

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

**Present:**

Councillor F Raspin (in the Chair)	Councillor K Austin	Councillor H Green
Councillor S Maiden	Councillor J Raspin	Councillor P Roberts

**In attendance:** County Councillor M Yates

1. **To receive and Accept Apologies for Absence** – Apologies were received and accepted from Cllr D Munro and Cllr T Munro.
2. **To record declarations of personal and disclosable pecuniary interests from members on any items to be discussed** – Cllr F Raspin & Cllr J Raspin declared an interest in item 18.1.
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  
There were no police present, a comprehensive report was provided and noted. 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:-
    - RAAC – DCC have a list of buildings modified between 1950-1990 but it is not yet clear whether any buildings affected by RAAC are under DCC control.
    - PCC ASB Grants – closing date on Friday.
    - Millie Bright to be an Honorary Freewoman of Derbyshire.
    - New Information Finder giving free impartial information to assist residents to remain independent.
    - Petition opened following DCC's 41% increase to school meals by 91p. Google DCC petition, view & sign.
    - DCC's Estimated overspend of £46.4Million in 2023/24 and recommendation of no non-essential spending.
    - The £2 cap on bus fares ends on 1 October, to be replaced by a £2.50 single fare cap for 1 year. B-Line cards to be promoted for children, which cost £5.
    - Cllr Yates enjoyed WPC's informal Climate Change meeting last week.

**The following issues were raised:-**

- 4.2.1. Inconsiderate parking on Butt Hill blocking entrance to pathway.
- 4.2.2. Enquiry regarding installation of a mirror at the end of Hillside as it is difficult to pull out onto Bakestone Moor – this will not be approved as it is against DCC's policy.
- 4.2.3. Update requested on the on-street electric vehicle charging points scheme; what are DCC doing with their share of funding?
- 4.2.4. Update request on the WCC/Library/Day Centre site. Cllr Yates had no further information and was not aware of who the portfolio holder was.
- 4.2.5. Is DCC planning on fixing the broken guttering on its building?
- 4.2.6. Whitwell Library was closed today without notices being displayed or contact received.
- 4.2.7. Overgrown hedge on Bakestone Moor was reported and identified but DCC contractors couldn't find it.

Cllr M Yates left at 19:27

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

**District Council** – No issues were raised.

**Parish Council**

4.3.1. Enquiry as to whether WPC intend to implement RHS management techniques in the Jubilee Garden – guidance to be re-circulated and discussed under an agenda item.

5. **To consider for approval the Minutes of the Meeting of the Parish Council held on 12 July 2023**

It was **resolved** that the minutes of the meeting held on 12 July 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 12 July 2023**

Item 6 – Cllr H Green was grateful for the email transition to gov.uk addresses, which had been smooth.

7. **Accounts for Approval and Payment** – It was **resolved** to approve the following accounts for payment with costs for the Cemetery in the Tree inspection invoice for Bakestone Moor and Cemetery being allocated to the Cemetery budget: -

<b>Direct Bank Payments to be Authorised</b>			
<b>Payee</b>	<b>Goods/Services</b>	<b>Amount</b>	<b>Budget</b>
Express Coaching	Wheelchair Basketball at Playscheme	300.00	36
Turner Hire & Sales	Repairs/PPE	88.73	63/59
Clear Insurance Management Ltd	Parish Council Insurance	1843.44	28
	<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>2232.17</b>	
<b>Direct Payments made in August, to be ratified</b>			
Thorpes Building Supplies	Repairs inv. 38371-3	73.63	63
Whitwell Community Centre	Playscheme photocopying	5.40	36
D Hardwick	Playscheme Disco	120.00	36
All Seasons inv. 355324	Playscheme Supplies	210.42	36
All Seasons inv. 355618/356073/356701	Playscheme Supplies	184.18	36
Planterior Landscape Services	Tree Survey Rookery	390.00	63
Planterior Landscape Services	Tree Survey BM & Cemetery	540.00	63/52
Planterior Landscape Services	Tree Works, Rookery	3750.00	63
	<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>5273.63</b>	
<b>Credit Card Payments</b>			
Co-operative Bank	Card Fee	2.00	20
Microsoft	Microsoft (Office 365 x 2)	24.72	45
	<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>26.72</b>	
<b>Credit Card Payments made in August – to be Ratified</b>			
Co-operative Bank	Card Fee	2.00	20
Microsoft	Microsoft (Office 365 x 2)	24.72	45
Cheapest Print Online	Newsletter Printing	156.00	33
Amazon	Playscheme Equipment	883.16	36
	<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>1065.88</b>	

8. **Financial Report and Bank Reconciliation**

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

9. **Conclusion of Audit – to accept the External Auditor Report and Certificate for the year ended 31 March 2023** - Report and Certificate not yet received from PKF Littlejohn – agenda for October.

