

**WHITWELL PARISH COUNCIL**  
**Minutes of the Meeting of the Council**  
**Held at 19:00 on Wednesday 14 June 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	2 Members of Public
County Councillor M Yates		

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).

Mark Wade from the Just Good Friends Club was in attendance to update the council on the community garden/café/education centre project at Whitwell Station. Network Rail will no longer be providing railway funding. Lottery funding is available which could be accessed by creating a partnership with community groups involved with the environment, education, youth and health. Mark will formally write to WPC.

Mark Wade left at 19:19

- 4.1. **Members of the Parish Council and public to raise matters of importance with the police**

There were no police present, a report was provided and noted. The following issues were raised:-

- 4.1.1. Following receipt of the PCC's newsletter questions to be raised as to how many new recruits are likely to be part of the North East Derbyshire team; how many of them are new or retained; what is the PCC doing to encourage new recruits to sustain their period of service.

- 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:-

He congratulated the Parish Council on their work on the Welbeck Street Recreation Ground, which is fantastic and he looks forward to the opening event at the Whitwell Gala on 24 June.

He reported on waiting restriction orders planned for 9 June.

He informed of a road closure on Fox Road due to STWA works from 26-28 July.

He has reported the road surface depreciation on Butt Hill Close.

He enquired about the next litter pick and was informed that they are held on the 2<sup>nd</sup> Saturday of the month.

He informed of some updates required on the Parish Council's website.

The following issues were raised:-

- 4.2.1. An explanation of waiting restrictions – these are parking restrictions e.g., double-yellow lines.

- 4.2.2. Could Cllr Yates put pressure on DCC to appoint more Occupational Therapists due to the 10 month backlog for assessments? He would require factual information, which Cllr T Munro would provide.

- 4.2.3. WPC are in limbo without a lease for the WCC building and therefore unable to access funding for refurbishment. Cllr Yates was asked to find out DCC's plans for the site. Cllr Yates would take some photos and report to DCC.

Cllr M Yates left at 19:42

- 4.3. **Members of the public to raise matters of importance with the Councillors present District Council** – No issues were raised.

Cllr T Munro and J Raspin have attended training sessions and will be able to report at the next meeting.

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

5. **To consider for approval the Minutes of the Annual Meeting of the Parish Council held on 10 May 2023**

It was **resolved** that the minutes of the Annual meeting held on 10 May 2023 be approved and duly signed by the Chairman.

6. **To consider any matters arising (for information only) from the Minutes of the Annual Meeting of the Parish Council held on 10 May 2023**

Item 8.1.1 – No further issues with residents of the former Miner’s Welfare building.

Item 8.1.2 – A reply has been received from the Co-op which seems like a template letter with reactionary measures. A response to be sent raising concern that they have not addressed the issues raised and there are measures they can take in respect of prevention.

Item 10 – The first speed watch has now been arranged, with training completed and equipment received.

Item 10 – The 50+ activity group has now been reduced to 1 member of BDC staff to extend provision.

Item 17 – Actions from Councillor Training: Terms of Reference (to be circulated), July Minutes to be published in August, three-year budget plan.

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>
SLCC	Membership Renewal	236.00	30
J S Marriott & Co., Accountants	Internal Audit Fee	190.00	19
Whitwell Community Centre	Grant – Community Events	10500.00	70
McHenry’s Place	Hanging Basket Contract	2700.00	56
DALC	Councillor Training	298.00	43
Mole Country Stores	Grounds Maintenance	49.66	63
G Burley & Sons Ltd (Plantscape)	2 x Holestar Planters	183.10	56
Thorpes Building Supplies	Repairs	65.59	63
Allcocks Sheds & Fencing Ltd	2 x fence panels/1 post	93.50	63
Phil Neal, Sculptor	WS Rec Gate Refurbishment 50% dep.	1000.00	58
	<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>15301.85</b>	
<b>Credit Card Payments</b>			
Microsoft	Microsoft (Office 365) x 2 users	24.72	45
Co-op Bank	Credit Card Fee	2.00	20
Hopkinsons Waste	Skip for ML Allotments	287.00	46
Amazon	Stationery/Ink	96.19	39
Amazon	Repairs/Maintenance	84.00	63
Glasdon UK	Replacement Bench for Old Hall Lane	728.12	64
	<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>1222.03</b>	

8. **Financial Report, Statement of Account for the year ended 31.3.23 and Bank Reconciliation**

It was **resolved** to accept the Financial Report, Reserves Report and Statement of Account for the year ended 31.3.23. Cllr K Austin signed the May bank reconciliation.

