

Minutes of the Annual Meeting of Wadsworth Parish Council
7.00pm Hebden Bridge Town Hall 27 May 2025

1 ANNUAL MEETING SPECIFIC BUSINESS

a) Appointment of Chairman for the year 2025-26

Resolved: that:

- i) the Chairman for the year 2025-26 be Cllr Kimber.
- ii) Cllr Kimber agreed to sign the declaration of acceptance of office and be guided by the national code of local government conduct in the performance of his functions in that office.

At this point it was agreed that the agenda would be rearranged so that local consultant firm Field

Locker, who carried out the windfarm survey, could present a summary of the survey findings.

It was reported that the survey was distributed directly to over 85% of parish households.

Within Wadsworth the response rate was over 28%, this being much higher than the average response rate for such surveys. The results showed that 99% of respondents were aware of the windfarm proposal and that 92% of respondents were against the proposal. Eight out of ten respondents citing flooding and habitat concerns.

Several questions were then asked by Cllrs.

b) Apologies and reasons for absence

In attendance: Cllrs Kimber (Chair), Delahoy, Fowler, McKelvey, Salt and Walsh.

Apologies for absence: Cllr Heyworth

c) Members interests: None

d) Appointment of vice chair for the year 2025-2026

Resolved: that Cllr McKelvey be appointed vice chair for the year 2025-26

e) To appoint a planning committee, with delegated powers for urgent situations

Resolved: that the council would call an extraordinary meeting, if appropriate, to fulfil this function.

f) To appoint a finance committee with delegated powers for urgent situations

Resolved: that the council would call an extraordinary meeting, if appropriate, to fulfil this function.

g) To appoint a staffing committee, with delegated powers, for staffing matters

Resolved that Cllrs Kimber, McKelvey and Salt be appointed.

h) Appointment of representatives on the following bodies for 2025-26

South Pennine Branch of YLCA

Resolved: to appoint Cllr McKelvey

Heptonstall Exhibition and Richard Naylor Charities

Resolved: to appoint Cllr Fowler

Wadsworth Community Association

Resolved: to appoint Cllr Walsh

Town and Parish Liaison Group

Resolved: to appoint Cllr Fowler

Hebden Bridge Old People's Welfare Group

Resolved: to appoint Cllr Fowler

Calderdale Council - Safer Cleaner Greener

Resolved: to appoint Cllr Kimber

i) Risk Management

- i) To report on the annual inspection of the council assets for 2024-25

Resolved to note the annual inspection of the council assets carried out during 2024-25 and provide a digital copy to Cllrs.

ii) Annual inspection of Carr Head

Resolved to note that ex-Cllr Stuart Bradshaw had agreed to carry out this inspection.

iii) To approve the council's corporate risk assessment for 2025-26

Resolved: to approve the council's corporate risk assessment for 2025-26 and provide a digital copy for Cllrs.

iv) Defibrillator familiarisation, inspection and training

Resolved: to note this item.

j) **To approve annual payments:**

i) Anne Newsome Books – annual payment for books for Old Town Primary School

Resolved: to approve the £100 payment for Anne Newsome Books for 2025-26

k) **Insurance review** – to note the council's insurance arrangements for 2025-26.

Resolved: to approve the council's insurance arrangements for 2025-26.

l) **Salary review** – to agree annual spinal column increment as per contract section 5.

Resolved: to agree annual spinal column increment from SPC 21 to SPC 22 as per contract section 5.

Standard Meeting Business:

2 PROCEDURAL MATTERS:

a) **Members Interests** – as per item 1c)

b) **Cllr vacancies:**

i) Currently two vacancies. Contact info@wadsworthparishcouncil.gov.uk to apply.

ii) Application to become a Cllr – local resident Patrick Corcoran

Resolved to:

i) approve the application for Patrick Corcoran to become a Cllr.

ii) carry out the relevant paperwork.

3 RESOLUTION TO RE-ORDER THE REMAINING PART OF THE AGENDA: None

4 PUBLIC DISCUSSION TIME:

A Pecket Well resident attended the meeting to express their concerns over the council's decision to remove play equipment from the Pecket Well play area, as it reaches the end of its life.

The financial reasoning behind the decision was explained, including the expense of removing play equipment, including ball park fencing, tarmac and safety surfacing. It was also reiterated that if residents were to set up a constituted group they may be able to apply for external grant funding, but that they would need to work with the council regarding equipment and plans. It was further explained that any new play equipment would need to be limited due to on-going maintenance costs which are not usually covered by grant funding.

Resolved that if the resident contacted the clerk potential funding source details could be provided.

5 APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES OF THE MEETINGS OF THE COUNCIL HELD ON:

i) 22 April 2025 Council Meeting

Resolved: to approve the minutes as a true and accurate record.

6 MATTERS ARISING FROM THE ABOVE MINUTES: None

7 LOCAL PLANS:

a) **Climate Action Plans** update:

i) Calderdale Climate Action Plan: Climate emergency update April 2025 (24.04.25)

ii) Greening Wadsworth Initiative: It was reported that the thermal imaging surveying had been paused for the summer months.

b) **Neighbourhood Plan**

It was noted that Calderdale were still encouraging the resurrection of the plan.

Resolved: to note the updates.

