

WHITWELL PARISH COUNCIL
Minutes of the Meeting of the Council
Held at 19:00 on Wednesday 10 December 2025

Present:

Councillor F Raspin (Chair)
Councillor D Munro
8 Members of Public (MOP)

Councillor K Austin
Councillor J Paget

Councillor S Maiden
Councillor J Raspin

1. **To Receive and Accept Apologies and Reasons for Absence** – Apologies were received and accepted from Cllr H Green and Cllr T Munro.
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).

Residents of Parkway informed the meeting of issues they have suffered from since a builder was allowed to use land at the rear of Parkway. Cllr T Munro had received correspondence on this issue and had informed the Planning Department. The landowner, who was present, advised that he has now asked the builder to vacate his land and will no longer be applying for change of use, only retrospective permission for a container. He has submitted a request for a pre-application and is expecting a visit from the Planning Department. Councillors advised residents to contact them if they have any environmental issues.

6 MOP left at 19:20

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

PC A Podam had sent his apologies and provided a crime report. No issues were raised.

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

The County Cllr was not present. The following issues were raised: -

- 4.2.1. Flooding in the dip near the Pebley Inn
- The following issues are outstanding: -
- 4.2.2. Removal of flags obscuring Christmas lights.
 - 4.2.3. Funding for road safety measures.
 - 4.2.4. Flooding issue outside the Chip Inn

4.3. **Members of the public to raise matters of importance with the Councillors present Bolsover District Council (BDC)**

- 4.3.1 An issue was raised regarding illegal waste transfer/disposal of building materials etc., from the old Van Dykes development site to land initially planned to provide parking. Also, possible blocking of a footpath.
- 4.3.2 Cllr J Raspin reported on 3 motions passed by BDC last week: -
 - To lobby Parliament to pass a law for any catering establishment handling/selling food to display a certificate of hygiene.
 - Regulation of licensing for HMO's
 - To join a coalition of over 40 other authorities to tackle harm done by gambling by regulating/ceasing sponsorship.

Whitwell Parish Council (WPC) – None.

5. **To consider for approval the Minutes of the Meeting of the Parish Council held on 12 November 2025**
It was **resolved** that the minutes of the Meeting held on 12 November 2025 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 November 2025**
- 6.1. Item 4 – The Just Good Friends Club have not yet heard anything from the nearby building contractor, but this is being pursued.
- 6.2. Item 4.2.2 – Correspondence from DCC regarding installation of child mannequins noted.

2 MOP left at 19:42

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

Direct Bank Payments to be Authorised			
Payee	Goods/Services	Amount	Budget
G Burley & Son (Plantscape)	Solar Christmas Trees	5394.00	69
Civic Pride	LED Christmas Lights	1800.00	69
Derbyshire County Council	Whitwell School Letting Fee (Holiday Club)	423.41	37
Worknest	Health & Safety Pro Services Year 1	3021.60	29
Bolsover District Council	Extreme Wheels Holiday Provision 2025	3200.00	102
Bolsover District Council	Buildings Insurance adj. – Parish Store	90.33	41
Eventful Bespoke Catering	December Training Event	160.00	43
N Power	Unmetered Load Nov 2025 (Christmas)	6.32	69
Mole Country Stores	Friendship Hall Christmas Tree	36.00	63
Thorpes Building Supplies	Repairs/Maintenance	8.64	63
	TOTAL	14140.30	

8. **Financial Reports and Bank Reconciliation**

The Financial Reports were accepted and the bank reconciliation for November signed by Cllr K Austin.

9. **Whitwell Common Recreation Ground**

A funding bid to the Tarmac LCF for new play equipment has been completed, with the outcome expected in March. Residents have received notification from BDC that work on removal of garages and extension of parking will commence in January 2026. Clerk to request that WPC is notified.

10. **To consider appointment of a solicitor for Orchard Lease**

Clerk reported that the Council's solicitors have gone into administration. It was **resolved** to contact local firms listed on the Law Society's website to enable the Council to appoint a solicitor in January.

11. **To consider skate park maintenance**

It was **resolved** to appoint Spheracon Ltd to carry out repairs to the skate park. Clerk to enquire whether application of sealant is included in their quotation and the annual cost of sealing.

12. **To consider insurer's recommendations for repairs to Friendship Hall wall following car accident**

A claim has been submitted to the Council's insurers, which will be the subject to a £250 excess. Clerk is awaiting feedback as to whether the insurer will instruct a supplier.

