

Wynyard Parish Council

Minutes of a meeting of the Parish Council held in Wynyard Church of England Primary School, on Tuesday, 17th March, 2026

Present	Cllr Robin Woolley	Cllr George Arizmendi	Cllr Val Bailey
	Cllr Valda Goodfellow	Cllr Tony Taylor	
			Barry Flux (Clerk)
Apologies	None		
Attendance	10 members of the public		

Public questions / speaking

The public waited to raise points on specific agenda items.

Agenda Item

APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

It was noted that Councillor Andrew Dennis has resigned from the Parish Council. The vacancy has been duly advertised in accordance with statutory requirements and had been displayed on the noticeboard and Parish Council website.

DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

None

HOUSEHOLD WASTE PRESENTATION

Michael Naylor, Resident Engagement Officer from Stockton Borough Council delivered a presentation on upcoming changes to waste and recycling services.

Mr Naylor explained that new government legislation, known as "Simple Recycling," will come into effect from 31st March 2026. This legislation requires local authorities to introduce weekly food waste collections and to separate paper and card from other recyclable materials.

Under the new system, residents will be required to separate recycling into distinct streams. Paper and cardboard will be placed in existing white bags, while plastics, metals, and cartons will be placed in new blue bags. Glass recycling arrangements will remain unchanged using the existing blue box, which can also be used for battery recycling.

A weekly food waste collection service will be introduced. Residents have been provided with caddies and liners for the disposal of food waste, including both raw and cooked items. Mr Naylor explained that collected food waste will be processed via anaerobic digestion to produce energy, which is fed into the national grid.

It was confirmed that recycling collections will move to a weekly schedule, while general waste and garden waste collections will become fortnightly.

Mr Naylor also outlined additional recycling provisions, including the collection of small electrical items and textiles at the kerbside.

Signed

Date:

Members raised a number of concerns and questions during the presentation. These included issues relating to the potential for increased vermin due to food waste storage, the durability and sealing of the food waste containers, and the impact of weather conditions on lightweight recycling receptacles. Concerns were also raised regarding the accessibility of information for residents without access to smartphones or the internet.

Questions were asked regarding missed deliveries of brown bins by some residents who had already paid for the service. Mr Naylor requested that specific addresses be provided so that these cases could be investigated.

Clarification was also sought on acceptable materials for recycling, including confirmation that all teabags can be included in food waste collections, and guidance on what materials should be placed in general waste.

Mr Naylor confirmed that participation in food waste recycling is not mandatory for residents, although councils are required to provide the service. He also agreed to provide further information regarding vehicle specifications and to supply documentation relating to consultation undertaken prior to the implementation of the scheme.

It was requested that a copy of the consultation plan / statement of community involvement be provided.

WARD COUNCILLORS' UPDATE

The council has already begun work on street lights extending beyond the village area. An updated list of outstanding locations is still required and will be circulated shortly. One specific issue was raised regarding where access is difficult due to a narrow pathway. Standard vehicles such as cherry pickers cannot reach the site, meaning specialist equipment like a scissor lift will be needed, which may delay completion.

Residents continue to report concerns about potholes. A previously reported issue raised by a resident concerning bus damage to roads has now been resolved following intervention. Residents were reminded to report ongoing concerns through the appropriate website channels.

There are also ongoing concerns about road safety, particularly relating to large lorries travelling through residential areas such as Wynyard. These vehicles are causing disruption, and in some cases, drivers are forced to move into oncoming lanes to avoid them. Speed enforcement activity has been observed in the area, although visibility and unfamiliarity with the roads continue to present risks, especially where potholes are present.

MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETING

Minutes of the meeting held on 17th February 2026 were approved as a true record.

PLANNING

A potential large-scale development has been informally identified in pre-planning stages. The proposal, reportedly linked to land between Wynyard Park and Sedgfield, could involve up to 3,500 new homes. At present, no formal application has been submitted, and no reference number is available, meaning details remain subject to change.

Initial enquiries with local authorities suggest that no official plans have yet been received. The land in question appears to fall across multiple jurisdictions, including Hartlepool and County Durham, meaning any future application would likely involve multiple planning committees.

Signed

Date:

Members expressed concern about the scale of development, particularly in relation to existing infrastructure such as schools and transport. It was agreed that the council will monitor the situation closely and respond formally if and when a consultation process begins.

CHAIRS REPORT / ACTIONS

Potholes and Bus Route Issues

The Chair reported significant concerns regarding potholes, particularly affecting a resident at the eastern end of Wynyard. The issue had been exacerbated by the bus route, with vibrations from passing buses causing severe disturbance, including structural impacts on nearby properties such as internal doors no longer closing properly.

It was noted that following complaints, Stockton Borough Council had carried out repairs to the affected stretch of road. The resident intends to distribute leaflets locally to identify whether others are experiencing similar issues.

The Chair further reported that, following a review of the wider bus route, potholes appear to be significantly worse along these routes. It was suggested that the increased weight of electric buses may be contributing to accelerated road deterioration, with similar issues reported in other areas such as Billingham.

Wynyard Park Liaison

The Chair confirmed that, following engagement with Wynyard Parish (Hartlepool) the parish council has been invited to attend periodic meetings with Wynyard Park representatives.

It was proposed and agreed that Cllr Arizmendi attend these meetings on behalf of the council, given his local knowledge and residency within Wynyard Park.

Public Right of Way (Woodland Area)

The Chair reported that Stockton Borough Council has now responded regarding the public right of way through the woodland area. A site visit has been completed, and works will be undertaken to clear and maintain the route to ensure public accessibility.

Bellway Communication Issues

The Chair reported ongoing concerns regarding a lack of communication from Bellway. Following correspondence in December, which was intended to identify final actions prior to adoption, no further updates have been received.

Despite attempts to re-engage, including offers of funding for certain works, no response has been forthcoming.

It was resolved that the matter be escalated to Bellway's regional head office.

Signed

Date:

CLERK'S REPORT

Financial report

The clerk presented a list of financial transactions.

gov.uk email and website

Approval was requested and granted to proceed with setting up a .gov.uk email and website domain, including associated annual and administrative costs.

Internal Auditor appointment

The parish council agreed to appoint Gordon Fletcher as Internal Auditor

Clerks training / qualification

The Clerk also outlined plans to undertake further professional training through the CILCA qualification. The total cost is approximately £800, with this council contributing 50% (£400), shared proportionally with other councils. Approval was given to proceed.

Defib

An update was provided on defibrillators in the area. One unit has had finally had its battery successfully replaced, while delays in sourcing a second replacement were noted due to supplier issues.

EDUCATION IN WYNYARD

It was noted that a formal response to the appeal consultation was still awaited.

YOUTH COUNCIL UPDATE

It was confirmed Cllr Bailey had contacted young people who had previously expressed an interest and she awaited any final response before deciding how to proceed.

ASSETS

1. A formal request had been made by Wynyard Residents Association (WRA) to take over possession, management and control of the Book Hut. It was agreed to transfer this to WRA.

NEXT MEETING

The date and time of the next meeting was agreed as Tuesday 21st April 2026 at 6:30pm.

EXCLUSION OF THE PUBLIC: The Council may at any point pass a resolution that under the Public Bodies (Admission to Meetings) Act 1960, the public and the press shall be excluded from the meeting during consideration of any item of business if publicity would be prejudicial to the public interest due to the confidential nature of the business to be transacted, e.g. employment matters; terms of commercial tenders and negotiations for contracts; and legal proceedings preparation or advice.

Signed

Date: