

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 9 May 2022 at 7.00pm.

Present: Cllrs C Lincoln (Chair), P Alderman, V James-Priday, M Perry, M Palin, and C Thomas.

Public Attendance: Five members of the public.

Clerk: A Skeggs

Absent: None

22/55	<p>Election of Chair</p> <p>On a proposal from Cllr Palin, seconded by Cllr James-Priday, Cllr Lincoln was unanimously elected as Chair for the forthcoming year. A declaration of office was signed by Cllr Lincoln on the 9th May 2022.</p>
22/56	<p>Election of Vice-Chair</p> <p>On a proposal from Cllr Palin, seconded by Cllr James-Priday, Cllr Perry was unanimously elected as Vice Chair for the forthcoming year.</p>
22/57	<p>Apologies for Absence</p> <p>Apologies were received and accepted from Cllr Ford.</p> <p>Buckinghamshire Council Cllrs A Bond, D Blamires and P Cooper gave their apologies.</p>
	<p>Open Forum for Residents</p> <p>The following points were raised:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Old Sandpit Planning Application 20/03073 – The wording of the application had changed. The parish council would be re-affirming its objections.• Winslow Rotary's Lend a Hand Day would be on the 11th June. Local people are helped with small tasks around the home. Flyers with application form to go on the council's noticeboards and to the clerk.• Winslow Rotary likes to help local community groups or individuals with funding. Projects supported include schools, disabled and environmental. Email the secretary gary.eastman@gmail.com for details.• Whitchurch Neighbourhood Watch is trying to eliminate a spate of car vandalism in the High Street. A leaflet has been delivered to residents to promote vigilance and to discourage repetition. A copy of the leaflet is to be displayed in the council's noticeboards.
22/58	<p>Members' Interests: 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 new declarations were made.</p>
22/59	<p>Approval of Minutes: The minutes of the meeting of the Council held on the 11th April 2022, were approved, and signed as a true record after an amendment to item 22/51.</p>

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22/60	<p>Queen's Platinum Jubilee June 2022</p> <p>a) After consideration it was AGREED to permit WCCA to act on the parish council's behalf for the Platinum Jubilee events. Expenditure that was to be met from the £3,500 Lottery Community Fund grant would be paid for by the parish council.</p> <p>b) After consideration it was proposed by Cllr Lincoln, seconded by Cllr James-Priday that the parish council make a grant of £1,000 to WCCA as a contribution to the Jubilee Platinum events. This was unanimously AGREED.</p>
22/61	<p>2021/22 Annual Governance Report and Accounting Statements</p> <p>a) The chair and clerk then signed the Annual Governance Statement once it had been APPROVED by the meeting.</p> <p>b) The 2021/22 Accounting Statement signed by the clerk was presented to the meeting and was signed by the chair once it had been APPROVED by the meeting. The Annual Governance and Accounting Statement would now be sent to PKF Littlejohn, the external auditors, before the 30th June 2022 deadline.</p> <p>c) It was NOTED that the dates for the Notice of Exercise of Public Rights were:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Announcement made / published on the website - Friday 24th June 2022. • Period of Inspection starts - Monday 27th June 2022. • Period of Inspection Ends - Friday 9th August 2022.
22/63	<p>Play Area Resurfacing Project</p> <p>a) The clerk reported that the parish council was still waiting for Buckinghamshire Council to sign off the s.106 funding application and until this had been done it was unable to progress the project. Although, it had been confirmed that there was sufficient s.106 funds to cover the full cost of £58,317. The clerk was to contact Buckinghamshire Council to request the application is approved as soon as possible.</p> <p>b) The contractor had been kept informed of the situation.</p>
22/64	<p>Road Safety / MVAS / Speedwatch</p> <p>a) Cllr Perry updated the meeting on the Speedwatch initiative. The parish council was registered with Thames Valley police. Three volunteers were required per session.</p> <p>b) After consideration it was AGREED to purchase signage costing £94.45.</p> <p>c) Cllr Perry had taken delivery of the two SID machines, which are solar powered. An additional pole was to be ordered from Swarco to replace the one damaged on the High Street.</p>
22/65	<p>Ash Trees Ashgrove Gardens</p> <p>a) The clerk informed the meeting that on the 14th April he had hand delivered letters and documentation to the Executive Director and Assistant Director of Housing at Fairhive (VAHT). He had subsequently emailed the information to them on the 27th April. No acknowledgement or course of action had been received despite a further email on the 9th May. It was AGREED that a formal complaint be made against Fairhive.</p>

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	<p>b) A request had been made from the 1st Granborough scout group to clear the fallen ash tree in the playing field. It was AGREED to make Fairhive aware that the parish council was planning to have the tree removed and give them two weeks to respond, after that time the scout group could begin removal of the tree. In the meantime, the scout group be asked to provide evidence that their tree removal contact is competent. Also, that some quotes be obtained to establish the cost involved. If there is no response from Fairhive then the parish council would make an insurance claim.</p>
22/66	<p>Neighbourhood Plan Keith Armour gave a short update on the plan. Consultants O'Neill Homer would be attending the next meeting, which would be considering the number of houses that were to be allocated in the plan.</p>
22/67	<p>Request for Financial Assistance - Whitchurch Cricket Club A request had been received from Whitchurch CC for financial assistance as they had suffered a big expense when their mower needed a repair. After consideration it was AGREED to decline the request on the basis that there was no direct benefit to the village as no residents played for the club, and there were no colts or women's cricket teams on offer.</p>
22/68	<p>Finance</p> <p>a) The list of payments for May was APPROVED, details at end of the minutes. b) The combined bank account position at the 30th April was NOTED. c) It was NOTED that the membership to BALC for 2022/23 had been renewed at a cost of £161.99.</p>
22/69	<p>Banking Arrangements</p> <p>a) Bank Signatories - The current list of signatories was reviewed. It was AGREED to remove Cllrs Palin and Perry from the online banking mandate and replace them with Cllrs James-Priday and Thomas. b) Direct Debits - The DDs to SSE and ICO were APPROVED for the current year.</p>
22/70	<p>Points of Interest The chair had attended the Parish Liaison Meeting with Buckinghamshire Council and BALC. There was a section on the response from Buckinghamshire Council to the Ukraine Refugee crisis. She was very impressed with the set-up, which included a liaison officer for each family. