



WELLINGTON PARISH COUNCIL

**Regular Meeting of the Parish Council held at 7.30pm
on Thursday 11th September 2025 in the Community Centre**

ITEM		ACTION
	Present	
	Parish Councillors:	
	Cllr. C Williams (Chair), Cllr Crane, Cllr. S Marron, Cllr. K Parker and Cllr. B Prince	
	Also in attendance:	
	Emyr Saer (Parish Clerk) and 10 members of the public including, Jen Jarrett (CLP), Viv Quinn (Wildlife Group) and Shirley Edgar (Green Group)	
1.0	To accept apologies for absence:	
	Cllr. A Churcher and Ward Cllr Pauline Crockett	
2.0	To Receive Declarations of Interest:	
	Cllr Williams declared a family connection with planning application 252287 but he has no pecuniary interest/benefit in the application.	
2.1	To Consider Written Requests for Dispensations:	
	There were no requests for dispensation	
3.0	To Adopt the Minutes of the Regular Meeting of the Parish Council held on Thursday 3rd July 2025	
	Resolved: The Minutes were confirmed and signed by the Chair.	
4.0	Receive reports	
4.1	Ward Cllr Pauline Crockett	
	Apologies received and no report.	
4.2	Update from Local Policing Team:	
	Officer confirmed nothing to report	
	Update on charter: Cllr. Prince requested the addition of 'poaching' following recent discovery of deer carcasses with just the prime joints taken with remains left to rot. Duly completed and returned to Community Policing	
5.0	Communications and Updates:	
	None	
6.0	Open Time – to Note Matters Raised by Residents Relevant to the Parish:	
	Fred Plum asked for an update on The Wellington and councillors advised they had no update to provide but would when information was available.	

7.0	Financial Matters:																																																
7.1	To Receive a Report from the RFO:																																																
	Treasurer's Account £20,255.21 Parish Council Instant Access £64,144.67 Income since the July Meeting Shop Rent - £1,400; Wayleave payment - £3.55; VAT - £12,600.51; S106 - £50,873																																																
7.2	To Approve Invoices Paid Since July Meeting:																																																
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	Resolved: All Payments Noted and Approved.			Clerk																																													
7.3	To Agree Payments of Outstanding Invoices:																																																
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7.4	Councillors to randomly review accounts																																																
	Clerk noted to the meeting that under current guidelines, at least two councillors should undertake a random review of the accounting records during the year at suitable intervals. It was resolved that: Councillor Williams would contact RFO to undertake such a review soon.			CW																																													
8.0	To Consider Planning Matters:																																																
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The PC has no objection to application 252545 per se subject to the requirement that the new use can be carried out in a residential area without detriment to its amenity. The PC has some concern regarding any proposed use which would result in increased traffic or heavier vehicles along the access using Buskwood Road. Given the two applications in rapid succession, the PC would find it useful for the applicant to provide a design statement about the intended new use of this and the other buildings to enable any concerns to be identified and addressed as early as possible. </td></tr></table>	Reference Number	Application	251942	Queenswood View, Bridge Lane. HR4 8AY. Works to Trees in a Conservation Area. Silver birch (1). Apple tree next to the garage (2). Apple tree next to the greenhouse (3) - all to be felled.		Tree works, approved by Tree Warden	252037	Woonton Farm, Wellington. HR4 8BE. 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	Update re Dursley Cottage wall																																					
	The installation of the rocks roadside has been noted and it is believed this is not lawful as the issue has been raised in the past at another property. Resolved: Cllr Prince to seek advice from Phil Pankhurst and report back.			BP																																		

