

# Whitchurch Parish Council

Clerk to the Council – Mr Tony Skeggs

Minutes of the Meeting of Whitchurch Parish Council held at the St Johns Hall

On Monday 17 April 2023 at 7.30pm.

Present: Cllrs C Lincoln (Chair), P Alderman, S Ford, M Palin, M Perry, and C Thomas.

Public Attendance: Six members of the public, and Buckinghamshire Council Cllrs A Bond, and P Cooper.

Clerk: A Skeggs

Absent: None

23/44	<p><b>Apologies for Absence</b></p> <p>Apologies were received and accepted from Cllrs V James-Priday.</p>
	<p><b>Open Forum for Residents</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• A resident raised his concern on the height of the Supernova play equipment, which he felt was too low. He had contacted Kompan, although the Chair reported that Kompan had inspected it and signed it off.</li><li>• A resident asked about the surrounding grass areas and what was being done about it. The Chair reported that the area would be landscaped in the coming weeks.</li><li>• A resident felt that the play area should be fenced off to prevent dogs upsetting the children and fouling on the surface. The Chair reported that it had taken advice on the fencing of play areas.</li><li>• It was reported that the footpaths that run down North Marston Lane were subsiding and needed repair. Clerk to contact the Buckinghamshire Council LAT for him to investigate.</li></ul> <p>Buckinghamshire Council Report:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Oving Road – The work had been completed in three days. Anglian Water at fault for not notifying residents.</li><li>• Dementia Training was available at Wing on the 7<sup>th</sup> June at 10 am and 1.30 pm. Needed to book via the Community Board Facebook page.</li><li>• ROSPA produce guidance on dogs and play areas.</li><li>• Rural Exception Scheme – No answer yet from Buckinghamshire Council.</li></ul>
23/45	<p><b>Members' Interests:</b> Members were invited to declare disclosable pecuniary interests and other interests in items on the agenda as required by the Whitchurch Parish Council Code of Conduct for Members and by the Localism Act 2011.</p> <p>No declarations were made.</p>
23/46	<p><b>Approval of Minutes:</b></p> <p>The minutes of the meeting of the Council held on the 13<sup>th</sup> March 2023, were approved, and signed as a true record after Cllr Ford wished item 23/31 be amended to record that she voted against the proposal as she wanted a higher frequency of inspections.</p>

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23/47	<p><b>Neighbourhood Plan</b></p> <p>a) All statutory bodies had been consulted, for which the standard replies had been received. Following comments on the Settlement Boundary, this had been walked which had resulted in eight changes being made. There had been five responses from residents. Residents of Bushmead Road and Oving Road that lived in other parishes had asked how they could vote on the Plan. This was down to Buckinghamshire Council to determine. Buckinghamshire Council had made numerous comments, none of which were significant. The Neighbourhood Plan had been updated and was now ready to be submitted for Regulation 16. Cllr Lincoln thanked everyone who had been involved in the process of producing the Plan.</p> <p>b) It was proposed by Cllr Lincoln and seconded by Cllr Palin that the parish council adopt the Regulation 15 submission of the Plan for consideration by Buckinghamshire Council. This was unanimously <b>AGREED</b>.</p>
23/48	<p><b>Recreation Ground</b></p> <p>a) Play Area Play Tower – The initial cost to repair the Play Tower of £583.06 (ex VAT) was <b>NOTED</b>.</p> <p>b) Play Area Play Tower – The meeting was asked to approve the retrospective approval given by the Chair and Clerk for further emergency repair work to the Play Tower at a cost of £1,131.30 (ex-VAT). This cost includes a 20% discount. This was unanimously <b>AGREED</b>.</p> <p>c) Play Area / Signs / Litter Bin –Both the new sign and litter bin needed cementing in, which Buckland Landscapes would quote for. It was <b>AGREED</b> to purchase a “Deep Water Warning Sign”</p>
23/49	<p><b>Kings Coronation</b></p> <p>The chair handed out examples of benches for consideration. There were six benches that could be replaced. Some councillors felt the metal bench in Weir Lane should be retained. There was a £2,000 budget for new benches, but it was felt that donations could be asked for. Councillors were asked to come back to the May meeting with options.</p>
23/50	<p><b>Right of Way Diversion Footpath 47</b></p> <p>The applicants had responded to the parish council objections, which had been circulated. Councillors felt there was no reason to change their original objection to the diversion request. The invitation to meet on site was declined. It was for the Buckinghamshire Council Rights of Way officer to determine whether to grant the diversion.</p>
23/51	<p><b>Website</b></p> <p>Cllr Thomas reported that the website had been published but not yet publicised. This would be done once all the required pages had been populated. There was a requirement to include the Neighbourhood Plan and associated papers. Cllr Lincoln thanked Cllr</p>

