

WHITWELL PARISH COUNCIL
Minutes of a Meeting of the Council
Held at 19:00 on Wednesday 12 April 2023

Present:

Councillor T Munro (Chair)	Councillor K Austin	Councillor D Ellis
Councillor H Green	Councillor S Maiden	Councillor F Raspin
Councillor J Raspin	Councillor L Roberts	
In Attendance:	PC C Sinfield	1 Member of Public (MOP)

The Chairman thanked Councillors not returning for their service to the parish and congratulated the Clerk on her graduation with a Certificate in Community Governance.

1. **To receive and Accept Apologies for Absence** – None.
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

PC Caley Sinfield apologised for not attending meetings. Due to changing shift patterns, she will only be able to attend if meetings were held earlier. She gave the crime figures over the last month. The following issues were raised: -

 - 4.1.1 An incident at Hodthorpe Stores shared on social media was not reported to the police but investigations are being carried out.
 - 4.1.2 There are regular shoplifting incidences at the Co-op. PC Sinfield advised of the Force's policy for provision of evidence to be able to prosecute and improvements that could be made with shop layout and CCTV in the store and car park. WPC to write to the Head Office to ask if they have considered a change of policy in terms of failure to prosecute, an improved layout to increase security in store and to comply with their duty of care as employers to protect staff, and additional CCTV in the store and car park.

P C Sinfield left at 19:12
 - 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: -
 - 4.2.1 DCC to be asked if they are aware of trees being planted on a verge at the corner of Portland Street/Scotland Street and for what purpose.
 - 4.3. Members of the public to raise matters of importance with the Councillors present **District Council** – The following issues were raised:-
 - 4.3.1. Cllr T Munro reported on his visit to the Community Orchard where a resident made a request for their view not to be obstructed. Some of the hedges have been mowed down and he will meet with BDC's Woodlands Project Officer to discuss.
 - 4.3.2. There has been a lack of communication to parishes from BDC regarding removal/ replacement of roadside benches and out of courtesy parishes should be informed.

Parish Council

4.3.3. MOP informed that the Whitwell Local History Group has been reinstated following an open day and have support in the village. They are impressed by the previous group's work and would like to take the new group forward and secure a permanent room/building. They have written to DCC to request use of the Day Centre and contacted various organisations for support/funds. They will keep WPC informed and asked if the council thinks it would be a good idea to have a heritage centre in the parish. The Chairman wished them every success and would personally support the use of that space whenever it is available.

5. To consider for approval the Minutes of the Meeting of the Parish Council held on 8 March 2023

It was **resolved** that the minutes of the meeting held on 8 March 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 8 March 2023

Item 4.2.4 – Cllr T Munro to contact DCC regarding street light provision.

Item 4.3.2 – Cllr T Munro investigated concerns raised by residents with activity on land off Old Hall Lane, with issues being dealt with by the Planning Enforcement Team. Containers and concrete slab have been removed and the landowner has not broken any planning laws. There is no active application on this site.

Item 6 – Speedwatch Training will be re-arranged.

Item 12 – Cllr T Munro reported that work on the Community Rail Partnership project at Whitwell Station will commence this Summer.

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
Cubic Ultrasonic	Lamppost Testing	540.00	56
Whitwell Community Centre	Photocopier Rental (Apr-Jun)	95.88	39
Whitwell Community Centre	PC Waste Bin (Jan-Mar)	203.42	63
Whitwell Community Centre	Equipment – Step Ladder	92.00	63
DALC	Membership Renewal	1037.06	24
The National Allotment Society	Membership Renewal	66.00	30
Life Publications	Newsletter Distribution	151.20	33
Bolsover District Council	Rates – Cemetery	330.09	51
Bolsover District Council	Play Inspections (Dec-Mar)	360.00	68
Bolsover District Council	Community Rail Partnership	1000.00	72
Turner Hire & Sales	PPE	115.50	59
Mole Country Stores	Repairs	99.49	63
Thorpes Building Supplies	Repairs	12.00	63
Glasdon UK Ltd	Replacement bin liner BM Rec. Ground	85.09	63
Fire & Light Ltd	Emergency Lights – Parish Workshop	176.45	41
	TOTAL	4364.18	
Credit Card Payments			
Microsoft	Microsoft (Office 365) x 2 users	22.56	45
Co-op Bank	Credit Card Fee	2.00	20
Cheapest Print Online	Newsletter Printing	156.00	33
	TOTAL	180.56	

8. Financial Report and Bank Reconciliation

It was **resolved** to accept the Financial Report. Cllr D Ellis signed the March bank reconciliation.