8 CLERK'S REPORT: All covered under existing agenda items.

9 FINANCIAL MATTERS:

a) Items for payment:

i)	Salaries/PAYE	£721.50
ii)	Employer national insurance	£45.67
iii)	Allowance and reimbursement:	
	- computer allowance	£20.83
	- home working allowance	£18.58
	- Travel	£2.70
	Total:	<u>£42.11</u>
iv)	CROWS annual grant for work in the parish	£500.00
v)	Zurich annual insurance	£436.12

b) Financial reporting

- i) Bank reconciliations and bank statements (monthly)
 - ii) To agree/note bank transfers
 - iii) Budget monitoring (quarterly)
 - iv) VAT Return (quarterly)
- c) Grants:** None received

Resolved: to approve the payments and note the reports.

10 CORRESPONDENCE:

- a) Hebden Royd Town Council:** Joint parishes meetings proposal

Resolved to note the initial meeting date and time: 7.00pm 30.06.25 HB Town Hall.

11 PLANNING:

a) New Applications:

- i) 25/00336/FUL Change of use of agricultural buildings to wellness centre
(Retrospective) - Parrock Parrock Lane Old Town Hebden Bridge HX7 8SW

Resolved that: the Council support the application.

b) Applications received after agenda issue:

- i) **25/00001/CL4BCN** Temporary campsite south of Pack Horse Pub, Widdop Rd.
Notification of temporary use.

Resolved to note the notice

- ii) **25/00386/HSE** one storey extension to rear of 2 Foot Kiln, Lane Ends, Wadsworth

Resolved that: the Council support the application.

Decisions made by Calderdale Council:

Resolved: to note the decisions.

c) Other planning matters:

- i) **23/06010/EIA** Scoping opinion. Wind farm proposal. Walshaw Moor Estate
Widdop Road Heptonstall Hebden Bridge Calderdale update

Resolved to:

- i) note the combined parishes meeting date and time: 7.30pm Wadsworth Community Centre 29.05.25
- ii) invite the Ward Cllrs to the combined parishes windfarm meeting.
- iii) complete the developer's consultation survey based on the parish councils survey results.
- iv) include agreed complaints about the developer's consultation and to cc Calderdale Planning.
- v) that based on the parish survey of local residents Wadsworth Parish Council have resolved to oppose to the Calderdale Energy Park (windfarm) application.

12 ROAD AND FOOTPATH MATTERS:

- a) Keighley Road roadworks coordination update**

Resolved to receive the update.

- b) **Proposed thank you** for the continual work carried out by the Environment Group and local Old Town residents.
Resolved to formally thank the Environment Group for their work.
- c) **Heights Road** resurfacing
Resolved to note the resurfacing works would take place for one day on the 25.06.25
- d) **Old Town Mill Lane** maintenance responsibilities
Resolved to note the update.
- e) **Congestion at Pecket Well** update
It was reported that a letter had been sent to the residents whose cars were causing the congestion and that the police were supportive but unfortunately until the road markings are changed no enforcement action can be taken.
- 13 **ALLOTMENTS, PARKING SPACES AND GARAGES:** No update.
- 14 **PLAYGROUNDS:**
- a) **Bi-weekly inspections.**
Resolved that: Cllrs Heyworth and Kimber carry out the bi-weekly inspections.
- b) **Pecket Well cradle swing** replacement quote.
Resolved not to replace the cradle swing.
- 15 **COUNCIL LAND MATTERS**
- a) **Bench and noticeboard repairs** updated quotes
Resolved to:
- i) note that the bench had now been removed.
- ii) request J Peterkin carry out the revised renovation works to the noticeboards at a cost of £351 but that the works should be completed by the end of June.
- iii) request that the bolts on the picnic benches at Old Town Green be tightened.
- b) **Proposed repositioning of bins** at Old Town Green
Resolved that this be deferred till the next meeting.
- c) **Calderdale response** – mowing at bottom of Old Town Green
Resolved to note the update.
- c) **Wadsworth Community Centre** request for use of surplus noticeboard (at Midgehole)
Resolved that the community centre could have the surplus noticeboard.
- 16 **REPRESENTATIVES AT OUTSIDE MEETINGS**
- a) Cllr Walsh reported that the Environment Group AGM took place on the 11.05.25. And that the Pecket Well Memorial Gardens had been tidied and planted.
- b) It was reported that Cllr Heyworth attended the Safer Cleaner Greener meeting.
- c) Cllr Fowler attended Old Town School Governors Meeting.
- 17 **DATE OF NEXT MEETING & APOLOGIES IN ADVANCE:** 24 June 2025. Apologies: None

Your Councillors

Cllr Jon Kimber, Chairman	jonckimber@gmail.com	01422 844914
Cllr Jean Delahoy	-	-
Cllr Alan Fowler	alanfowler1944@btinternet.com	01422 842828
Cllr Michael Heyworth	mheyworth@tiscali.co.uk	07802549376
Cllr Liz McKelvey	-	-
Cllr Johnathan Salt	-	-
Cllr Marcella Walsh	marcellawalsh81@gmail.com	-

If you would like to speak to a Councillor whose contact details are not listed, please email the Clerk at info@wadsworthparishcouncil.gov.uk.

Have you considered becoming more involved in your local community? If so, maybe you would like to become a Parish Councillor. Email: info@wadsworthparishcouncil.gov.uk for more details.