

WHITWELL PARISH COUNCIL
Minutes of the Meeting of the Council
Held at 19:00 on Wednesday 18 September 2024

Present:

Councillor T Munro (Chair)
Councillor D Munro
PCSO S Fox

Councillor H Green
Councillor J Paget
1 Member of Public

Councillor S Maiden

1. **To Receive and Accept Apologies and Reasons for Absence** – Apologies and reasons were received and accepted from Cllr K Austin, Cllr F Raspin and Cllr J Raspin.
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).

A member of public was concerned that all residents had not been informed of a neighbouring planning application. Cllr T Munro assured the member of public that consultation letters have been sent out to every household and that any responses should be sent individually to BDC.

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

PCSO S Fox was present and provided a crime report. The priority for the next 3 months is anti-social behaviour. They will be producing a 6 monthly newsletter. She informed the meeting of the Derbyshire Alert Service and left some surveys for completion to help identify other areas to target as the next priority. The following issues were raised: -

- 4.1.1. Whether PCSO Fox was involved with the mini-police – yes, together with PC Short and they will be working with the year 5's when the programme re-starts.
- 4.1.2. The law relating to noisy cars – Vehicles can be reported to the police that are causing harassment, alarm or distress and they will gather intelligence. There are lawful noise limits, and some modifications or removal of equipment can also be involved which can be illegal and invalidate insurance. One car was caught on CCTV with the owner receiving a warning then a Section 59 official warning, with the vehicle eventually being seized and checked for modifications that have not been disclosed to the insurer.
- 4.1.3. The installation of a 360° camera on Hangar Hill – the Police have been made aware of this and the issue is being dealt with by the Community Safety Partnership.
- 4.1.4. A registration number was passed to PCSO Fox due to suspected drug dealing.
- 4.1.5. Off-road motor bikes have been heard on Whitwell Pit Tip on Saturday and Sunday afternoons and Monday evening.

PCSO Fox left the meeting at 19:30

4.2. **Members of the Parish Council and the public to raise matters of importance with the County Councillor**
Cllr M Yates was not in attendance. No issues were raised.

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

4.3.1 Congratulations to be sent to Whitwell Brass Band on winning their regional championship and competing in the national championships. WPC are extremely proud of them and wish them luck in their forthcoming performance with the Black Dyke Band at Worksop Priory.

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

It was resolved that the minutes of the Meeting held on 10 July 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 July 2024**

Item 11 – An offer had been received for 2 redundant mowers of £300, which was acceptable.

Item 12 – The “no bikes” notice had been displayed at the Cemetery and “no parking” notices renewed. A polite reminder in the newsletter was suggested.

1 MOP left at 19:37

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
PKF Littlejohn	External Audit	756.00	19
Clear Insurance Management Ltd	Parish Council Insurance	1874.50	28
Turner Hire & Sales	Chainsaw PPE	580.97	59
M & R Lawnmower Sales	Chainsaw Service/parts	139.76	63
Thorpes Building Supplies	Repairs	28.05	63
	TOTAL	3379.28	
Direct Bank Payments made in August - to be Ratified			
Thorpes Building Supplies	Repairs	63.26	63
Turner Hire & Sales	Repairs	29.40	63
Russells	Etesia PHTS3 Mower	1296.00	63
All Seasons x 4 invoices	Playscheme Food	307.82	Funding
D Hardwick	Playscheme Disco	120.00	36
Bolsover District Council	Playscheme Sports Sessions	360.00	Funding
TKF Training	Chainsaw Course Deposit (x2)	585.60	43
TKF Training	Chainsaw Course Balance (x2)	1366.40	43
	TOTAL	4128.48	
Credit Card Payments			
Co-operative Bank	Card Fee	2.00	20
Microsoft	Microsoft (Office 365 x 2)	24.72	45
Microsoft	Clr gov.uk emails x 8	56.64	45
Amazon	Stationery	56.65	39
Amazon	Postage	29.99	38
Tesco Online	Playscheme Food	653.75	Funding
Amazon	Playscheme Equipment	102.15	Funding
	TOTAL	925.80	
Credit Card Payments made in August – to be Ratified			
Co-operative Bank	Card Fee	2.00	20
Microsoft	Microsoft (Office 365 x 2)	24.72	45
Microsoft	Clr gov.uk emails x 8	56.64	45
Amazon	Playscheme Equipment	588.53	36
Baker Ross	Playscheme Equipment	525.70	36
Ikea	Playscheme Supplies	84.00	Funding
Tesco Online	Playscheme Food	548.08	Funding
CPD Online College	Playscheme Leader Training	47.04	43
	TOTAL	1876.71	

