide documentary evidence to support the lawful agricultural use of the building during the relevant time period.

In the absence of this information, we submit that the building is ineligible for development under Class Q and that the application for prior approval should be refused or declared invalid.

In addition to the above objection, the Parish Council's further comments are:

1. The application is being made about a building that is still the same size as when it was refused previously on 1.4.25. It seems that this is just a way to avoid applying for planning permission.
2. Re access, Spion Kop Lane not a Public Right of Way but there are easements over the road for residents. While there will not be any mention of access within this application, it is a concern to the Parish Council. LCC Highways have confirmed that they do not maintain this access road. Track was originally used to give access to the fields.
3. Comments received from residents previously sent to you still stand.

Councillors' Reports: none.

Borough and County Councillor's reports.

County Councillor P Lock - if you have any concerns over Lincolnshire Local Government reorganisation, please let me know. I recently met with the Highways Area Manager for a drive around the local area. Please raise any concerns about Highways that you have.

Borough Councillor J Cantwell - Cllr Mills recently attended the last meeting of the 5 villages Emergency Group and completed the risk walk around the village. Lincs Police advise that they have had to dip into their monetary reserves to avoid mass layoffs. Borough Cllr David Brown and I have already allocated £1700 from our pot of money from the Councillor Grant Scheme. LCC have their proposal ready to submit regarding the Local Government Reorganisation. A resident contacted me about the selling of goldfish. Boston Borough Council's policy on this matter has been clarified.

Clerk's report

Clerk's hours worked - update 24.9.25. 1.5 hours carried forward from 15.9.25. 16.9.25 to date 11.75. Base hours 18.75 per month. Extra hours worked last week preparing grant application which was submitted on the 21.9.25.

National Grid – trees in playing field. I chased a reply and someone rang me. They couldn't tell me when they would let us have the information and I have heard no more. I will chase it again. Fix My Street report about flooding in the lay by on the A17 heading towards King's Lynn – confirmation received and work ordered.

The information about the Parcel Locker scheme was forwarded to the Village Hall Committee. I have been advised that they are not going ahead with this.

I have not received confirmation of receipt of the grant monies sent to the Village Hall Committee, the Newsletter and the PCC, despite asking for it. This is needed for an audit trail which can be checked by the internal and/or external auditor. Advice re action needed.

The gov.uk email domain and email addresses – I have filled in the online request form and received confirmation that Cloud Next have set this up and government confirmation received. Next step is to set up email addresses.

Could I have an update on the goal nets? **Response – Cllr Leggott said the nets are with Cllr Collingwood. He will make contact about installing them.**

To review the Play Area inspection undertaken by Cllr Mills in September

The clerk had circulated the report to the Councillors prior to the meeting. Items noted were algae on seat; mole hills; hole in perimeter fence and collapse of the edge of the footpath in front of the chicken huts. **ACTION: Clerk to contact pest control about mole hills, other items to be reviewed during the next monthly check.**

To approve an addition to the Standing Orders 15b, xviii to delegate power to the Clerk/Proper Officer to respond to planning applications (after consultation of Councillors by email) if the matter cannot be dealt with by at a full council meeting to meet any deadline given by the Local Authority Planning Department.

It was resolved to adopt the addition. **ACTION: Clerk to update website.**

To approve an addition to the Financial Regulations 6.8 i to iv, to add point v as below to the clerk's existing delegated powers "within i to v in this section, the RFO shall advise Councillors where possible by email of the proposed spend and request their approval".

It was resolved to adopt the addition. **ACTION: Clerk to update website.**

Meeting closed at 20:12. Next meeting is on the 3.11.25 at 19.00 at the Village Hall.

WIGTOFT PARISH COUNCIL

PHONE: 07473 061278

EMAIL: clerk@wigtoft-pc.gov.uk

WEBSITE: wigtoft.parish.lincolnshire.gov.uk

CHAIRMAN: Councillor Ian Mills

CLERK: Ann Fletcher

DATES FOR THE MEETINGS OF WIGTOFT PARISH COUNCIL JANUARY TO MAY 2026

Monday 19th January 2026, 7pm

There is no meeting in February

Monday 2nd March 2026, 7pm (This meeting follows the Annual Parish Meeting at 6.30 pm)

Monday 13th April 2026, 7.30pm

Monday 11th May 2026, 7.30pm (This meeting includes the Annual Parish Council meeting.)