**10. To accept the renewal of the Parish Council insurance from 1 October 2023**

It was **resolved** to accept the renewal cost of £1,843.44 for the 2<sup>nd</sup> year of a 3-year fixed deal with Clear Insurance Management Ltd (formerly BHIB).

**11. To consider Christmas Lights display**

It was **resolved** to install the same number of solar Christmas Tree lights (Clerk to investigate provision of coloured lights) with the installation of an additional 6 led lights on appropriate posts in The Square. Extra funds to come out of reserves.

**12. To consider participating in Extreme Wheels Provision in 2024**

It was **resolved** to book sessions for 2024 and indicate the council's intention for 2025 & 2026.

**13. Welbeck Street Recreation Ground**

Remediation works to the MUGA surface were still outstanding. It was **resolved** to seek guidance from the Council's insurers on possible re-course; inform the contractor that the Council are seeking legal advice and remind them to withdraw WPC's case study and refrain from using it as part of their marketing material.

**14. Community Orchard & Draft Lease**

It was **resolved** to contact BDC with concerns about the draft lease raised below and the absence of the access from the lease and the re-drawing of the boundary: -

LR4 – There was no plan enclosed.

5.1 reads "not able to take any flammable liquids on site" but fuel is required for machinery.

5.7 Discharges – are BDC aware of whether there are any drains, soak-aways, land drains from dwellings?

8.1 stipulates that grass is cut regularly – is this left to interpretation and would grazing sheep comply?

The hedgerow near the bungalows is causing access problems and may have encroached onto gardens.

**15. To consider results of recent Tree Surveys and planned maintenance**

It was **resolved** that notices are erected along the Plantation woodland, as advised. Clerk to contact the relevant authorities to undertake work on trees owned by them. Reports to be considered by the Climate Change Group before a maintenance plan is agreed.

DCC to be contacted regarding debris left on the road/pathway following flailing of the hedgerows along High Street past the Cemetery towards the A619.

**16. Allotments**

A meeting of the Allotments Working Group took place at the end of July. They considered requests to leave the water on over winter, which the Group has decided against in favour of encouraging plot holders to harvest water, and a request to move the bollard further into the site which they have decided to leave where it is. It was noted that two plots have been damaged by vehicles driving over them on the Mill Lane site. There are substantial amounts of allotments not being used or used appropriately, particularly at Station Road and management is ongoing. There is a tap on Mill Lane that requires replacement.

**17. Correspondence**

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

17.1. DALC August & September Newsletters – Noted.

17.2. Police & Crime Commissioner – Anti-social Behaviour Action Plan – Noted.

17.3. Nottinghamshire County Council – Public Consultation on Waste Local Plan – Noted.

17.4. NHS Property Services – Flagpole at Whitwell Health Centre – Agreed in principle.

17.5. Dom Webb – Clowne Action Group letter to DCC copied to WPC for information – Noted.

## 18. **Planning Matters –**

Cllr H Green declared an interest in item 18.6.

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

- 18.1. 23/00343/FUL – Replacement door (timber effect UPVC) and windows (timber effect UPVC), Hollis Cottage, 5 Mason Street, Whitwell – No objections, subject to adherence to conservation rules.
- 18.2. 23/00374/VAR – Vary Condition 1 (approved plans) and removal of Condition 3 (wall sample) of Planning Permission 23/00099/FUL, 4 High Street, Whitwell S80 4QU – WPC expects the conditions to be applied to this property, being in a prominent position within the village conservation area.
- 18.3. 23/00388/FUL – Material change of use from private to part commercial equestrian use and creation of a passing place along access lane, Firbeck House Farm, Worksop Road, Steetley – WPC expects there to be a biodiversity net gain with the removal of hedges being replaced elsewhere and any development related to change of use to be in-keeping with the visual amenity of the area, being in the conservation area in close proximity to Steetley Chapel.
- 18.4. 23/00386/OUT – Erection of detached dwelling with all matters reserved (resubmission of 20/00133/OUT), 108a Southfield Lane, Whitwell S80 4NR – no objections.
- 18.5. 23/00293/FUL – Erection of a wooden annexe in garden, 26 Mill Crescent, Whitwell S80 4SF – No objections.
- 18.6. 23/00404/TCON – Pollarding of 3 lime trees back to previous pollard points, 2 Worksop Road, Whitwell S80 4RF – No objections.
- 18.7. 23/00430/DETAG – Grain store and demolition of existing barn, Dumb Hall Farm, Scratta Lane, Steetley – No objections, subject to in-keeping with the visual amenity of the area and use of similar materials so as not to detract from Steetley Chapel, being a historic building of national importance.
- 18.8. 23/00444/FUL – Proposed machinery/equipment store, Dumb Hall Farm, Scratta Lane, Steetley - No objections, subject to in-keeping with the visual amenity of the area and use of similar materials so as not to detract from Steetley Chapel, being a historic building of national importance.
- 18.9. 23/00431/FUL – Demolish existing farmhouse and detached garage block and construct replacement dwelling with garage, Dumb Hall Farm, Scratta Lane, Steetley - No objections, subject to in-keeping with the visual amenity of the area and use of similar materials so as not to detract from Steetley Chapel, being a historic building of national importance.

