

**WHITWELL PARISH COUNCIL**  
**Minutes of the Meeting of the Council**  
**Held at 19:00 on Wednesday 11 March 2026**

**Present:**

Councillor T Munro (Chair)	Councillor K Austin	Councillor H Green
Councillor S Maiden	Councillor D Munro	Councillor J Paget
Councillor F Raspin	Councillor J Raspin	
		County Cllr R Hallett

1. **To Receive and Accept Apologies and Reasons for Absence** – None.
2. **To record declarations of personal and disclosable pecuniary interests from members on any items to be discussed** – Cllr J Paget declared an interest in item 12.
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). None present.
  - 4.1. **Members of the Parish Council and public to raise matters of importance with the Police**  
No Police were present, but a report had been provided. No issues were raised.
  - 4.2. **Members of the Parish Council and the public to raise matters of importance with the County Councillor**  
Cllr Hallett apologised for not attending the last meeting. He reported on the following: -  
He provided some pothole statistics, reported on temporary repairs and a backlog of permanent repairs due to the inability to carry them out when wet. However, the new JCB pothole machine is doing a good job. He also informed that the reporting system identifies the newest reported pothole date.  
He reported on some upcoming road closures and was advised that the contractor must be informed that their working hours should be 09:00-14:45 for works on Southfield Lane.  
He was aware that DCC have provided a response regarding lease arrangements.  
The following issues were raised: -
    - The road closures could not be seen on the one.network.
    - A request for DCC to revert to marking potholes that have been reported.
    - Why only piecemeal temporary repairs are carried out. Cllr Hallett would enquire but believes operators are given a list of the worst potholes.
    - A change in DCC's reporting system is required and Cllr Hallett was requested to raise this issue with the Cabinet Member for Highways.
    - Flooding on roads from Elmton to Bolsover. Cllr Hallett has visited the site and will report the issue.
    - Row of potholes on Peter More Hill opposite the Highwood Lane junction.
    - Cracks in property wall bordering the pavement on Hangar Hill opposite the old Welfare.
    - Dangerous pothole on Gapsick Lane near to the end of Hickinwood Lane.
  - 4.3. **Members of the public to raise matters of importance with the Councillors present Bolsover District Council (BDC)**
    - 4.3.1 Cllr T Munro reported on the clothing banks in the Spring Street Car Park having bags of clothing fly-tipped around them. He has contacted the Environmental Health Department (EHD) and it was established that no permission had been granted for them to be placed in the car park. One of the banks has now been removed by the owner and the EHD are in the process of arranging removal of the other.

Cllr R Hallett left at 19:35

It was raised that this was an asset management issue. Cllr T Munro reported that work is currently being carried out on BDC's asset management.

- 4.3.2 Cllr T Munro reported on progress with the new crematorium in Shirebrook, which should be ready for use in the Spring.
- 4.3.3 Cllr J Raspin reported that BDC have adopted a tree policy for woodland management.

The following issues were raised: -

- 4.3.4 Whether BDC has implemented or deferred new waste rules? Cllr T Munro advised that the new food waste bins have now been distributed and for households to contact BDC if theirs have not been delivered. Collections would commence week commencing 30 March 2026.

**Whitwell Parish Council (WPC)**

- 4.3.5 Enquiry regarding reinstatement of the bench on the Village Green. Clerk to contact BDC for guidance and arrange a site meeting.

**5. To consider for approval the Minutes of the Meeting of the Parish Council held on 11 February 2026**

It was **resolved** that the minutes of the Meeting held on 11 February 2026 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 11 February 2026**

Item 4.3.2 – The landowner has been contacted regarding fly-tipping on land off Southfield Lane. Hodthorpe & Belph Parish Council to be informed that WPC has been pro-active in reporting issues in their parish to the relevant authorities.

Item 11 – The HGV tractor unit was reported to DCC, but it was unclear as to whether it has been removed.

