

WHITWELL PARISH COUNCIL
Minutes of the Meeting of the Council
Held at 19:00 on Wednesday 10 January 2024

Present:

Councillor T Munro (Chair)
Councillor D Munro

Councillor K Austin
Councillor F Raspin

Councillor H Green
Councillor J Raspin

1. **To receive and Accept Apologies for Absence** – Apologies were received and accepted from Cllr P Roberts.
2. **To record declarations of personal and disclosable pecuniary interests from members on any items to be discussed** – None.
3. **To receive and approve requests for dispensations from members on matters in which they have a disclosable pecuniary interest (forms to be completed before the meeting)** – None.
4. **Public Participation Session** – to allow members of the public to speak to the meeting (no decisions can be made on any items raised in this session).
 - 4.1. **Members of the Parish Council and public to raise matters of importance with the Police**
No Police were present, but a crime report was provided. The following issues were raised: -
 - 4.1.1 Concerns with a van believed to be dangerously parked on the corner of Holmefield Road/Larpit Green raised by a parishioner has been reported to the Police and DCC.
 - 4.1.2 Issues with a property on Portland Street raised by a parishioner has been reported to the Police.
 - 4.2. **Members of the Parish Council and the public to raise matters of importance with the County Councillor**
Cllr M Yates was not present. The following issues were raised and would be forward to Cllr Yates: -
 - 4.2.1. Several potholes throughout the village.
 - 4.2.2. Road markings require reinstating at the zebra crossing on Bakestone Moor.
 - 4.3. **Members of the public to raise matters of importance with the Councillors present**
District Council – Cllr T Munro reported on the following: -
 - 4.3.1 BDC have a list of 8 voluntary groups hoping to receive a £250 grant for their organisation.**Parish Council**
 - 4.3.2 A fallen tree on Firbeck Lane was noticed last Thursday – to be reported to DCC.
5. **To consider for approval the Minutes of the Meeting of the Parish Council held on 13 December 2023**
Item 13 4th paragraph to read “licensed to bait”. It was then **resolved** that the minutes of the meeting held on 13 December 2023 be approved and duly signed by the Chairman.
6. **To consider any matters arising (for information only) from the Minutes of the Meeting of the Parish Council held on 13 December 2023**
Item 4.2.1 – The fallen cherry tree was removed on 2 January 2024 by DCC with the trunk being given to a local resident to make a sculpture. DCC to be asked what their plans are for the stump.
Item 4.2.2 – DCC have not responded to the question as to when they last carried out a tree survey.
Item 10 – Cllr K Austin met with the CCTV installer this afternoon and the system might be installed on Friday.
Item 15 – Clerk to forward draft guide and protocol to councillors on setting up a Facebook page.

7. **Accounts for Approval and Payment** – It was **resolved** to approve the following accounts for payment: -

Direct Bank Payments to be Authorised			
Payee	Goods/Services	Amount	Budget
Whitwell Community Centre	Photocopier Rental Jan-Mar 2024	95.88	39
Whitwell Community Centre	Waste Bin Oct-Dec 2023	203.42	63
Whitwell Community Centre	Various	72.74	39/63
Turner Hire & Sales	PPE	44.49	59
	TOTAL	416.53	
Credit Card Payments			
Co-operative Bank	Card Fee	2.00	20
Microsoft	Microsoft (Office 365 x 2)	24.72	45
Microsoft	Cllr gov.uk emails x 8	56.64	45
Amazon	Stationery	47.76	39
Amazon	Postage	28.59	38
	TOTAL	159.71	

8. **Financial Report and Bank Reconciliation**

It was **resolved** to accept the Financial Report and Reserves Report. Cllr K Austin signed the December bank reconciliation. Clerk to forward paperwork relating to the parish vehicle Service/MOT to Councillors.

9. **To Consider the Appointment of an Internal Auditor for 2024**

It was **resolved** to appoint John Marriott of J&JS Marriott & Co., Accountants.

10. **Welbeck Street Recreation Ground**

It was **resolved** to request a site meeting regarding the council's yet unanswered concerns raised with them last month about appearance of the unexpected issue in the first place, whether the whole area should have been re-surfaced, the standard of repair to the seam, being a weakness, potential for weeds to grow through the seam and goal mouth areas, contractor's guarantee.

11. **Community Orchard Progress & Draft Lease**

BDC are arranging to speak to the owners of Claylands Farm and track hopefully by the end of this week regarding possible access along the track and hope to formalise any agreement reached into writing and a contractual document. In the meantime, BDC are recruiting a replacement Community Woodlands Project Officer.

12. **Allotments**

It was **resolved** to arrange LANTRA training for two members of staff to achieve a Level 2 Award in Rodent Management. Date for a controlled shoot is being arranged - Clerk to check WPC's insurance cover. Plot 5 at Bakestone Moor to be tidied up ready to re-let.

13. **To Agree Potential Sites for Increasing Biodiversity in the Parish (Cllr J Raspin)**

It was **resolved** to contact the relevant authorities/owners of sites identified for improvements that could increase biodiversity in the parish and also help them comply with their biodiversity duty, and to thank the Managing Director of Planterior for his input and suggestions. The Parish Council would call on his expertise as and when improvements can be implemented. Cllr J Raspin to draft an article for the Parish Council newsletter.