**Planning not Listed:** -

- 18.10. 23/00461/FUL – Erection of wooden building to the side, Aigburth 38A High Street, Whitwell – objection that the building will still be visible and affect the visual amenity of the conservation area and WPC expects the same conditions to apply as per the previous application.

## 19. **Progress Reports**

- 19.1. **Playscheme** – A Playscheme Committee meeting will be held tomorrow evening.
- 19.2. **Climate Change Group** – An informal meeting was held on 7 September which was a good first meeting with public participation. Cllr J Raspin to meet with the Clerk to discuss implementation of realistic items. The next meeting is scheduled for 30 November 2023.

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

The next meeting will be held on Wednesday 11 October 2023 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.**

**22.1. Community Ownership Fund (COF) Update**

Cllr F Raspin reminded Councillors of the commercial sensitivity of this item. It was **resolved** to respond positively to the site owner and seek a definitive response. Clerk to contact the COF for advice.

**22.2. Whitwell Parish Council Summer Playscheme** (Cllr K Austin)

Playscheme issues were discussed and would be considered by the Committee.

To consider whether the provision is good value for money for taxpayers to be a future agenda item.

**22.3** Councillors were reminded about confidentiality regarding staff.

There being no further business the Chairman declared the meeting closed at 21:46.

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  
RAAC – Reinforced Autoclaved Aerated Concrete

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

## List of Resolutions

**48/2023-24** It was **resolved** that the minutes of the meeting held on 12 July 2023 be approved and duly signed by the Chairman.

**49/2023-24** It was **resolved** to approve the accounts for payment with costs for the Cemetery in the Tree inspection invoice for Bakestone Moor and Cemetery being allocated to the Cemetery budget.

**50/2023-24** It was **resolved** to accept the renewal cost of £1,843.44 for the 2<sup>nd</sup> year of a 3-year fixed deal with Clear Insurance Management Ltd (formerly BHIB).

**51/2023-24** It was **resolved** to install the same number of solar Christmas Tree lights (Clerk to investigate provision of coloured lights) with the installation of an additional 6 led lights on appropriate posts in The Square. Extra funds to come out of reserves.

**52/2023-24** It was **resolved** to book Extreme Wheels sessions for 2024 and indicate the council's intention for 2025 & 2026.

**53/2023-24** It was **resolved** to seek guidance from the Council's insurers on possible re-course with outstanding issue on Welbeck Street recreation ground; inform the contractor that the Council are seeking legal advice and remind them to withdraw WPC's case study and refrain from using it as part of their marketing material.

**54/2023-24** It was **resolved** to contact BDC with concerns about the draft orchard lease and the absence of the access from the lease and the re-drawing of the boundary.

**55/2023-24** It was **resolved** that notices are erected along the Plantation woodland, as advised in the tree survey. Clerk to contact the relevant authorities to undertake work on trees owned by them. Reports to be considered by the Climate Change Group before a maintenance plan is agreed.

**56/2023-24** It was **resolved** to deal with **Correspondence** as follows: -

- DALC August & September Newsletters – Noted.
- Police & Crime Commissioner – Anti-social Behaviour Action Plan – Noted.
- Nottinghamshire County Council – Public Consultation on Waste Local Plan – Noted.
- NHS Property Services – Flagpole at Whitwell Health Centre – Agreed in principle.
- Dom Webb – Clowne Action Group letter to DCC copied to WPC for information – Noted.

**57/2023-24** It was **resolved** to deal with **Planning** matters as follows: -

- 23/00343/FUL – Replacement door (timber effect UPVC) and windows (timber effect UPVC), Hollis Cottage, 5 Mason Street, Whitwell – No objections, subject to adherence to conservation rules.
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- 23/00444/FUL – Proposed machinery/equipment store, Dumb Hall Farm, Scratta Lane, Steetley – Same response as above.
- 23/00431/FUL – Demolish existing farmhouse and detached garage block and construct replacement dwelling with garage, Dumb Hall Farm, Scratta Lane, Steetley – Same response as above.

**Planning not Listed:** -

- 23/00461/FUL – Erection of wooden building to the side, Aigburth 38A High Street, Whitwell – objection that the building will still be visible and affect the visual amenity of the conservation area and WPC expects the same conditions to apply as per the previous application.

**58/2023-24** It was **resolved** that Clerk contact the COF for advice and respond positively to owner.

**59/2023-24** It was **resolved** to consider whether the playscheme provision is good value for money for taxpayers to be a future agenda item.