



Wetheral Parish Council Appendix A: List of Documents for Retention or Disposal

Document	Minimum Retention Period	Reason	Location Retained	Disposal
Minutes	Indefinite	Archive	Current and recent years retained at Council office in fire proof safe. Older minutes at Archive Offices.	Original signed paper copies of Council minutes of meetings must be kept indefinitely in safe storage. At regular intervals of not more than 5 years they must be archived and deposited with the County Archives.
Agendas	5 years	Management	Council office filing cabinet	Destroy (shred confidential waste)
Accident/incident reports	20 years	Potential claims	Council office filing cabinet	Confidential waste A list will be kept of those documents disposed of to meet the requirements of the GDPR regulations.
Scales of fees and charges	6 years	Management	Council office filing cabinet	Destroy
Receipt and payment accounts	Indefinite	Archive	Council office archive boxes	N/A
Receipt books of all kinds	6 years	VAT	Council office archive boxes	Destroy
Bank statements including deposit/savings accounts	Last completed audit year	Audit	Council office archive boxes	Confidential waste
Bank paying-in books	Last completed audit year	Audit	Council office archive boxes	Confidential waste

Document	Minimum Retention Period	Reason	Location Retained	Disposal
Cheque book stubs	Last completed audit year	Audit	Council office filing cabinet/archive boxes	Confidential waste
Quotations and tenders	6 years	Limitation Act 1980 (as amended)	Council office filing cabinet/archive boxes	Confidential waste A list will be kept of those documents disposed of to meet the requirements of the GDPR regulations.
Paid invoices	6 years	VAT	Council office filing cabinet/archive boxes	Confidential waste
Paid cheques	6 years	Limitation Act 1980 (as amended)	Council office filing cabinet/archive boxes	Confidential waste
VAT records	6 years generally but 20 years for VAT on rents	VAT	Council office filing cabinet/archive boxes	Confidential waste
Petty cash, postage and telephone books	6 years	Tax, VAT, Limitation Act 1980 (as amended)	Council office filing cabinet/archive boxes	Confidential waste
Timesheets	Last completed audit year 3 years	Audit (requirement) Personal injury (best practice)	Council office archive boxes	Destroy
Wages books/payroll	12 years	Superannuation	Council office filing cabinet/archive boxes	Confidential waste
Insurance policies	While valid (but see next two items below)	Management	Council office filing cabinet/archive boxes	Destroy
Insurance company names and policy numbers	Indefinite	Management	Council office filing cabinet/archive boxes	N/A

Document	Minimum Retention Period	Reason	Location Retained	Disposal
Certificates for insurance against liability for employees	40 years from date on which insurance commenced or was renewed	The Employers' Liability (Compulsory Insurance) Regulations 1998 (SI 2753) Management	Council office filing cabinet/archive boxes	Destroy
Play area equipment inspection reports	21 years		Council office filing cabinet	
Investments	Indefinite	Audit, Management	Council office filing cabinet	N/A
Title deeds, leases, agreements, contracts	Indefinite	Audit, Management	Council office filing cabinet	N/A
Members' allowances register	6 years	Tax, Limitation Act 1980 (as amended)	Council office filing cabinet/archive boxes	Confidential waste. A list will be kept of those documents disposed of to meet the requirements of the GDPR regulations.
Information from other bodies e.g. circulars from county associations, NALC, principal authorities	Retained for as long as it is useful and relevant		Council office filing cabinet/archive boxes	Destroy
Local/historical information	Indefinite – to be securely kept for benefit of the Parish	Councils may acquire records of local interest and accept gifts or records of general and local interest in order to promote the use for such records (defined as materials in written or other form setting out facts or events or otherwise recording information).	Council office filing cabinet/archive boxes	N/A

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Magazines and journals	<p>Council may wish to keep its own publications</p> <p>For others retain for as long as they are useful and relevant.</p>	<p>The Legal Deposit Libraries Act 2003 (the 2003 Act) requires a local council which after 1st February 2004 has published works in print (this includes a pamphlet, magazine or newspaper, a map, plan, chart or table) to deliver, at its own expense, a copy of them to the British Library Board (which manages and controls the British Library). Printed works as defined by the 2003 Act published by a local council therefore constitute materials which the British Library holds.</p>	Council office	Destroy if applicable
Record-keeping				
<p>To ensure records are easily accessible it is necessary to comply with the following:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • A list of files stored in cabinets will be kept • Electronic files will be saved using relevant file names 	<p>The electronic files will be backed up periodically on a portable hard drive and also in a cloud-based programme</p>	Management		<p>Documentation no longer required will be disposed of, ensuring any confidential documents are destroyed as confidential waste.</p> <p>A list will be kept of those documents disposed of to meet the requirements of the GDPR regulations.</p>