13. **To consider provision of CCTV on the Parish Store (Cllr K Austin)**

Cllr K Austin provided a plan of proposed CCTV coverage, and it was **resolved** to investigate costs.

14. To consider updating/replacing the wi-fi at Whitwell Community Centre (Cllr K Austin)

Cllr K Austin reported that the current wi-fi access point is at the end of its supported manufacturer lifetime and should be kept up to date. He proposed a complete change of vendor and improving coverage by changing broadband to full fibre at a faster speed. The total estimated cost is £700 + VAT. An amount of £1000 was allocated to the budget for the prevent duty, which was not required, and would cover the cost. It was **resolved** to accept the proposal.

15. Correspondence

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

- 15.1. DALC December Newsletter – The model IT policy to be on the January agenda.
- 15.2. Launch of Mayor’s Transport Plan Consultation – noted.
- 15.3. DCC – WPC’s Request for Speed Restriction Measures in Whitwell – noted.
- 15.4. Derbyshire Fire & Rescue Service – Consultation on Extension of Plan 2026-27 – noted

Correspondence not listed: -

- 15.5. Derbyshire Pension Fund Actuarial Valuation – noted.
- 15.6. DCC – Removal of flags obstructing Christmas lights – disappointing response noted.
- 15.7. BDC – Replacement of bus shelter near the Friendship Hall – queries to be raised as to reason for replacing/moving and lease of land.

16. Planning Matters

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

- 16.1. 25/00471/TCON – To prune 2 cherry trees (1 rear, 1 to front) to clear roof by 2m, 12 Southfield Lane S80 4NW – No objections
- 16.2. 25/00458/VAR – Variation of condition 2 (25/00073/OUT) east elevation – replace door with window, north elevation – add door & south elevation – add window. 84 Bakestone Moor S80 4QH – No objections
- 16.3. 25/00463/FUL – Replacement of 7 windows & 1 door to front elevation, Gwendoline Court, 4 High Street S80 4QZ – Query whether these replacements comply with the usual recommendations from BDC for properties in the conservation area and should this not be a retrospective application?
- 16.4. 25/00469/FUL – Formation of new vehicular access and driveway off Gipsy Hill lane, closure of existing access, replacement of existing hedgerow with stone wall and native hedging, erection of an open sided garden gazebo building. Gipsyhill Farm, Gipsyhill Lane. – No objections
- 16.5. 25/00470/LBC – Formation of new vehicular access and driveway off Gipsy Hill Lane, closure of existing access, replacement of existing hedgerow with stone wall and native hedging, erection of an open sided garden gazebo building. Gipsyhill Farm, Gipsyhill Lane. – No objections

17. Progress Reports

17.1. To arrange a Climate Action Working Group Meeting

A Climate Action Working Group meeting was arranged for Monday 2 March 2026.

17.2. Holiday Club

Cllr J Raspin reported on frustrating issues encountered with completion of Ofsted DBS checks.

18. Date of Next Meeting

The next Parish Council Meeting will be held on Wednesday 14 January 2026 at 7.00 pm.

19. Date of Annual Parish Meeting

The Annual Parish Meeting would be held on Wednesday 22 April 2026

20. 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.

21. 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.

21.1. Worknest Health & Safety Audit

The Health & Safety audit has been carried out.

The Lone Working Policy to be reviewed.

It was **resolved** to reimburse business insurance cover payments and investigate lone working safety options.

There being no further business the Chairman declared the meeting closed at 20.51

Signed (Chairman)

Date

List of Resolutions

81/2025-26 It was **resolved** that the minutes of the Meeting held on 12 November 2025 be approved and duly signed by the Chairman.

82/2025-26 It was **resolved** to approve the accounts for payment and Cllr D Munro signs the invoices. The Financial Reports were accepted, and Cllr K Austin sign the bank reconciliation.

83/2025-26 It was **resolved** to contact local firms listed on the Law Society's website to enable the Council to appoint a Solicitor in January.

84/2025-26 It was **resolved** to appoint Spheracon Ltd to carry out repairs to the skate park. Clerk to enquire whether application of sealant is included in their quotation and the annual cost of sealing.

85/2025-26 It was **resolved** to investigate costs of CCTV provision on the parish store as per the plan proposed by Cllr K Austin.

86/2025-26 It was **resolved** to accept Cllr K Austin's proposal for updating the wi-fi and broadband at Whitwell Community Centre.

87/2025-26 It was **resolved** to deal with correspondence.

88/2025-26 It was **resolved** to deal with planning matters

89/2025-26 It was **resolved** to reimburse business insurance cover payments and investigate lone working safety options.