Wigtoft Parish Council

PHONE: 07473 061278

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

MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF WIGTOFT PARISH COUNCIL HELD ON the 3rd of November 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 S Brigham and Cllr K Redhead. Also present: County Councillor Paul Lock. Borough Councillor James Cantwell and 1 member of the public.

Public Forum – none. (The Public Forum does not form part of the meeting of the Parish Council)

Chairperson's remarks – Thanks to Cllr Baxter for chairing the meeting in my absence at the last meeting.

To receive apologies and reasons for absence – apologies and reasons for absence were received from Cllr Collingwood. It was resolved to accept his apology and reason for absence. **092/25 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 October 2025, to be checked and signed by two Councillors at this meeting. Clerk to present budget figures for the year to date. Bank balance £13185.90 as at 28.10.25. To hand the bank reconciliation to Cllr Brigham for checking.

The accounts for payment for October were checked against the invoices to the list, confirmed as correct and signed by Cllrs Redhead and Leggott. 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 £13185.90. The bank reconciliation was handed to Cllr Brigham for checking.

<u>Date</u>	Details of Payment	Amount ex vat	Vat reclaimable
15.10.25	Pay	291.20	
15.10.25	PAYE	72.80	
31.10.25	Payroll services	18.00	
15.10.25	Clerk use of home as office	35.00	
.10.9.25	Monthly bank charges	4.25	
12.10.25	Mobile phone monthly plan	6.00	
23.10.25	Grass cutting	430.00	86.00
14.10.25	Annual cut of meadow in Wildlife Garden	95.00	19.00
8.10.25	Tree removal/part tree removal in Playing Field	950.00	190.00
30.9.25	HP Instant Ink	11.24	2.25
27.9.25	Work in playing field -remove excess soil near toddler area fence and relocate to the top of the slides. Apply Wet and Forget algae treatment, remove excess turf from entry to park.	200.00	
TOTAL		2113.49	297.25
RECEIPTS			
27.10.25	Land rent	460.00	
24.10.25	VAT refund	322.51	
TOTAL		782.51	

Planning

B/25/0415. Proposed Entrance Pod at Intergreen House, Workshop, Hoffleet Road, Hoffleet Stow. PE20 3AG.

Following a discussion, it was resolved unanimously that there were no comments to submit to the planning department. **ACTION: Clerk to advise Planning.**

Councillors' Reports:

Cllr Redhead – asked what the outcome was about which trees on the Playing Field the National Grid are responsible for. See clerks report on these minutes for information.

Cllr Brigham - the road surface along Asperton Road is in a dreadful state. Clerk to report on Fix my Street once photos received from Cllr Brigham.

Cllr Mills – I will take some photos of the footpath in front of the chicken farm and send to the clerk who will report on Fix My Street. It would be ideal if one or more residents from the village would take on the volunteer role as part of the Five Villages Emergency Group. Cllr Cantwell will send posters and leaflets to the clerk. Once received, the clerk will add this request to the Wigtoft Newsletter, Noticeboard, website and Facebook page.

Borough and County Councillor's reports. County Councillor P Lock -no report.

Borough Councillor J Cantwell – The Councillor grant fund is still open to applications; At my recent surgery in Wigtoft, a resident raised 2 points. A) the state of the building site on Asperton Road and B) cars are parking across the dropped kerb near the letter box which is illegal. Another resident reported the green moss and sludge outside the Old Vicarage. Cllr Cantwell referred building site issue and the green moss and sludge to Boston Borough Council. Cllr Cantwell advised he has been appointed Vice Chair to the Audit and Government Commission. He will be donating his payment for this service to Scott House and Senior Citizen lunches in his ward. The Resilience Forum committee for the 5 villages ward is going well At a recent meeting with the Police, I was advised that there is going to be some Community initiatives to gain feedback for what residents feel is needed in their locality.

Clerk's report

VAT return sent with refund claim for £322.51 which was received into the bank account on 24.10.25

The grass cutting contractor advised me that there were several moles in the playing field. They say there has been mole activity regularly in the playing field over the summer but this is the first time they have reported it. Cllr Mills identified the same problem in his playing field inspection in September. I have contacted our Pest Control company who will action.

