

**WHITWELL PARISH COUNCIL**  
**Minutes of the Meeting of the Council**  
**Held at 19:00 on Wednesday 13 December 2023**

**Present:**

Councillor T Munro (Chair)  
Councillor S Maiden  
Councillor J Raspin

Councillor K Austin  
Councillor D Munro

Councillor H Green  
Councillor F Raspin

**In attendance:** County Councillor M Yates

1. **To receive and Accept Apologies for Absence** – No apologies were received.
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. No issues were raised.

4.2. Members of the Parish Council and the public to raise matters of importance with the County Councillor

Cllr M Yates reported on the following: -

- DCC's budget proposals and online consultation open until 17 December.
- Extension of the £2 single bus fare until 31.12.24 (£1.50 for 11–16-year-olds with a B-Line card).
- Go-ahead for the East Midlands Combined Authority to commence in March 2024. Residents will be able to vote for a Mayor in May 2024.
- Events for unpaid carers in December, see [derbyshirecarers.co.uk](http://derbyshirecarers.co.uk)
- He has reported potholes.
- Request for councils to identify any C or unclassified roads requiring works (to be reported to M Yates) for inclusion in the 2025/26 Highways Capital programme – Mason Street and High Street were suggested.
- Parking restrictions outside the school have been delayed due to an objection received from a resident.

The following issues were raised: -

- 4.2.1. A cherry tree at the junction of Spring Hill/Hangar Hill blew over on Saturday. The CAN Rangers have removed branches, and the tree has been reported to DCC who have inspected it but not yet carried out any removal work.
- 4.2.2. When was a DCC tree survey last carried out?
- 4.2.3. Cornwall have decided they are going to turn off their streetlights - when are DCC going to do the same as the white lights are the wrong frequency which affects humans as well as wildlife? Cllr Yates was not aware of DCC's intentions and suggested the best course of action is for WPC to make a request.

Cllr M Yates left at 19:17

4.3. Members of the public to raise matters of importance with the Councillors present

**District Council** – Cllr T Munro reported on the following:-

- BDC has made progress on the formation of a structure at BDC to mirror the emerging structure of the forthcoming establishment of the Combined Authority, due to start in May 2024 with the election of a

Combined Authority in May 2024. Hopefully this will put BDC in a strong position to serve all of its residents, as the Combined Authority becomes established.

- The Street Cleaning Service at BDC has been recognised as one of the best performing in the country for keeping the area clean and tidy, being named as a 'most improved performer' in the recent Association for Public Services Excellence Performance Network Awards.
- There are currently 40-50 District/County Councils either on the verge of bankruptcy or unable to set a budget and Cllr T Munro reported that BDC has worked tirelessly to be able to deliver its services to residents.

**Parish Council** – None.

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

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

None.

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

<b>Direct Bank Payments to be Authorised</b>			
<b>Payee</b>	<b>Goods/Services</b>	<b>Amount</b>	<b>Budget</b>
G Burley & Son (Plantscape)	Solar Christmas Trees	5100.00	69
Civic Pride	LED Christmas Lights	3540.00	69
Thorpes Building Supplies Ltd	Repairs 39182-39184	85.66	63
Direct Water Tanks	Black IBC + del.	162.00	46
Allcocks Sheds & Fencing	Fence Panel Friendship Hall	31.75	63
Bolsover District Council	Extreme Wheels 2023	2950.00	76
Bolsover District Council	Play Insp Aug-Nov 23	360.00	68
Bolsover District Council	Annual Buildings Insurance – Store	25.00	41
Whitwell Community Centre	Poppy Wreath	20.00	71
Whitwell Community Centre	Food for Training Event	127.50	43
	<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>12401.91</b>	
<b>Credit Card Payments</b>			
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
Stoneacre Chesterfield	Van MOT + Service	638.95	35
Amazon	Data Server Cabinet	71.99	Grant
Amazon	Samsung Tablet	249.00	Grant
	<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>1043.30</b>	

**8. Financial Report and Bank Reconciliation**

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

**9. Welbeck Street Recreation Ground**

Remediation works to the MUGA surface have been completed, with re-marking to be carried out after 6 weeks. The contractor provided a list of the works undertaken. Concerns were raised 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. It was **resolved** that the Clerk informs the contractor of the council's concerns, with final payment being withheld further until a satisfactory resolution is reached.

**10. To Consider appointing a Contractor to install CCTV at Welbeck Street Recreation Ground**

A quotation was received from Link Integrated for supply/installation of a CCTV System and, as it was the only quotation received and to the required specification, WPC **resolved** to appoint Link Integrated to install a CCTV system to cover the equipment and entrance on Welbeck Street Recreation Ground and the Scout Hut complex. Funding granted from the PCC's anti-social behaviour fund will cover the cost as well as provision of a server cage and a tablet for Police access.

**11. Whitwell Common Recreation Ground Consultation Results**

The Clerk's report on the results of the survey was noted. Clerk to forward correspondence on parking and ground damage to Cllrs T Munro & J Raspin, copied to BDC's Assistant Director of Street Scene.