8. **Financial Report and Bank Reconciliation**

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

9. **Conclusion of Audit – to accept the External Auditor Report and Certificate for the year ended 31 March 2024**

The Auditor's Report contained no recommendations or matters for consideration, and it was **resolved** to accept the report. The Council is grateful and thanked the Clerk for the phenomenal work carried out on the Council's finances.

10. **To Accept the Renewal of the Parish Council Insurance from 1 October 2024**

It was **resolved** to accept the renewal of the Parish Council insurance at £1,874.50.

11. **To Consider Participating in Extreme Wheels provision in 2025**

It was **resolved** to participate in Extreme Wheels provision in 2025 and to request provision be advertised on site.

12. **Whitwell Common Recreation Ground**

It was **resolved** that Chair & Clerk meet with BDC representatives and any other Councillors who are available regarding issues raised and to request permission for hedgerow planting.

13. **Correspondence**

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

13.1. DALC August and September Newsletter – Noted.

13.2. Local Government Boundary Commission Final Recommendations on Derbyshire Division – Noted.
Whitwell/Hodthorpe Boundary to also be re-visited.

13.3. Nottinghamshire Wildlife Trust Invitation to River Idle Management Partnership – Cllr S Maiden to attend.

13.4. CPRE – Draft response to Chesterfield to Willington consultation of National Grid update – Noted.

13.5. BDC – Public Consultation on Draft Housing Strategy 2024-29 – Noted.

13.6. Whitwell With Steetley PCC – Flower Festival Participation – Congratulate them on the successful event.

13.7. SLCC – New Guidance on Responding to Online Abuse - Noted

13.8. Trinity Methodist Circuit – Whitwell Methodist Church – To be invited to the next meeting.

13.9. DCC – Parish & Town Council Liaison Forum 15 October 2024 – Clerk attending.

13.10. 1st Whitwell Scouts & Guides – Invitation to AGM 24.9.24 – everyone encouraged to attend.

13.11. BDC – Whitwell Orchard Access – With the exception of maintenance vehicles and school visits under the control of teachers, access will be locked under the ownership of the Parish Council. BDC to be asked about hedgerow planting either side of the intended pathway to provide privacy for residents along the side of the access route.

13.12. DCC Libraries – Invitation to meet for update on the Library Service – Meeting to be arranged and all Councillors invited.

13.13. DCC – Snow Warden Scheme 2024-25 – To be posted on website/Facebook/Newsletter.

Correspondence Not Listed

13.14. BDC – Cllr T Munro's Civic Dinner 29.11.24 – all Councillors are invited.

13.15. Whitwell Community Centre – DCC Gas Charges – Clerk to write to DCC's Chief Financial Officer(CFO) to request an explanation of their calculations and inform them that WPC does not have a lease and we believe we can purchase gas far cheaper than DCC and wish to have our own supply and be excluded from their gas contract but would also be happy to take the responsibility as the lead customer and re-charge DCC their 40% from a smaller base, therefore saving WPC as well as DCC money (our recent enquiries show that WPC can halve the cost of gas at this site). We would be grateful for the CFO's thoughts and would also welcome a site meeting with DCC as head lessees as WPC are concerned about how the Management Committee are able to manage the building due to DCC's intransigence.

14. **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: -

- 14.1. 24/00360/NCO – Erection of Industrial Building including associated works, Explore Industrial Park, Explore Way, Worksop S80 3DT – no objections.
- 14.2. 24/00381/FUL – Cross Boundary application comprising erection of industrial buildings and associated works, Explore Way, Steetley – no objections.
- 14.3. 24/00394/FUL – Change of use from shop to dwelling. Alterations to remove shop front, replacement windows and doors, loft conversion with rooflights and new window to rear elevation, 14 Portland Street, Whitwell S80 4RH – No objections, subject to any alterations being in keeping with the neighbouring properties along the terrace in the conservation area.
- 14.4. 24/00367/TPO – G1-Remove group of 2 Sycamores, T001-Remove Tree and T002-Remove Tree or remove southern stem (TPO/94), 14 Station Road, Whitwell S80 4RS – WPC is concerned about the deforestation of this area and prefers that removal of trees is carried out only when deemed necessary to maintain safety. It is disappointing that there is no indication of any mitigating measures for planting of replacement trees.