9. **Internal Auditor’s Report**

It was **resolved** to accept the Internal Auditor’s Report for the year ended 31.3.23.

10. **Approval of the Annual Governance Statement for the year ended 31.3.23**

It was **resolved** to approve the Annual Governance Statement for the year ended 31.3.23.

**11. Approval of the Accounting Statements for the year ended 31.3.23**

It was **resolved** to approve the Accounting Statements for the year ended 31.3.23.

**12. To consider participating in DCC's Minor Maintenance Scheme in 2023-24**

It was **resolved** to participate in DCC's Minor Maintenance Scheme in 2023-24. Clerk to calculate actual costs to the Parish Council and appeal to DCC to review contribution rates to fairly recompense participants.

**13. To consider provision of Councillor gov.uk email addresses (Cllr T Munro)**

It was **resolved** to provide councillor gov.uk email addresses as soon as practicable.

**14. Tree Works in The Rookery**

It was **resolved** that work is carried out as soon as possible based on the grounds of safety.

**15. Welbeck Street Recreation Ground Progress & Official Opening of Play Equipment**

Following the site meeting on 4 May with Sutcliffe the corroded posts have been replaced on the dog park and spare parts have been received. Sutcliffe are awaiting feedback from the tarmac supplier with regards to the MUGA weed issue and have not yet responded regarding provision of a replacement dog park gate. The Lord Lieutenant of Derbyshire will be officially opening the new equipment at 2.15pm at the Whitwell Gala on 24 June. Clerk to arrange refreshments. The entrance gate is currently with the local craftsman being re-designed to be in place for the opening ceremony.

**16. To Consider a Community Orchard Management Plan (Cllr T Munro)**

Cllr J Raspin reported on a meeting at the orchard with herself, Cllr T Munro and the Bolsover Woodlands Officer when a proposed draft management plan was discussed. A volunteer day has been arranged for 21 June and advertised on social media. Cllr S Maiden gave his opinion on the proposed plan; some discussion took place. Cllr J Raspin had prepared a flyer to hand out at the Gala, which would be altered to include the broad issue of climate change and that the community orchard is one of the first projects the council have been working on to increase biodiversity and would love ideas from the community. WPC should create a management plan before any work is carried out and a lease is in place.

**17. Allotments**

Cllr F Raspin reported on issues raised at the Annual Parish Meeting regarding management of allotments, particularly the Station Road site. A visit by the Working Group will be arranged to carry out inspections.

**18. Correspondence**

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

18.1. DALC Newsletter – Noted

18.2. BDC – Whitwell Orchard Lease – Name of solicitors to be provided. WPC would like some resolution on access from Claylands Farm Lane not causing a disturbance to residents of Claylands Road.

18.3. Mark Fletcher MP – Bench installation request – To the best of our knowledge the land is owned by Chatsworth Estates - request BDC Estates Dept., to investigate. It is unclear whether the constituent is offering to contribute, but you may be able to help with your MP's allowance? PS: we advise you to investigate the suggested site which seems a strange location for a bench.

18.4. Nottinghamshire County Council – Update on Waste Local Plan – Noted.

18.5. BDC – Code of Conduct Training – to be arranged to precede a parish council meeting.

18.6. BDC – Free Replacement Trees – Clerk to investigate further.

18.7. DCC – Notification of cultivation licence approval to plant bulbs on verge at 4 Scotland Street – Noted.

**Correspondence Not Listed**

18.8. Lhoist re: Whitwell Plant – News of Lhoist’s decision to mothball the W1 kiln at the Whitwell plant in 2024 is received with a sense of regret, however, WPC would be keen to know that Lhoist would be able to secure employment for residents of Whitwell.

19. **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: -

- 19.1. 17/00640/OUT – Outline Planning Application with all matters reserved for mixed use development including up to 24ha of employment land (B1,B2,B8) up to 1800 residential dwellings, green infrastructure, educational and recreational uses, a retirement village, neighbourhood centre, hotel, restaurant, health and care and leisure uses, demolition of existing Station Road Industrial Estate where applicable, demolition of dwelling/outbuilding as applicable and construction of a new link road with in-principal points of access – Land North of Clowne including section of Town Centre, Hickinwood Lane, Clowne – Clerk to formulate a response from comments made and forward to Vice Chair.
- 19.2. 23/00244/LBC – To replace non original timber windows, The Old George, High Street, Whitwell – noted.

20. **Progress Reports**

- 20.1. **Playscheme** – Uptake on registrations has been slow so far. A meeting is scheduled for 29 June.
- 20.2. **Cemetery** – Issues have been raised regarding some cremated remains plots and a site meeting has been arranged for Friday at 2.00 pm.