9. **Tree Works in The Rookery**

Due to a delay in obtaining permission to carry out tree works in the Rookery the contractor scheduled works to be carried out on 4 April. The council received an unfounded allegation on 22 March that tree works were taking place in the Rookery advising that the disturbance is an offence under the Wildlife & Countryside Act 1981. The contractor has visited the site, discovered an active nest in one of the trees to be attended and the work is now currently on hold until as near as 1 September as practicable considering the protection of nesting birds and their habitat with the parish council's liabilities. A query was raised as to why BDC cannot enforce a condition for re-planting after tree removal – Cllr T Munro to make enquiries and attempt to report back.

10. **Welbeck Street Recreation Ground, Project Update**

Clerk reported on outstanding issues being replacement of the two fence posts on the dog park, repair of the wet pour under the 4-way seesaw in the infant area and MUGA surface issues. A third quotation was sought from a local business for a replacement gate to the dog park but has not been received. Clerk to inform the contractor of the council's disappointment and request a meeting asap to address the significant outstanding issues with the project. Provision of a new gate could be suggested as a goodwill gesture.

11. **Community Governance Review (Cllr T Munro)**

The request for a Community Governance Review was sent to BDC including the re-defined boundary. BDC have requested a clearer plan and their GIS Team may be able to assist for a small fee. It was noted that Ordnance Survey maps were free to use.

12. **To Consider Future Management of Allotment Sites (Cllr F Raspin)**

Cllr F Raspin reported that there has been some improvement to plots. Some plots require clearing to re-let and there is some rubbish requiring removal. He recommends that plot numbers are installed. A further visit to be arranged in two months using a definitive list.

Issues raised: A Mill Lane plot holder renewing 2 plots but not working them for years.

Plots being swapped at Mill Lane – this should only be allowed if there becomes a vacancy and the vacated plot is left in a good state - it was suggested that conditions for taking on a plot could be circulated.

Cllr T Munro reported that contact had been made by a resident to NEDDC Environment Health Department regarding there still being a cockerel on the Mill Lane site. Although not causing them a disturbance it was contravening the parish council's rules. This issue had previously been considered by WPC with no further cockerels being allowed on site.

13. **Active Communities – to Consider Sustaining 50+ Sessions During 2023/24**

It was **resolved** to contact BDC's Physical Activity & Sports Development Manager to enquire about staff availability, speak to the users with a suggestion as to the possibility of having BDC's staff every other week, only 1 member of staff, or no staff. Clerk to investigate funding from DCC and Awards for All.

14. **To Consider Arranging Whole Council Training with DALC**

It was **resolved** to arrange whole council training with DALC and request Wednesday dates as soon as possible to be considered at the May Annual Meeting.

15. **Correspondence** – It was **resolved** to deal with correspondence as follows: -

15.1. DALC – April Newsletter – Noted.

15.2. Police & Crime Commissioner Newsletter Issue 2 – Noted.

15.3. Staff Officer to Chief Constable – Policing in Whitwell – Noted.

15.4. Bridget Gould – Highway Issues in Whitwell Parish – copy to be forwarded to Cllr J Raspin.

Correspondence not listed: -

- 15.5. Crags Healthcare – Cllr T Munro met with a representative on site and they will respond in due course regarding the possibility of erecting a flag pole on NHS Property Services' land.
- 15.6. DCC – Electric Vehicle Charging Survey – copy to Cllrs - BDC's Car Park to be registered
- 15.7. EON – Bench on Old Hall Lane – unable to repair/remove – WPC to replace
- 15.8. Resident – installation of covert cameras – Noted, the new council to investigate if it considers this appropriate in hotspot areas.

16. **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: -

- 16.1. Temporary Road Closure – Well Dressing Parade 8.7.23 – No objections
- 16.2. Temporary Road Closure – Coronation Party, The Poplars 7.5.23 – No objections
- 16.3. 23/00173/TCON – Removal of Conifer Tree, 38a High Street, Whitwell S80 4RB – No objections, subject to adhering to conservation/wildlife rules and regulations and planting of two replacement trees elsewhere. (It was noted that DCC have a policy on mitigating tree planting).