The Wicksteed playing field annual inspection has been ordered.

The new Health and Safety and Safeguarding policies are now on the website. I have sent them to Lincs Community Foundation to confirm the action detailed in the funding application for new fitness equipment.

I have received confirmation of receipt of donations given to the PCC and the Village Hall Committee. To date, I have not received confirmation from the Newsletter yet.

The work on the trees in the playing field has been completed.

The gov.uk email domain and email addresses – I have set up the email address for the Parish Council/ clerk. It is clerk@wigtoft-pc.gov.uk. The Councillors emails addresses are set up and the relevant information will be passed on in due course.

Could I have an update on the goal nets please? Cllr Leggott – no change. Clerk will email Cllr Collingwood.

National Grid – trees in playing field. I chased a reply and someone rang me. They couldn't tell me when they would let us have the information and I have heard no more. I will chase it again. No further contact has been made. I will chase it again.

To review the Play Area inspection undertaken by Cllr Smith in October and decide if any actions are needed. Cllr Baxter to undertake the next inspection.

Cllr Smith advise Council of the following – algae on seat on grass, needs washing down; handle on small embankment slide wobbles but is secure; the roundabout is ok but the wetpour is lifting; 5 a side goal posts could do with a wash; operator sign needs a wash; small hole in fence ; molehills.

ACTION: Cllrs Smith and Brigham offered to wash the sign, goalposts and seat. Clerk to report mole hills to contractor, Hole in fence will be kept under review.

To ratify the agreement to spend £950 + vat to remove a fallen tree and a diseased tree in the playing field resolved by a majority by email in line with Financial Regulation 6.8 (v).

It was resolved to ratify this agreement.

To ratify the agreement to spend £150 + vat to order the Annual Playing Field Inspection from Wicksteed Leisure resolve by a majority by email in line with Financial regulation 6.8 (v).

It was resolved to ratify this agreement.

To ratify the agreement to spend £95 to order the cutting of the grass in the Wildlife Area resolved by a majority by email in line with Financial regulation 6.8 (v).

It was resolved to ratify this agreement.

To agree a spend of £103.50 for the internal audit cost for the financial year 25 – 26.

It was unanimously resolved to agree the above spend.

Meeting closed at 19:35. Next meeting is on the 1.12.25 at 19.00 at the Village Hall.

Who's Knocking on Your Door?

In 2024/25 over 80 reports of doorstep fraud were received by Lincolnshire Trading Standards. Often this involves pretending to be someone official with a legitimate reason to enter our homes.

Criminals may knock on our doors and mention an important matter, such as gas or water to gain entry to your property or ask for your personal information. Genuine companies do sometimes operate door-to-door. They will often ring or email you to let you know when they are coming.

If you are unsure about who is knocking at your door, ask for ID/proof of who they are and who they work for. Find their telephone number yourself (don't use their ID card) and ring the organisation to check. And if you are still unsure, you can ask them to leave and do some research.

If you do experience doorstep fraud you can report it to Lincolnshire Police, call 101 or visit Action Fraud.

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Your village magazine would love to receive any letters, article or views on anything pertaining to the village of Wigtoft and surrounding area. We are happy to print your thoughts. Also, if you have any spare time to help distribute the newsletter we would be very happy to hear from you.

If you have any items that you would like to advertise for sale or to give away, or if there are any items or help around the home you are looking for you can advertise or free in the magazine.

Call 01205 461171 or email wigtoftnewsletter@gmail.com

WIGTOFT NEWS AND VIEWS NEWSLETTER

The Wigtoft News and Views team are:

Karen Fosdick, Sally Smith Virna Atkinson, John Craggs

The Newsletter is always very grateful for any contribution towards the running cost of printing the magazine.

Advertisements are accepted for inclusion based on annual charges. The Rates for which are:

Half Page ...£80 Quarter Page...£50 Eighth Page...£25

For contributions, news, views and advertisements please email: Wigtoftnewsletter@gmail.com or call 01205 461171

Deadlines for adverts, letters to the editor and event information is the 12th of the month prior to publication

(unfortunately anything received after this date will not go into the Newsletter)

If you would like to get involved with helping with the Wigtoft Village newsletter in any way please contact one of the Newsletter Team, or email wigtoftnewsletter@gmail.com. Your help would be appreciated.

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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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