

WHITWELL PARISH COUNCIL
Minutes of the Meeting of the Council
Held at 19:00 on Wednesday 14 February 2024

Present:

Councillor T Munro (Chair)

Councillor K Austin

Councillor S Maiden

Councillor D Munro

Councillor F Raspin

Councillor J Raspin

In attendance: PC Dan Short

1. **To receive and Accept Apologies for Absence** – Apologies were received and accepted from Cllr H Green.
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 Short gave a crime report. He reported on Mini Police extra funding for signage near Whitwell Primary School, Ozbox sessions, and Cuppa with a Copper on 8 March. The following issues were raised: -

- 4.1.1 Enquiry about shoplifting – PC Short reported that there have been 4 incidents at the Co-op this month with two arrests being made.
- 4.1.2 Whether immediate justice referrals are made due to backlogs – PC Short informed that they do help with the backlog but are dependent on various factors such as type of offence.
- 4.1.3 Whether community work is carried out in the same community – PC Short responded that it could be anywhere in Derbyshire.
- 4.1.4 Is the Ripley custody suite the nearest? PC Short responded that Chesterfield custody suite is currently closed but suspects can be taken to Clowne, Staveley or Shirebrook Police stations on a voluntary basis but implementation of bail conditions can only be done at a custody suite.
- 4.1.5 Policing of Motorised scooters – for ages 13 or under in the first instance they will be taken to parents and receive some education, with the scooter being seized for any repeat offence. For adults scooters will be seized.

PC Short left the meeting at 19:11

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 and would be forward to Cllr Yates: -

- 4.2.1. Pothole repairs are being marked online as complete, but the repairs undertaken are evidently temporary. WPC wishes to express frustration at the number of temporary repairs which are not solving the problem. Also, the speed of making repairs is slower than the rate at which new holes are appearing.
- 4.2.2. Street light repairs are not being carried out, particularly the post at the Welbeck Street Recreation Ground entrance and one on Welbeck Street opposite the entrance to Coronation Street.

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

District Council – No issues.

Parish Council – No issues.

5. **To consider for approval the Minutes of the Meeting of the Parish Council held on 10 January 2024**

It was **resolved** that the minutes of the meeting held on 10 January 2024 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 10 January 2024**

Item 6.10 – CCTV equipment has been installed at Welbeck Street Recreation Ground and snagging issues are being progressed.

Item 11 – There has not yet been a response from BDC regarding the Community Orchard Access/Lease.

Item 12 – The controlled shoot at Bakestone Moor allotment site was unsuccessful due to no rats being seen.

Another shoot can be arranged if there are signs of rats on the site.

Item 13 – The owner of one potential site identified for biodiversity has responded favourably.

Item 14.2 – Three replacement Lime trees have now been planted in the Rookery.

7. **To consider for approval the Minutes of the Budget Meeting held on 7 February 2024 and the budget recommendation for 2024/25**

It was **resolved** that the minutes of the Budget Meeting held on 7 February 2024 be approved and duly signed by the Chairman and the budget recommendation of £273,519 be approved.

8. **Accounts for Approval and Payment** – It was **resolved** to approve the following accounts for payment and note that budget code 32 Parish Clock requires increasing for the next 2 years to cover the Maintenance Contract: -

Direct Bank Payments to be Authorised			
Payee	Goods/Services	Amount	Budget
Zurich Municipal	Van Insurance	824.38	25
Life Publications	Newsletter Delivery	151.20	33
Sutcliffe Play	WS Rec. Final Payment	13189.12	85
Thorpes Building Supplies	Repairs	15.00	63
Mole Country Stores	Repairs	72.97	63
Link Integrated	CCTV System WS Rec.	2717.27	Grant
Smith of Derby	Parish Clock 3-year contract	723.60	32
	TOTAL	17693.54	
Credit Card Payments			
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
Amazon	Litter-picking Equipment	114.50	63
Amazon	Litter-picking Equipment	41.94	63
	TOTAL	239.80	

9. **Financial Report and Bank Reconciliation**

It was **resolved** to accept the Financial Report and Reserves Report. Cllr J Raspin signed the January bank reconciliation.

10. **To Consider establishing a user protocol for setting up a Parish Council Facebook page**

It was **resolved** to accept the draft protocol. A map of the Parish to be used as a cover photo and an appropriate profile picture. It was assumed that 2-3 posts per week would be sufficient. Administration hours to be monitored and reported back to the council at the June meeting.

11. To consider a new Parish Council website subscription and document migration to cloud space (Cllr K Austin)

It was **resolved** to subscribe to a Parish Online website at a cost of £390 per year and to arrange migration of the council's documents to the cloud. A quotation for document migration has been received but further quotes would be sought to be considered at a future meeting.

12. To consider completion of Claim for DCC's ROW Minor Maintenance Agreement 1.4.23-31.3.24

It was **resolved** that the Chairman signs the claim for 2023-24.