9.0	To Consider Highway Matters:	
9.1	A49 issues:	
	Cllr. Churcher not present	
	Road Closure for C1121:	
	No further forward, Cllr. Marron apologised as has been engaged with other matters.	
	Community Speedwatch:	
	Nothing further to report at present.	
	To review any other Highway Issues	
	A49 junction as above.	
9.2	Update Drainage Grant Works:	
	Grant application ready to submit for 2025/2026, similar works as last year, to include village street cleaning.	Clerk
9.3	Identification of Work to be Carried out and any other Updates:	
	Vinery Corner to Canon Pyon Road raised again and Cllr Prince to speak with Phil Pankhurst again. Drain is now blocked again and water causing more erosion.	
	To seek an update from Ward Cllr Crockett next time on resurfacing of 'North Road' from Mill Lane turning to Upper Derndale as road was closed but no apparent work done.	
10.0	Report on Footpaths	
10.1	Update on Footpath Maintenance:	
	Maintenance is ongoing. Now hedge cutting is in progress, further reviews will be undertaken. Resident has completed work adjacent to Bridge Lane path and left timber with exposed nails. Cllr Crane to attend.	
10.2	Update on Dingle	
	Cllr Crane comments: If you're not aware, Herefordshire Council, despite our objections, site meetings, conversations, basically went through and decimated the lane, cut down a whole load of trees, they cleared away a lot of debris which was helping the control of water and just basically it causes some major problems. I will approach local residents to provide photographic evidence of the water issues when the next heavy rains arrive. I'll explain a little bit why I'm taking this approach. Basically, I'm not doing anything proactive, other than having conversations with Ward Cllr Crockett, because it is the responsibility of the council. If we start to get involved, it becomes our responsibility. My view is that we do not touch it at the moment. All that damage has been done by Herefordshire Council and the responsibility, if anything should happen as a result of that work, sits with the Herefordshire Council. Further update next meeting.	

11.0	Flooding Issues	
11.1	Update Flood Group:	
	Cllr Williams: I'm going to mention it, the issue of flooding. Our flood, I'd like to say, guru, she's not in the room. Jenny Gowan, who's been very helpful, certainly for me, has got a lot of knowledge, an awful lot of maps. I think she's got rather frustrated, it appears. Whatever we try to do, there doesn't seem to be any support from the council. Andy Churcher is going to take it up. We had a meeting on Monday, me and Andy, because at least we can meet up and talk to each other. We are going to look at putting together a package that possibly parishioners may be able to access to protect their own property, because that seems to be the only thing that we can come up with present. There doesn't seem to be anything from any of the organisations to do anything major to the brook. I think Andy was also going to look into the fact that there's quite a bit of gravel building up under the culvert on the main road. I need to chase it up to see if he's had any luck with that. But dealing with Hereford Council, as I say, I've dealt with Henry Snell as well, and it just takes forever. So that's where we're at the flooding. I need to go back down to the marsh because there's a ditch that's supposed to be trimmed up. Although, again, I rather think once that's full, it's going to run up the marsh. Cllr Prince: And I believe there may be a drain block down the back, which should have been done last time, if I remember rightly. That might be worth, Colin, a catchup meeting, and ask them what happened with reference the drain, because what they do now, if it's been missed, they must issue another job number, because if it's a job that's been missed, after so long, it's crossed off, off the list. So, it might be worth chasing. Henry Snell of HC was going to contact Colbatch Clark direct re the flood water coming directly across from the fields – nothing done. Question from floor re drain at Vinery Corner, which Cllr Prince confirmed has been repaired but the drain is now blocked again. Drains under road at The Mill – again,	
12.0	Community Led Planning Group:	
12.1	Update on Projects and Activities	
	Nothing to report other than normal activities continue. JJ suggested an annual report and will prepare for Nov meeting. JJ expressed her thanks to both Viv Quinn and Shirley Edgar	
12.2	Report from Green Team:	
	Shirley Edgar comments: Green Team has been asked to, and other wildlife members, have been asked to support Dick Makin's drainage relief scheme up at Wellington Marsh because of the extreme heat this year when the trees were put in, and the majority have died. So, the plan is to try and replace them. We are looking at that, but I would rather like to see some measure for providing water to them There are grants available from refuse collectors for drought alleviation projects – Cllr Crane to send on details.	
12.3	Report from Wildlife Group	
	As above	
12.4	To approve any expenditure	
	None requested this month	