Document	Minimum Retention Period	Reason	Location Retained	Disposal
General correspondence	Unless it relates to specific categories outlined in the policy, correspondence, both paper and electronic, should be kept. Records should be kept for as long as they are needed for reference or accountability purposes, to comply with regulatory requirements or to protect legal and other rights and interests.	Management	Council office filing cabinet	Destroy (shred confidential waste) A list will be kept of those documents disposed of to meet the requirements of the GDPR regulations.
Correspondence relating to staff	If related to Audit, see relevant sections above. Should be kept securely and personal data in relation to staff should not be kept for longer than is necessary for the purpose it was held. Likely time limits for tribunal claims between 3–6 months Recommend this period be for 3 years	After an employment relationship has ended, a council may need to retain and access staff records for former staff for the purpose of giving references, payment of tax, national insurance contributions and pensions, and in respect of any related legal claims made against the council.	Council office filing cabinet	Confidential waste A list will be kept of those documents disposed of to meet the requirements of the GDPR regulations.

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	<p>Documents from legal matters, negligence and other torts</p> <p>Most legal proceedings are governed by the Limitation Act 1980 (as amended). The 1980 Act provides that legal claims may not be commenced after a specified period. Where the limitation periods are longer than other periods specified the documentation should be kept for the longer period specified. Some types of legal proceedings may fall within two or more categories.</p> <p>If in doubt, keep for the longest of the three limitation periods.</p>			
Negligence	6 years		Council office filing cabinet	Confidential waste. A list will be kept of those documents disposed of to meet the requirements of the GDPR regulations.
Defamation	1 year		Council office filing cabinet	Confidential waste. A list will be kept of those documents disposed of to meet the requirements of the GDPR regulations.
Contract	6 years		Council office filing cabinet	Confidential waste. A list will be kept of those documents disposed of to meet the requirements of the GDPR regulations.
Leases	12 years		Council office filing cabinet	Confidential waste.
Sums recoverable by statute	6 years		Council office filing cabinet	Confidential waste.
Personal injury	3 years		Council office filing cabinet	Confidential waste.
To recover land	12 years		Council office filing cabinet	Confidential waste.
Rent	6 years		Council office filing cabinet	Confidential waste.
Breach of trust	None		Council office filing cabinet	Confidential waste.

Document	Minimum Retention Period	Reason	Location Retained	Disposal
Trust deeds	Indefinite		Council office filing cabinet	N/A
For Halls, Centres, Recreation Grounds where applicable				
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Application to hire • Invoices • Record of tickets issued 	6 years	VAT	Council office filing cabinet/archive boxes	Confidential waste A list will be kept of those documents disposed of to meet the requirements of the GDPR regulations.
Lettings diaries	Electronic files linked to accounts	VAT	n/a	N/A
Terms and Conditions	6 years	Management	Council office filing cabinet/archive boxes	Destroy
Event Monitoring Forms	6 years unless required for claims, insurance or legal purposes	Management	Council office filing cabinet/archive boxes	Destroy. A list will be kept of those documents disposed of to meet the requirements of the GDPR regulations.
For Allotments				
Register and plans	Indefinite	Audit, Management	n/a	N/A
Minutes	Indefinite	Audit, Management	n/a	N/A
Legal papers	Indefinite	Audit, Management	n/a	N/A
For Burial Grounds				

Document	Minimum Retention Period	Reason	Location Retained	Disposal
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Register of fees collected • Register of burials • Register of purchased graves • Register/plan of grave spaces • Register of memorials • Applications for interment • Applications for right to erect memorials • Disposal certificates • Copy certificates of grant of exclusive right of burial 	Indefinite	Archives, Local Authorities Cemeteries Order 1977 (SI 204)	n/a	N/A
	Planning Papers			
Applications	1 year	Management	Council office filing cabinet/archive boxes	Destroy
Appeals	1 year unless significant development	Management	Council office filing cabinet/archive boxes	Destroy
Trees	1 year	Management	Council office filing cabinet/archive boxes	Destroy
Local Development Plans	Retained as long as in force	Reference	Council office filing cabinet/archive boxes	Destroy
Local Plans	Retained as long as in force	Reference	Council office filing cabinet/archive boxes	Destroy

Document	Minimum Retention Period	Reason	Location Retained	Disposal
Town/Neighbourhood Plans	Indefinite – final adopted plans	Historical purposes	Council office filing cabinet/archive boxes	N/A
	CCTV			
Daily notes	Daily	Data protection	n/a	Confidential waste
Radio rotas	1 week	Management	n/a	Confidential waste
Work rotas	1 month	Management	n/a	Confidential waste
Observation sheets	3 years	Data protection	n/a	Confidential waste
Stats	3 years	Data protection	n/a	Confidential waste
Signing in sheets	3 years	Management	n/a	Confidential waste
Review requests	3 years	Data protection	n/a	Confidential waste
Discs – master and working	For as long as required	Data protection	n/a	Confidential waste
Internal Operations Procedure Manual	Destroy on renewal Review annually	Management	n/a	Confidential waste
Code of Practice	Destroy on renewal Review annually	Management	n/a	Confidential waste
Photographs/digital prints	31 days	Data protection	n/a	Confidential waste