21. **Date of Next Meeting**

The next meeting will be held on Wednesday 12 July 2023 at 7.00 pm.

22. **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)**

- 22.1. The ‘Cuppa with a Copper’ event was very useful.
- 22.2. Item 14 - A risk assessment was suggested as part of the Parish Council’s decision-making process.
- 22.3. Item 16 – Enquiry as to where information about biodiversity can be obtained – MOP was informed that the internet was useful and a site called ResearchGate was suggested.

1 MOP left at 21:57

23. **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.**

23.1. **To consider making an expression of interest to the Government’s Community Ownership Fund**

It was **resolved** to make an expression of interest and investigate registering a community asset.

23.2. **To consider reviewing the Council’s priorities with a view to improving the appearance of the village, taking into account the responsibilities of DCC and BDC (Cllr J Raspin)**

Although removal of vegetation from pavements is BDC’s responsibility, lack of action currently from BDC has affected the appearance of the centre of the village. Clerk to investigate insurance cover for WPC employees.

There being no further business the Chairman declared the meeting closed at 22:10.

Signed ..... (Chairman)

Date .....

## List of Resolutions

**29/2023-24** It was **resolved** that the minutes of the Annual meeting held on 10 May 2023 be approved and duly signed by the Chairman.

**30/2023-24** It was **resolved** to approve the Financial Report, Reserves Report, Statement of Account for the year ended 31.3.23. The Bank Reconciliation was signed by Cllr K Austin

**31/2023-24** It was **resolved** to accept the Internal Auditor's Report for the year ended 31.3.23.

**32/2023-24** It was **resolved** to approve the Annual Governance Statement for the year ended 31.3.23.

**33/2023-24** It was **resolved** to approve the Accounting Statements for the year ended 31.3.23.

**34/2023-24** It was **resolved** to participate in DCC's Minor Maintenance Scheme in 2023-24. Clerk to calculate actual costs to the Parish Council and appeal to DCC to review contribution rates to fairly recompense participants.

**35/2023-24** It was **resolved** to provide councillor gov.uk email addresses as soon as practicable.

**36/2023-24** It was **resolved** that work is carried out as soon as possible based on the grounds of safety.

**37/2023-24** It was **resolved** to deal with correspondence as follows: -

- DALC Newsletter – Noted
- BDC – Whitwell Orchard Lease – Name of solicitors to be provided. WPC would like some resolution on access from Claylands Farm Lane not causing a disturbance to residents of Claylands Road.
- Mark Fletcher MP – Bench installation request – To the best of our knowledge the land is owned by Chatsworth Estates - request BDC Estates Dept., to investigate. It is unclear whether the constituent is offering to contribute, but you may be able to help with your MP's allowance? PS: we advise you to investigate the suggested site which seems a strange location for a bench.
- Nottinghamshire County Council – Update on Waste Local Plan – Noted.
- BDC – Code of Conduct Training – to be arranged to precede a parish council meeting.
- BDC – Free Replacement Trees – Clerk to investigate further.
- DCC – Notification of cultivation licence approval to plant bulbs on verge at 4 Scotland Street – Noted.

### **Correspondence Not Listed**

- Lhoist re: Whitwell Plant – News of Lhoist's decision to mothball the W1 kiln at the Whitwell plant in 2024 is received with a sense of regret, however, WPC would be keen to know that Lhoist would be able to secure employment for residents of Whitwell.

**38/2023-24** It was **resolved** to deal with planning matters as follows: -

- 17/00640/OUT – Outline Planning Application with all matters reserved for mixed use development including up to 24ha of employment land (B1,B2,B8) up to 1800 residential dwellings, green infrastructure, educational and recreational uses, a retirement village, neighbourhood centre, hotel, restaurant, health and care and leisure uses, demolition of existing Station Road Industrial Estate where applicable, demolition of dwelling/outbuilding as applicable and construction of a new link road with in-principal points of access – Land North of Clowne including section of Town Centre, Hickinwood Lane, Clowne – Clerk to formulate a response from comments made and forward to Vice Chair.
- 23/00244/LBC – To replace non original timber windows, The Old George, High Street, Whitwell – noted.

**39/2023-24** It was resolved to make an expression of interest in the Government's Community Ownership Fund and investigate registering a community asset.

### **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

STWA – Severn Trent Water Authority

TCON – Tree in a Conservation Area

TPO – Tree Protection Order

WCC – Whitwell Community Centre

WPC – Whitwell Parish Council