13.0	Community Hub:	
13.1	To Consider any Other Issues or Expenditure:	
	Russell Appleton has 'flagged' need for Legionella risk assessment review. Resolved: Seek quotation and carry out review.	Clerk
13.2	Review parish room opening times:	
	From Jennifer Jarrett: USE OF PARISH ROOM I would like to ask the Parish Council to reopen and investigate further the decision to lock the Parish Room at 7pm. The Parish Room is part of the premises leased to the shop and post office but sits as a separate entity for use by Parishioners as a meeting room. It provides a secure, safe and private environment It can accommodate up to 10 with kitchen facilities and the thanks to the PC, use of its own Wi-fi. Alternative locations such as the Social Club, Church, WCA Hall or private homes do not provide this environment. My concern is that not enough is known of the effect of the evening closure on who uses it, or who could or would use the Parish Room. I would ask that the Parish Council review the decision by 1. Looking at previous and current usage 2. Discuss the closure with other clubs and committees. and ascertain if there is a need to use the Parish Room in the evenings. 3, If after these discussions it is found that there is a need for the Parish Room investigation should be undertaken looking at ways to maintain the integrity of existing security system 4. Report back to PC to either accept or amend the original decision to close the Parish Room to Parishioners after 7pm Jennifer Jarrett Wellington Implementation Team. (Well imps) Resolved: JJ to undertake the analysis of usage to determine if there is a need for later opening. If there is, PC will investigate possible solutions to security and locking up.	
14.0	To Note the Information Sheet (September 2025) and any other updates:	
14.1	Update from Paul Nicholas, Chair WCA, on Play Area:	
	I think I'm pleased to say that this is probably the last ever update on the play area project. Because the good news of course is that it's there, it's finished. The second sign up the other day, the bins are in place and we look forward on Saturday, and you're all invited, to the official celebratory opening. So hopefully you can come along 2 o'clock on Saturday. So that's basically the update on it. In terms of how we got here and everything, I mean, it's been a very, very long story, longer than some of us have maybe been alive! But more recently, in earlier on this year, the parish council were approached regarding yourselves a sustainable project to access Section 106 money, which has been mentioned earlier. And without that contribution, without that involvement with Parish Council, we might not have got across the line. So, a huge thank you on my behalf, on behalf of the WCA and hopefully on behalf of the community who uses for that. And the other thing, within my 5 minutes, is we talked about the Section 106 money and when the claim was put in for the money, which I think was processed, a bit of positivity about Herefordshire Council, they processed the claim incredibly quickly with no problems. All the money that was in the pot, you've had it all. And I think now, they've given you £1,695.84 more than you actually needed because they didn't want any monies hanging around.	

	So that money now, I think, is in your coffers, so I would make a plea because the money is for, quote, offsite play and open space facilities. But rather than you sitting on it, what I would like, if possible, is to transfer that money across to the WCA pot and then we can use it going forward for that thorny issue, which has been discussed quite a few times, of ongoing maintenance, etc. We would use it for purposes the 106 money was intended. Resolved: The money to be held for WCA until they identify a further purchase and PC to initiate that purchase, reclaim VAT (within remit) and gift the new purchase to WCA. Paul Nicholas to liaise with Clerk re the transfer of all obligations on equipment to WCA	Clerk
15.0	To Raise Issues for the Regular Meeting of the Parish Council (no discussion).	
	Shop rent review.	
16.0	To Note Date and Time of the Regular Meeting of the Parish Council:	
	Thursday 2 nd October 2025 at 7.30pm in the Community Centre	Clerk
	The meeting ended at 21:03	
	 Signed (Councillor Williams): Chair, Wellington Parish Council 2nd October 2025	