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

<b>Direct Bank Payments to be Authorised</b>			
<b>Payee</b>	<b>Goods/Services</b>	<b>Amount</b>	<b>Budget</b>
Thorpes Building Supplies	Repairs/Ground Maintenance	11.88	63
M & R Lawnmower Services	Equipment Servicing	713.28	63
Life Publications	Newsletter Distribution	151.20	33
Crystal Clean Services Ltd	WCC Monthly Cleaning	378.26	13
<b>Credit Card Payments</b>			
Cheapestprintonline	Printing	151.00	33
Amazon	Replacement Office Printer	187.45	39
Amazon	Stationery	13.70	39
Amazon	Stamps	32.45	38
	<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>1639.22</b>	

**8. Financial Reports and Bank Reconciliation**

It was **resolved** to accept the Financial Reports and the bank reconciliation for February be signed by Cllr H Green.

**9. Review of Standing Orders**

It was **resolved** to approve the suggested amendments to the Standing Orders.

**10. Review of Financial Regulations**

It was **resolved** to accept the Financial Regulations, with no amendments being required.

**11. Whitwell Common Recreation Ground**

Clerk reported that the application for funding to the Tarmac Landfill Communities Fund was successful, subject to them confirming adoption of the project by DET/ENTRUST. The preferred contractor would be contacted to arrange a potential start date. In the meantime, it was **resolved** to order new swings for the existing swing frames, to be funded by WPC and installed during the project. BDC to be contacted to enquire whether they would install a drop-post in the park entrance to deter vehicles from parking on the grass.

12. **To Consider appointment of a solicitor for Orchard Lease** Cllr J Paget left the room for this item at 20:15  
It was **resolved** to appoint Ilett & Clark as the Council's Solicitor.
- Cllr J Paget returned at 20:22
13. **To Consider arranging a site meeting at the Garden at Whitwell Community Centre**  
It was **resolved** that a site meeting would be held on Friday 27 March at 9.00 am. All Councillors are invited to attend, together with Parish Council staff and volunteers.
14. **To Consider Future Production/Distribution of the Parish Council Newsletter**  
It was **resolved** that a draft Spring newsletter is tabled at the April meeting for approval, with a deadline of 1 April for submission of articles to the Clerical Assistant. To continue with present distributor who has agreed to include missed areas in the parish.  
Referring to the Winter newsletter, it was suggested that a poster inviting residents to sponsor hanging baskets be placed in the WCC foyer and notice board.
15. **Report on Parish Council Assets**  
It was **resolved** that the Clerk sends a link for Councillors to access the Parish Online mapping system, where they could view the council's assets.  
Councillors were advised that Terms of Reference for Working Groups would be reviewed at the Annual Meeting.
16. **Correspondence**  
It was **resolved** to deal with correspondence as follows: -
- 16.1. DALC March Newsletter – Clerk to enquire about cost of allotment training for councillors.
  - 16.2. DCC – Centre lines along Portland Street – response noted.
  - 16.3. DCC – Awful State of Roads in Derbyshire – Cabinet Member's response regarding inspections was noted.
  - 16.4. BDC – Robin Hood Line CRP Contribution – Noted.
- Correspondence not listed: -**
- 16.5. Resident – Objection to Great Wolf Meeting on 23 March – Noted.
  - 16.6. Whitestone Solar Farm – Update – Noted.
  - 16.7. Resident – Whitwell Colliery 40<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of Closure Reunion, 11 July 2-7pm – Noted.
  - 16.8. Funland Events Group – Potential Venue – Unfortunately not able to accommodate this event.
17. **Planning Matters**  
Cllr T Munro declared an interest and took no part in decision making.  
It was **resolved** to deal with planning as follows: -
- 17.1. **26/00047/TCON – Works to T1 – sever ivy, remove ivy, remove epicormics, remove dead wood >30mm diameter. Remove broken branches. Remove lengthy stub extending over adjacent highway. Works to T2 – remove epicormics, remove basal growth. Works to T3, T6, T8, T10, G7, G14, G15, T17, T18 & G25 – sever ivy. Remove ivy. T5 – sever ivy, remove ivy, prune branches clear of building. T19 – fell. T21 – remove stem and arisings. 31 High Street, Whitwell S80 4RE – No objections, subject to planting of two replacement trees elsewhere for the felled tree.**
- Planning not Listed**
- 17.2. **26/00073/TCON – Removal of Large Leylandii and four Yew Trees, 14A Welbeck Street S80 4TW – No objections to felling Leylandii tree. Would advise that BDC inspects the Yew trees before considering proposal to fell and, if granted, subject to planting of two replacement trees elsewhere for any felled trees.**
18. **Progress Reports**
- 18.1. Allotment Working Group  
An inspection of all sites was arranged for 6.00 pm on 29 April, meeting at Mill Lane. It was noted that the council's own plot should be inspected, with the issue of composting material from outside being raised. Clerk informed the council of limitations with disposal of green waste and she would contact a local company that may take green waste for a nominal fee. Clerk to forward WPC's cultivation document to the group.

