

WHITWELL PARISH COUNCIL
Minutes of the Annual Meeting of the Council
Held at 19:00 on Wednesday 10 May 2023

Present:

Councillor T Munro (Chair)	Councillor K Austin	Councillor H Green
Councillor S Maiden	Councillor D Munro	Councillor F Raspin
Councillor J Raspin	Councillor P Roberts	5 Members of Public

1. Election of Chair

One nomination was received and seconded, that of Cllr T Munro. Cllr T Munro was duly elected as Chairman.

2. To receive and Accept Apologies for Absence – None.

3. Election of Vice-Chairman

One nomination was received and seconded, that of Cllr F Raspin, who was duly elected.

4. Declaration of Councillors' and Chairman's Acceptance of Office and Agreement to Abide by the Code

The Chairman and Councillors signed their Declaration of Acceptance of Office before the Proper Officer and agreed to abide by the Code of Conduct.

5. Election to Other Groups/Bodies

It was **resolved** to elect the following:-

Footpaths/Hedgerows – All Councillors

Internal Audit Committee – Cllr K Austin, Cllr S Maiden and Cllr T Munro

Playscheme Committee – Cllr H Green, Cllr S Maiden and Cllr J Raspin

Website Monitors /General I.T. Working Group – Cllr K Austin, Cllr S Maiden and Cllr D Munro

Joint Cemetery Management Committee – Cllr S Maiden, Cllr T Munro, Cllr F Raspin and Cllr P Roberts + 2 Cllrs from H&BPC

Initiatives/Funding Working Group – All Councillors

Allotments Working Group – Cllr H Green, Cllr T Munro and Cllr F Raspin

Climate Action Working Group – All Councillors (at least 3 to be in attendance)

Whitwell Community Centre Management Committee – All Councillors

Staffing Committee – All Councillors

Whitwell Quarry Liaison Committee - Cllr T Munro

Parish Council Liaison Meeting with BDC - Cllr T Munro

Community Rail Partnership – Cllr T Munro

6. To record declarations of personal and disclosable pecuniary interests from members on any items to be discussed – None.

7. 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)

A request for a dispensation for Cllr K Austin to speak on Allotment issues was approved for the duration of his term of office.

8. 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).

- 8.1. Members of the Parish Council and public to raise matters of importance with the police
There were no police present and no report provided. The following issues were raised:-
- 8.1.1. Issues with residents of the former Miner's Welfare building – Clerk to contact police expressing concern and the relevant council to enquire what measures they have in place.
- 8.1.2. Issues with shoplifting at the Co-op and effect of the police's policy on prosecutions.
- 8.2. Members 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:-
- 8.2.1. The appearance of cameras in The Square – these were thought to be temporary as part of DCC's monitoring process following a request for a zebra crossing and pedestrian island.
- 8.2.2. Lack of response from the County Councillor who was not currently replying to communications.
- 8.2.3. A pothole has appeared outside the old George Inn on High Street.
- 8.3. Members of the public to raise matters of importance with the Councillors present
District Council – No issues were raised.
Cllr T Munro informed of the District Council election results, with the Annual Meeting being held on 24 May.
Parish Council
A query was raised regarding removal of the bench on Old Hall Lane, which is due to be replaced.
9. **To consider for approval the Minutes of the Meeting of the Parish Council held on 12 April 2023**
Item 17.2 This item was correct but it was noted that the item had also been added to the agenda of the Annual Parish Council Meeting. It was **resolved** that the minutes of the meeting held on 12 April 2023 be approved and duly signed by the Chairman.
10. **To consider any matters arising (for information only) from the Minutes of the Meeting of the Parish Council held on 12 April 2023**
Item 4.2.1 – The trees planted on the corner of Portland/Scotland Street were removed the next day.
Item 4.3.1 – The hedges mowed down at the Community Orchard should have been replaced.
Item 6 – Speedwatch training has been arranged for 6.00 pm on Thursday 25 May and the funding bid for equipment had been successful.
Item 9 – BDC can only enforce a condition for mitigating tree planting on trees protected by BDC TPO's. A further query was raised as to whether the condition can be enforced under the Government's Bio-Diversity Net Gain Strategy?
Item 10 – A site meeting with the Welbeck Street Recreation Ground contractors was held on 4 May 2023.
Item 12 – Provision of a skip at Mill Lane Allotments to be arranged for removal of rubbish.
Item 13 – It was reported that BDC staff have spoken to the 50+ activity group and BDC to be contacted regarding reducing to 1 member of staff until there is a long-term solution.
Item 16.3 – It was noted that the conifer tree in planning application 23/00173/TCON currently has birds nesting.
Item 16.4 – Cllr J Raspin and T Munro were unable to attend the solar farm consultation.
Item 17.1 – The Playscheme staffing issue has now been resolved.
11. **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	Printing – Playscheme	39.34	37
Bolsover District Council	Annual Rent, Whitwell Common	5.00	65
Turner & Wilson (Whitwell) Ltd	Clearance of cemetery compound	348.00	52
Thorpes Building Supplies	Repairs 37987 37988	25.09	63
	TOTAL	417.43	

Credit Card Payments			
Microsoft	Microsoft (Office 365) x 2 users	24.72	45
Co-op Bank	Credit Card Fee	2.00	20
	TOTAL	26.72	

12. Financial Reports and Bank Reconciliation

It was **resolved** to accept the Financial Report. Cllr H Green signed the April bank reconciliation.