14. **Correspondence**

It was **resolved** to deal with correspondence as follows: -

14.1. DALC January Newsletter – Noted.

14.2. PCC – Lime Trees for The Rookery – Response noted - Clerk is liaising with WPS on areas for re-planting.

- 14.3. Welbeck Estates – Whitwell Community Centre Site – To be thanked for the response and condolences sent. WPC look forward to hearing the outcome of the management’s decision.
- 14.4. DCC – Surface Water Issue and Repairs B6043 – Noted.
- 14.5. DCC – Part Night Street Lighting Enquiry – DCC to be thanked for the comprehensive response and asked whether there are any colour filters that could be applied to the current lights.

Correspondence not listed: -

- 14.6. Cara Restaurants, Barlborough McDonalds – agreement to participate in litter picking sessions. WPC to purchase 12 more litter pickers and 6 more hoops.
- 14.7. Mark Fletcher MP – Noted that Clerk has responded with required information.

15. Planning Matters –

Cllr T Munro declared an interest and took no part in planning matters.

It was **resolved** to deal with planning matters as follows: -

- 15.1. 23/00652/TCON – T1 Beech 3-4m crown reduction (15%), T2 Lime 3-4m crown reduction (15%) Steetley House, Steetley Lane, Steetley, Worksop – No objections.
- 15.2. 23/00653/TCON – Pruning works/crown reduction of the canopy and to remove deadwood of a cherry tree, 2 Station Road, Whitwell S80 4NJ – No objections.

16. Progress Reports

No Reports.

17. Date of Next Meeting

The next meeting will be held on Wednesday 14 February 2024 at 7.00 pm.

The Budget Meeting will be held on Wednesday 7 February 2024 at 7.00 pm.

18. Fifteen-minute public session for members of the public to comment on items discussed at this meeting (no decisions can be made on any items raised in this session) - None.

19. To consider a resolution under the Public Bodies (Admission to Meetings Act 1960) to exclude members of the public and press from the remainder of the meeting on the grounds that publicity would be prejudicial to the public interest by reason of the confidential nature of the business to be transacted.

A letter from a parishioner that had been hand delivered to Cllr P Roberts was referred to the Management Committee to be considered at their meeting on 25 January 2024. The Parish Council wished to record that staff have the Council’s full support.

There being no further business the Chairman declared the meeting closed at 20:33.

Signed (Chairman)

Date

Abbreviations Used:

ASB – Anti-social Behaviour	NE – Northeast
BDC – Bolsover District Council	PCC – Police & Crime Commissioner
CLLR – Councillor	STWA – Severn Trent Water Authority
DALC – Derbyshire Association of Local Councils	TCON – Tree in a Conservation Area
DCC – Derbyshire County Council	TPO – Tree Protection Order
MOP – Member of Public	WCC – Whitwell Community Centre
PC – Police Constable	WPC – Whitwell Parish Council
PCSO – Police Community Support Officer	MUGA – Multi-use Games Area
RAAC – Reinforced Autoclaved Aerated Concrete	CCTV – Closed-circuit Television
LGPS – Local Government Pension Scheme	WPS – Whitwell Primary School
LANTRA – National Training Organisation for Land Based Training	

List of Resolutions

90/2023-24 Item 13 4th paragraph to read “licensed to bait”. It was then **resolved** that the minutes of the meeting held on 13 December 2023 be approved and duly signed by the Chairman.

91/2023-24 It was **resolved** to approve the accounts for payment.

92/2023-24 It was **resolved** to accept the financial & reserves report and Cllr K Austin to sign the December Bank Reconciliation.

93/2023-24 It was **resolved** to appoint John Marriott of J&JS Marriott & Co., Accountants for the 2024 Internal Audit.

94/2023-24 It was **resolved** to request a site meeting with Sutcliffe Play regarding the council’s yet unanswered concerns raised with them last month about appearance of the unexpected issue in the first place, whether the whole area should have been re-surfaced, the standard of repair to the seam, being a weakness, potential for weeds to grow through the seam and goal mouth areas, contractor’s guarantee.

95/2023-24 It was **resolved** to arrange LANTRA training for two members of staff to achieve a Level 2 Award in Rodent Management. Date for a controlled shoot is being arranged - Clerk to check WPC’s insurance cover. Plot 5 at Bakestone Moor to be tidied up ready to re-let.

96/2023-24 It was **resolved** to contact the relevant authorities/owners of sites identified for improvements that could increase biodiversity in the parish and also help them comply with their biodiversity duty, and to thank the Managing Director of Planterior for his input and suggestions. The Parish Council would call on his expertise as and when improvements can be implemented. Cllr J Raspin to draft an article for the Parish Council newsletter.

97/2023-24 It was **resolved** to deal with **correspondence** as follows: -

- DALC January Newsletter – Noted.
- PCC – Lime Trees for The Rookery – Response noted - Clerk is liaising with WPS on areas to for re-planting.
- Welbeck Estates – Whitwell Community Centre Site – To be thanked for the response and condolences sent. WPC look forward to hearing the outcome of the management’s decision.
- DCC – Surface Water Issue and Repairs B6043 – Noted.
- DCC – Part Night Street Lighting Enquiry – DCC to be thanked for the comprehensive response and asked whether there are any colour filters that could be applied to the current lights.
- Cara Restaurants, Barlborough McDonalds – agreement to participate in litter picking sessions. WPC to purchase 12 more litter pickers and 6 more hoops.
- Mark Fletcher MP – Noted that Clerk has responded with required information.

98/2023-24 It was **resolved** to deal with **planning** matters as follows: -

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- 23/00653/TCON – Pruning works/crown reduction of the canopy and to remove deadwood of a cherry tree, 2 Station Road, Whitwell S80 4NJ – No objections.