18.2. Climate Action Working Group

Cllr J Paget reported on the meeting held on 2 March 2026 where they worked through the Action Plan. She would forward her report to Councillors and Clerk. The next meeting was arranged for 30 March at 7.00pm. The next meeting will be held on 30 March 2026 at 7.00 pm

18.3. Community Orchard

Cllr J Raspin advised that the orchard will require cutting. BDC would be requested to carry out a cut as soon as possible to a length of 40mm.

19. **Date of Next Meeting**

The next Parish Council Meeting will be held on Wednesday 8 April 2026 at 7.00 pm.

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.**

Whitwell Community Centre Site Survey

DCC to be thanked for their response and providing some clarity. However, WPC, as an interested party, has been excluded from the dilapidations process and it was **resolved** to request a copy of the unreacted reports to view the current condition of the buildings and to enable WPC to identify their areas of responsibility.

There being no further business the Chairman declared the meeting closed at 21:30

Signed ..... (Chairman)

Date .....

**List of Resolutions**

**107/2025-26** It was **resolved** that the minutes of the Meeting held on 11 February 2026 be approved and duly signed by the Chairman.

**108/2025-26** It was **resolved** to approve the accounts for payment and Cllr D Munro signs the invoices. The Financial Reports were accepted, and Cllr H Green signs the bank reconciliation.

**109/2025-26** It was **resolved** to approve the suggested amendments to the Standing Orders.

**110/2025-26** It was **resolved** to accept the Financial Regulations, with no amendments being required.

**111/2025-26** It was **resolved** to order new swings for the existing swing frames at Whitwell Common Recreation Ground, to be funded by WPC and installed during the refurbishment project. BDC to be contacted to enquire whether they would install a drop-post in the park entrance to deter vehicles from parking on the grass.

**112/2025-26** It was **resolved** to appoint Ilett & Clark as the Council's Solicitor.

**113/2025-26** It was **resolved** that a site meeting would be held at WCC Garden on Friday 27 March at 9.00 am. All Councillors are invited to attend, together with Parish Council staff and volunteers.

**114/2025-26** It was **resolved** that a draft Spring newsletter is tabled at the April meeting for approval, with a deadline of 1 April for submission of articles to the Clerical Assistant. To continue with present distributor who has agreed to include missed areas in the parish

**115/2025-26** It was **resolved** that the Clerk sends a link for Councillors to access the Parish Online mapping system, where they could view the council's assets.

**116/2025-26** It was **resolved** to deal with correspondence.

**117/2025-26** It was **resolved** to deal with planning matters.

**118/2025-26** It was **resolved** to request a copy of the unreacted dilapidation reports from DCC to view the current condition of the buildings and to enable WPC to identify their areas of responsibility.