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	Thomas for his work in developing the website.
23/52	<b>Village Eco Group (VEG)</b> In the absence of Cllr James-Priddy this item was deferred until the next meeting.
23/53	<b>Finance</b> a) The list of payments for April were <b>APPROVED</b> , details at the end of the minutes. b) The combined bank account position at the 31 <sup>st</sup> March was <b>NOTED</b> . c) The provisional 2022/23 year-end financial position was <b>NOTED</b> after the clerk had highlighted that the deficit for the year was £4,757. The level of reserves was at a level that might bring a comment from the external auditors.
23/54	<b>Planning</b> The following planning applications were considered by the meeting: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>23/01088/APP – Barrettstown Stud, Oving Road</b> – Erection of Hay Barn with Solar Panels on the Southern Roof Slope. It was <b>AGREED</b> that the parish council would <b>OBJECT</b> to the application on the following grounds: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Appearance not in keeping with the surrounding buildings.</li> <li>• The materials being used not in keeping with a village environment.</li> <li>• Location was visible from the Oving Road and away from the area that would use the contents.</li> <li>• If the planning officer was to recommend approval, then the parish council would request Buckinghamshire Council councillors to call in the application. The parish council would then attend the planning committee.</li> </ul> </li> <li>• <b>23/01049/APP – 2 Castle Street</b> – Listed Building Application for Repoint Two External Walls. It was <b>AGREED</b> that the parish council had <b>NO OBJECTIONS</b> to the application.</li> </ul> <p>It was <b>NOTED</b> that the following application <b>22/02568 20 Bushmead Road</b>, that was refused by Buckinghamshire Council, has been approved on appeal.</p>
23/55	<b>Points of Interest</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• No councillor had attended any training or meetings since the last meeting.</li> </ul>
23/56	<b>Date and Time of Next Meeting:</b> The date of the next meeting would be on Monday 15 <sup>th</sup> May 2023 starting @ 7.30pm. The parish council had been asked if they would consider moving the day of their meetings as the PCC had a potential regular booking for the Monday. Councillors were asked to let the clerk know a possible alternative day by the 20 <sup>th</sup> April.

**The meeting closed at 8.50 pm.**

Chair's Signature ..... Date.....

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## BANK RECONCILIATION

Reconciled Bank Balance At	Account	Bank Balance	Total
31 <sup>st</sup> March 2023	Current Account	£3,747.54	
31 <sup>st</sup> March 2023	Playing Field Account	£1,250.45	
31 <sup>st</sup> March 2023	Deposit Account	£55,844.56	
31 <sup>st</sup> March 2023	Investment Account	£30,000.00	£90,842.55

## INCOME AND EXPENDITURE LISTING

Income	£
Salvation Army – Clothes Bank for February.	£16.39
<b>TOTAL INCOME SINCE THE LAST MEETING IN MARCH</b>	<b>£16.39</b>

Expenditure	Payment	£
<b>Invoices to be approved at Parish Council meeting.</b>		
<b>These invoices have been paid in the 2022/23 financial year.</b>		
ENC Ltd <sup>(98)</sup> – Repairs to Street Light at 10 Oving Road	FPO	£192.60
Kompan <sup>(99)</sup> – Early Annual Inspection of Play Equipment	FPO	£580.64
Impact Signs <sup>(100)</sup> – New Play Area Sign.	FPO	£182.64
Playsource <sup>(101)</sup> – Payment of the 5% Retention.	FPO	£2,898.00
<b>These invoices will be paid in the 2023/24 financial year</b>		
Buckland Landscapes <sup>(1)</sup> – March Verges Grass Cutting.	FPO	£526.82
Whitchurch PCC <sup>(2)</sup> – Hall Hire for April 2023 PC Meeting.	FPO	£20.00
ONeill Homer <sup>(3)</sup> – Neighbourhood Plan Reg.14 Review/Summary.	FPO	£3,960.00
ONeill Homer <sup>(4)</sup> – Neighbourhood Plan Reg.14 Review/Summary.	FPO	£300.00
Kompan <sup>(5)</sup> – Repairs to Damaged Play Tower.	FPO	£699.67
Kompan <sup>(6)</sup> – Further Repairs to Damaged Play Tower.	FPO	£1,357.56
Clerk <sup>(7)</sup> - Salary and Expenses for April 2023.	FPO	£452.87
BALC <sup>(8)</sup> – 2023/24 Annual BALC and NALC Subscription	FPO	£160.67
<b>TOTAL OF PAYMENTS FOR APPROVAL</b>		<b>£11,331.47</b>

Direct Debits	£
SSE Swalec <sup>(DD1)</sup> - Street Lighting for March.	£137.29
<b>TOTAL OF DD PAYMENTS FOR NOTING SINCE THE DECEMBER MEETING</b>	<b>£137.29</b>

<b>For Information - Reclaimable Vat to date for 2023/24</b>	<b>£1,171.29</b>
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## FIXMYSTREET.COM

This is the website that Buckinghamshire Council recommends you use to report problems, which could be blocked road drains, potholes, broken pavements, signage problems, overgrown foliage etc.

Here is the link <https://fixmystreet.buckinghamshire.gov.uk/>

If you do need to report anything, then please put as much detail as possible and always upload some photographs. Reports with photographs will get resolved quicker than ones without.