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

There has not yet been any response from BDC's Interim Head of Planning on the draft lease or to ascertain the provenance of the mulch, which has not yet been delivered.

**13. Allotments**

Concerns have been raised regarding the number of rats on the Bakestone Moor allotment site. Clerk to check whether plot holders without email have received the advice note. It was **resolved** to contact the pest controller regarding another controlled shoot. Clerk to check whether a Parish Council can be licensed to bait. A notice to quit to be sent to the holder of plot 27 at Mill Lane.

**14. To consider Hanging Basket Provision for 2024**

Quotations and further information from suppliers were considered. It was **resolved** to appoint Woolley Moor Nurseries to plant, erect, maintain and take down the council's hanging baskets in 2024, subject to watering being included. Contractor to also be asked about the planters in The Square.

**15. To consider Provision of a Parish Council Facebook Page (Cllr D Munro)**

It was considered that a Parish Council Facebook page could be opened mainly to promote parish work but also to advertise meetings, events etc. It was **resolved** that Whitwell Parish Council has a Facebook Page.

**16. To consider a proposed site for installation of 30mph sign and participating in DCC's Speed Indicator Device Project (SID) (Cllr D Munro & Cllr J Raspin)**

Following a site meeting DCC's Project Engineer has provided a plan of a proposal for installation of speed limit signs, re-surfacing works including installation of dragon's teeth road markings, and re-siting of the pedestrian crossing sign. Participating in DCC's SID Project was not feasible for the Parish Council. It was **resolved** to agree to the proposal and highlight the surface water issue, requesting DCC to consider steps to alleviate this issue such as re-profiling of the road when re-surfacing. A further request is for 30 mph to be written on the road (on the dragon's teeth) and ask DCC how many 40 mph repeating signs are included. It was also raised that the dragon's teeth markings near the zebra crossing at Bakestone Moor have faded.

**17. Correspondence**

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

17.1. DALC December Newsletter – Noted.

17.2. PCC – Council Tax Discount for Volunteer Special Constables – WPC will promote if BDC agrees.

17.3. PCC's Consultation on Proposals for the Policing Part of the Council Tax Precept 2024-25 - noted.

**Correspondence not listed: -**

17.4. DCC – LGPS Consultation on Investment Strategies – noted.

17.5. DCC – 3 Lime Trees for The Rookery – Accepted subject to being native limes (to be ascertained).

17.6. BDC – Parish Precept Demand – Noted that WPC will respond on 15.2.24.

17.7. Landowner – Burial Land – Noted.

## 18. **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: -

18.1. 23/00566/FUL – Ground floor rear extension, conversion of garage to living space and creation of 2 rooms in roof space with 1 dormer and 6 Velux windows, Woodlea, Station Road, Whitwell – No objections.

18.2. Proposed construction, operation and decommissioning of a Ground Mounted Solar Photovoltaic Farm (23/01399/FUL), land to North and Northeast of Explore Industrial Park, Explore Way, Steetley – out of area – WPC are concerned that all PROW are identified on the diagram and that steps are taken to mask the development from those PROW.

18.3. 23/00624/FUL – Installation of 14 Solar Panels with Battery back-up to south-facing roof, Dovecote Cottage, Steetley Farm, Steetley Lane, Steetley – No objections subject to not detracting from the character of the conservation area.

18.4. 23/00625/LBC - Installation of 14 Solar Panels with Battery back-up to south-facing roof, Dovecote Cottage, Steetley Farm, Steetley Lane, Steetley – No objections subject to not detracting from the character of the conservation area.

18.5. Public Path Diversion Order 2023 – DCC Public Footpath No. 8 (part) – Parish of Whitwell – No objections.

### **Planning not Listed**

18.6. Shireoaks Plastic Recycling Centre & Energy Recovery Facility – Cllr D Munro and Cllr T Munro had attended the consultation and shared information on this pre-application.

## 19. **Progress Reports**

### 19.1. **Climate Change Group** (Cllr J Raspin)

Cllr J Raspin reported that only 4 councillors and no members of public had attended the group meeting. A BDC Officer was in attendance and gave comprehensive information, suggestions/ideas about recycling. Some actions considered were to consult with businesses, promote on Bolsover TV and parish newsletters, ask Clerk to contact McDonalds regarding joint litter-picks, a trip to a recycling centre, food waste collections.

An agenda item “To agree potential sites for increasing biodiversity in the parish” to be considered in January 2024.

The next meeting was arranged for 28 February 2024; members to be informed.

### 19.2. **Parish Council Newsletter**

Due to a tight January deadline, the next newsletter will be produced in February. Clerical Assistant to forward the timeline for articles to Councillors.

### 19.3. **Whitwell Community Centre site**

Clerk to contact Welbeck Estates to inform them that the council is bitterly disappointed with the lack of progress with the council’s request as the council has access to funding with firm deadlines and is therefore missing out on funding and is desperately concerned about the lack of ability to make improvements, cc D Ridout and the General Manager.