Planning not listed:-

- 16.4. Public Consultation on Proposed Solar Farm on land off Steetley Lane, Worksop 3-7 pm Monday 24 April – Cllrs T Munro and J Raspin to attend.

17. **Progress Reports**

17.1. Playscheme

Cllr J Raspin informed that a meeting will be held on Thursday to consider staffing. Registration forms have been advertised on the school's website but not many applications have been received yet. It was noted that there is free provision in surrounding villages.

17.2. Climate Change Working Group

A meeting was held on 15 March with 1 MOP present and Cllr J Raspin gave an overview of the reviewed plan which will be circulated. Climate Change Community Involvement to be added to the agenda of the Annual Parish Meeting. Issues raised were:

litter picking equipment – could some be provided by local food outlets?

Reproduction of litter posters – Cllr K Austin may be able to produce some

Strip of land on Quarry Field – Cllr T Munro has written to BDC

Lease of land at Claylands for community orchard – Cllr T Munro to pursue.

18. **Date of Next Meeting**

The next meeting will be the Annual Parish Council Meeting which will be held on Wednesday 10 May 2023 at 7.00 pm. Councillors to be present at 6.45 pm to sign their declarations of office.

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

19. **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)**

No comments.

1 MOP left at 21:32

20. **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.**

There being no further business the Chairman declared the meeting closed at 21:33.

Signed (Chairman)

Date

Abbreviations Used:

ASB – Anti-Social Behaviour	MOP – Member of Public
BDC – Bolsover District Council	MUGA – Multi-use Games Area
CLLR – Councillor	PCC – Police & Crime Commissioner
CRP - Community Rail Partnership	TPO – Tree Preservation Order
DALC – Derbyshire Association of Local Councils	WCC – Whitwell Community Centre
DCC – Derbyshire County Council	WPC – Whitwell Parish Council
H&BPC – Hodthorpe & Belp Parish Council	

List of Resolutions

01/2023-24 It was **resolved** that the minutes of the meeting held on 8 March 2023 be approved and duly signed by the Chairman.

02/2023-24 It was **resolved** to approve the accounts for payment.

03/2023-24 It was **resolved** to accept the Financial Report. Cllr D Ellis signed the March bank reconciliations.

04/2023-24 It was **resolved** to contact BDC’s Physical Activity & Sports Development Manager to enquire about staff availability, speak to the users with a suggestion as to the possibility of having BDC’s staff every other week, only 1 member of staff, or none at all. Clerk to investigate funding from DCC and Awards for All.

05/2023-24 It was **resolved** to arrange whole council training with DALC and request Wednesday dates as soon as possible to be considered at the May Annual Meeting.

06/2023-24 It was **resolved** to deal with correspondence as follows: -

- DALC – April Newsletter – Noted.
- Police & Crime Commissioner Newsletter Issue 2 – Noted.
- Staff Officer to Chief Constable – Policing in Whitwell – Noted.
- Bridget Gould – Highway Issues in Whitwell Parish – copy to be forwarded to Cllr J Raspin.

Correspondence not listed: -

- Craggs Healthcare – Cllr T Munro met with a representative on site and they will respond in due course regarding the possibility of erecting a flag pole on NHS Property Services’ land.
- DCC – Electric Vehicle Charging Survey – copy to Cllrs - BDC’s Car Park to be registered
- EON – Bench on Old Hall Lane – unable to repair/remove – WPC to replace
- Resident – installation of covert cameras – Noted, the new council to investigate if it considers this appropriate in hotspot areas.

07/2023-24 It was **resolved** to deal with planning matters as follows: -

- Temporary Road Closure – Well Dressing Parade 8.7.23 – No objections
- Temporary Road Closure – Coronation Party, The Poplars 7.5.23 – No objections
- 23/00173/TCON – Removal of Conifer Tree, 38a High Street, Whitwell S80 4RB – No objections, subject to adhering to conservation/wildlife rules and regulations and planting of two replacement trees elsewhere.
- It was noted that DCC have a policy on mitigating tree planting but not BDC.

Planning not listed:-

- Public Consultation on Proposed Solar Farm on land off Steetley Lane, Worksop 3-7 pm Monday 24 April – Cllrs T Munro and J Raspin to attend.