13. To consider renewal of the Parish Council Van Insurance

It was **resolved** to renew the Parish Council Van Insurance with Zurich at a cost of £824.38.

14. To consider a request from BDC to fund room hire for 10 x Ozbox Sessions @ £16/session

It was **resolved** to fund room hire for 10 x Ozbox Sessions.

15. To consider an application for funding from Whitwell Playgroup

It was **resolved** to grant £200 to Whitwell Playgroup.

16. To consider a request to install a tree carving from the fallen cherry tree on Hangar Hill

It was **resolved** to thank the tree carver for the work he has carried out on the trunk and advise him to make the request to DCC to install the carving as they are the owners of the proposed site, however, WPC is supportive of the proposal.

17. Welbeck Street Recreation Ground

A report of the site meeting with the contractor had been circulated. It was **resolved** that the Parish Handymen monitor the MUGA surface over the next 12 months.

18. Correspondence

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

- 18.1. DALC February Newsletter – Memorial Management & Inspection Training to be arranged for the Parish Handymen; to be allocated to the Cemetery budget.
- 18.2. BDC – Proposed Diversion of FP 55, Whitwell, grid ref 453200 37600 – Further clarification to be sought on the justification for the diversion as the reason given "to facilitate the development" does not give adequate explanation for the diversion of the path onto a public highway. WPC would not want to see the boundary wall incorporated into people's private gardens – who is going to take responsibility for re-building, stabilising and maintaining the wall?
- 18.3. Sutcliffe Play – Site Meeting 17.1.24 - Noted
- 18.4. Boundary Commission – Consultation - Noted
- 18.5. Feasibility for a Creative Hub – DCC's Former Day Centre to be put forward as a potential site.
- 18.6. BDC – Positive Place Narrative Update - Noted

Correspondence not listed: -

- 18.7. Alpaca Communications – Shireoaks Plastics Recycling Centre & Energy Recovery Public Consultation – To be invited to a future Climate Change Working Group Meeting.

19. 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: -

- 19.1. 24/00029/FUL – Ground floor rear extension, conversion of garage to living space and creation of room in roof space with 1 dormer and 8 Velux windows (revised scheme), Woodlea, Station Road, Whitwell – No objections.
- 19.2. 24/00017/FUL – Bricking up front doorway, inserting new bi-fold doors. A replacement higher wall built of breeze block clad in stone and installation of a new gate. Conversion of garage to use as living/workspace,

replacement windows and doors, guttering, 3 Hangar Hill, Whitwell S80 4TB – Concerns raised that the description of the proposed plans does not match the work already carried out.

20. Progress Reports

Playscheme

Cllr J Raspin reported on progress with the Holiday Activity and Food Project.

Community Orchard

The Former BDC Woodlands Officer will be running a session on the principles of pruning at 10.00 am on Friday 16 February in the Friendship Hall.

21. Date of Next Meeting

The next meeting will be held on Wednesday 13 March 2024 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) - None.

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. Staff Training

Cemetery Training agreed in item 18.1. Chainsaw Training required for tree works.

23.2. To consider a response received from Welbeck Estates

Clerk to draft a response, circulate to councillors, and seek legal advice recommendations.

23.3. BDC – Informal pre-application Enquiry

Concerns to be raised with potential negative impact on the residential visual amenity.

There being no further business the Chairman declared the meeting closed at 21:01.

Signed (Chairman)

Date

Abbreviations Used:

BDC – Bolsover District Council

CLLR – Councillor

DCC – Derbyshire County Council

MUGA – Multi-use Games Area

ROW – Rights of Way

WS Rec. – Welbeck Street Recreation Ground

CCTV – Closed-circuit Television

FP - Footpath

MOP – Member of Public

PC – Police Constable

WPC – Whitwell Parish Council

List of Resolutions

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101/2023-24 It was **resolved** to approve the accounts for payment.

102/2023-24 It was **resolved** to accept the financial & reserves report and Cllr J Austin to sign the January Bank Reconciliation.

103/2023-24 It was **resolved** to accept the draft Facebook protocol. A map of the Parish to be used as a cover photo and an appropriate profile picture. It was assumed that 2-3 posts per week would be sufficient. Administration hours to be monitored and reported back to the council at the June meeting.

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105/2023-24 It was **resolved** that the Chairman signs DCC's Minor Maintenance claim for 2023-24.

106/2023-24 It was **resolved** to renew the Parish Council Van Insurance with Zurich at a cost of £824.38.

107/2023-24 It was **resolved** to fund room hire for 10 x Ozbox Sessions.

108/2023-24 It was **resolved** to grant £200 to Whitwell Playgroup.

109/2023-24 It was **resolved** to thank the tree carver for the work he has carried out on the trunk and advise him to make the request to DCC to install the carving on the verge on Hangar Hill as they are the owners of the proposed site, however, WPC is supportive of the proposal.

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- Boundary Commission – Consultation - Noted
- Feasibility for a Creative Hub – The Former Day Centre to be put forward as a potential site.
- BDC – Positive Place Narrative Update - Noted

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