13. To Pass a Resolution to Re-affirm the Council's Eligibility to use the General Power of Competence

It was **resolved** to re-affirm the Council's eligibility to use the General Power of Competence.

14. To Review the Council's Financial Risk Assessment

It was **resolved** to accept the Financial Risk Assessment subject to including a Payroll residual rating of 1.

15. To Review the Council's Fixed Asset Register

It was **resolved** to accept the council's Fixed Asset Register subject to checking whether there should be a deduction for depreciation on some items.

16. To Approve the Schedule of Regular Direct Payments for 2023/24

It was **resolved** to accept the Schedule of Regular Direct Payments for 2023/24.

17. To consider arranging Councillor training on either Wednesday 24th or Wednesday 31st May 2023

It was **resolved** to arrange Councillor training for Wednesday 24 May 2023.

2 MOP left at 20:00

18. To consider Climate Change Community Involvement (Cllr J Raspin)

Cllr J Raspin reported on progress to date. Items are now required from the public and this will be an item for discussion at the Annual Parish Meeting. Community Groups to be contacted and social media posts shared.

19. To consider responding to Welbeck Estates following receipt of their report on the WCC site

It was **resolved** to consider this item in confidential.

20. Welbeck Street Recreation Ground

Feedback from the contractor is awaited following the site meeting held on 4 May 2023. The official opening will be held on 24 June at the Village Gala. Clerk to contact the Lord Lieutenant to invite her to be the guest of honour. A meeting to be arranged with the local craftsman to discuss the fabrication of a new main gate.

21. Correspondence

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

21.1. DALC May Newsletter – to be forwarded to Councillors.

21.2. BDC – Land off Old Hall Lane – response noted.

22. Planning Matters – Cllr T Munro declared an interest in this matter and took no part in decision making.

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

22.1. Street Name & Numbering, land at Meadow Lane, Shirebrook - Noted

22.2. 23/00235/FUL – Wooden Building to Front Garden, 38a High Street S80 4RB – Objection that the size and location of the proposed building will dramatically change the street scene in one of the most historic areas of the village. Ensure that removal of the conifer tree is carried out after the nesting birds have vacated.

23. Progress Reports

No reports.

24. Date of Next Meeting

The next meeting will be held on Wednesday 14 June 2023 at 7.00 pm.
The Annual Parish Meeting will be held on Thursday 1 June at 7.00 pm.

25. 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)

- 25.1. Concerns raised with minors living in the old Miner’s Welfare – Clerk to contact the relevant Education Authority.
- 25.2. Enquiry as to whether there is a Neighbourhood Watch – A representative was in attendance.

3 MOP left at 20:36

26. 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.

- 26.1. A response received from Welbeck Estates was considered. Welbeck to be thanked for the paperwork, but there are some discrepancies requiring clarification and outstanding issues to be resolved before WPC can proceed any further.

There being no further business the Chairman declared the meeting closed at 20:57.

Signed (Chairman)

Date

List of Resolutions

08/2023-24 It was **resolved** to elect Cllr T Munro as Chair, Cllr F Raspin as Vice Chair and Councillors to other groups/bodies

09/2023-24 It was **resolved** that the minutes of the meeting held on 12 April 2023 be approved and duly signed by the Chairman.

10/2023-24 It was **resolved** to approve the accounts for payment.

11/2023-24 It was **resolved** to accept the Financial Report. Cllr H Green signed the April bank reconciliation.

12/2023-24 It was **resolved** to re-affirm the Council's eligibility to use the General Power of Competence.

13/2023-24 It was **resolved** to accept the Financial Risk Assessment subject to including a Payroll residual rating of 1.

14/2023-24 It was **resolved** to accept the council's Fixed Asset Register subject to checking whether there should be a deduction for depreciation on some items.

15/2023-24 It was **resolved** to accept the Schedule of Regular Direct Payments for 2023/24

26/2023-24 It was **resolved** to arrange Councillor training for Wednesday 24 May 2023.

27/2023-24 It was **resolved** to deal with correspondence as follows: -

- DALC May Newsletter – noted.
- BDC – Land off Old Hall Lane – response noted.

28/2023-24 It was **resolved** to deal with planning matters as follows: -

- Street Name & Numbering, land at Meadow Lane, Shirebrook - Noted
- 23/00235/FUL – Wooden Building to Front Garden, 38a High Street S80 4RB – Objection that the size and location of the proposed building will dramatically change the street scene in one of the most historic areas of the village. Ensure that removal of the conifer tree is carried out after the nesting birds have vacated.

Abbreviations Used:

BDC – Bolsover District Council

CLLR – Councillor

DALC – Derbyshire Association of Local Councils

DCC – Derbyshire County Council

MOP – Member of Public

PC – Police Constable

PCC – Police & Crime Commissioner

TCON – Tree in a Conservation Area

TPO – Tree Protection Order

WCC – Whitwell Community Centre

WPC – Whitwell Parish Council