Planning not listed: -

- 14.5 24/00414/FUL – Retrospective Planning Permission to install 2 Shipping Containers on a temporary basis and Erection of a New 160sqm Agricultural Building, land North of The Old Hall, Old Hall Lane, Whitwell: -
 - The supporting information does not accurately capture the perspective that the proposed development would impact on.
 - The application does not mention alterations that have already been undertaken to the stone entrance wall and the retrospective element of this application perhaps does not acknowledge all works already undertaken.
 - The nature of the proposed building would not be in keeping within the conservation area, which would be significantly affected along with neighbouring properties in this residential area.
 - The lane, being PROW (54), used by residents and walkers, is not suitable for agricultural vehicles/trailers, and there is not sufficient space for turning of the vehicles into the access and public rights would be adversely affected by the increase in vehicle movement.
 - It is not clear that the necessity for an agricultural building is essential for the needs of agriculture, forestry or other rural business. The land is presented in the application as an agricultural piece of land in use, however, it is an ungrazed grassed paddock, so it is confusing as to the requirement of an agricultural building on this site.
- 14.6 24/00108/FUL – Stable Block with Cupola and Weathervane, Castle Hill Farm, Walls Lane, Whitwell Common – No objections.

15. **Progress Reports**

Climate Change Working Group

A meeting was held on 17 September. The following issues were raised at the meeting: -

- Whether wildflower beds could be planted on the verges near the cemetery – DCC to be asked.
- What type of weedkiller was used by the Parish Council
- Whether electric tools could be used when replacement was necessary.
- The management plan for the Village Green will be updated.
- The house martin nests not yet fitted to be returned to Cllr Maiden for modification.

Allotments

Station Road Allotment site drive to be kept clear, overhanging branches cut and Plot 9 to be kept tidy – Clerk advised that works to those areas had already been carried out but would ensure the drive is kept clear.

Clearance of overgrown plots to be considered at the end of the season.

There would be no access made available to plot holders via the unauthorised gate adjacent to the horse field.

16. **Date of Next Meeting**

The next meeting will be held on Wednesday, 9 October 2024 at 7.00 pm.

17. **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.**

18. **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.**

18.1. Whitwell Cemetery

No progress.

Clerk to email advice to Councillors.

There being no further business the Chairman declared the meeting closed at 21:45

Signed (Chairman)

Date

Abbreviations Used:

BDC – Bolsover District Council

CLLR – Councillor

DALC – Derbyshire Assoc. of Local Councils

DCC – Derbyshire County Council

DLUHC – Dept of Housing & Levelling-up

FP – Footpath

H&BPC – Hodthorpe & Belph Parish Council

MOP – Member of Public

NCC – Nottinghamshire County Council

PC – Police Constable

SLCC – Society of Local Council Clerks

WCC – Whitwell Community Centre

WPC – Whitwell Parish Council

WS Rec. – Welbeck Street Recreation Ground

List of Resolutions

41/2024-25 it was **resolved** that the minutes of the meeting held on 10 July 2024 be approved and duly signed by the Chairman.

42/2024-25 It was **resolved** to approve the accounts for payment.

43/2024/25 It was **resolved** to accept the Financial Report. Cllr H Green to sign the July & August bank reconciliations.

44/2024-25 It was **resolved** to accept the External Auditor’s Report. The Council is grateful and thanked the Clerk for the phenomenal work carried out on the Council’s finances.

45/2024-25 It was **resolved** to participate in Extreme Wheels provision in 2025 and to request provision be advertised on site.

46/2025-25 It was **resolved** to accept the renewal of the Parish Council insurance at £1,874.50.

47/2024-25 It was **resolved** that Chair & Clerk meet with BDC representatives to discuss issues a Whitwell Common Recreation Ground and any other Councillors who are available regarding issues raised and to request permission for hedgerow planting.

48/2024-25 It was **resolved** to deal with **Correspondence**

49/2024-25 It was **resolved** to deal with **Planning matters**