## 20. **Date of Next Meeting**

The next meeting will be held on Wednesday 10 January 2024 at 7.00 pm.

## 21. **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.**

## 22. **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 21:28.

Signed ..... (Chairman)

Date .....

**Abbreviations Used:**

ASB – Anti-social Behaviour  
BDC – Bolsover District Council  
CLLR – Councillor  
DALC – Derbyshire Association of Local Councils  
DCC – Derbyshire County Council  
MOP – Member of Public  
PC – Police Constable  
PCSO – Police Community Support Officer  
RAAC – Reinforced Autoclaved Aerated Concrete  
LGPS – Local Government Pension Scheme

NE – Northeast  
PCC – Police & Crime Commissioner  
STWA – Severn Trent Water Authority  
TCON – Tree in a Conservation Area  
TPO – Tree Protection Order  
WCC – Whitwell Community Centre  
WPC – Whitwell Parish Council  
MUGA – Multi-use Games Area  
CCTV – Closed-circuit Television

## List of Resolutions

**79/2023-24** It was **resolved** that the minutes of the meeting held on 8 November 2023 be approved and duly signed by the Chairman.

**80/2023-24** It was **resolved** to approve the accounts for payment.

**81/2023-24** It was **resolved** to accept the financial & reserves report and Cllr H Green to sign the November Bank Reconciliation.

**82/2023-24** It was **resolved** that the Clerk inform the contractor of the council's concerns with the MUGA repairs at Welbeck Street Recreation Ground, with final payment being withheld further until a satisfactory resolution is reached.

**83/2023-24** It was **resolved** to appoint Link Integrated to install a CCTV system to cover the equipment and entrance on Welbeck Street Recreation Ground and the Scout Hut complex. Funding granted from the PCC's anti-social behaviour fund will cover the cost as well as provision of a server cage and tablet for Police access.

**84/2023-24** It was **resolved** to contact the pest controller regarding a controlled shoot at Bakestone Moor Allotments. Clerk to check whether a Parish Council can be licensed. A notice to quit to be sent to the holder of plot 27 Mill Lane.

**85/2023-24** It was **resolved** to appoint Woolley Moor Nurseries to plant, erect, maintain and take down the council's hanging baskets in 2024 subject to watering being included.

**86/2023-24** It was **resolved** that Whitwell Parish Council has a Facebook Page

**87/2023-24** It was **resolved** to agree to DCC's proposal for installation of speed limit signs, re-surfacing works including installation of dragon's teeth road markings and re-siting of the pedestrian crossing sign on High Street, highlighting the surface water issue and requesting DCC to consider steps to alleviate this issue such as re-profiling of the road when being re-surfaced. A further request is for 30 mph to be written on the road (on the dragon's teeth) and ask DCC how many 40 mph repeating signs are included. Also inform DCC that the dragon's teeth markings near the zebra crossing at Bakestone Moor have faded.

**88/2023-24** It was **resolved** to deal with **correspondence** as follows: -

- DALC December Newsletter – Noted.
- PCC – Council Tax Discount for Volunteer Special Constables – WPC will promote if BDC agrees.
- PCC's Consultation on Proposals for the Policing Part of the Council Tax Precept 2024-25 - noted
- Correspondence not listed: -
- DCC – LGPS Consultation on Investment Strategies – noted.
- DCC – 3 Lime Trees for The Rookery – Accepted subject to being native limes (to be ascertained)
- BDC – Parish Precept Demand – Noted that WPC will respond on 15.2.24.
- Landowner – Burial Land – Noted.

**89/2023-24** It was **resolved** to deal with **planning** matters as follows: -

- 23/00566/FUL – Ground floor rear extension, conversion of garage to living space and creation of 2 rooms in roof space with 1 dormer and 6 Velux windows, Woodlea, Station Road, Whitwell – No objections
- Proposed construction, operation and decommissioning of a Ground Mounted Solar Photovoltaic Farm (23/01399/FUL), land to North and Northeast of Explore Industrial Park, Explore Way, Steetley – out of area – WPC are concerned that all PROW are identified on the diagram and that steps are taken to mask the development from those PROW.
- 23/00624/FUL – Installation of 14 Solar Panels with Battery back-up to south-facing roof, Dovecote Cottage, Steetley Farm, Steetley Lane, Steetley – No objections subject to not detracting from the character of the conservation area.
- 23/00625/LBC - Installation of 14 Solar Panels with Battery back-up to south-facing roof, Dovecote Cottage, Steetley Farm, Steetley Lane, Steetley - – No objections subject to not detracting from the character of the conservation area.
- Public Path Diversion Order 2023 – DCC Public Footpath No. 8 (part) – Parish of Whitwell – No objections.
- Planning not Listed
- Shireoaks Plastic Recycling Centre & Energy Recovery Facility – Cllr T Munro and Cllr J Raspin had attended the consultation and shared information on this pre-application.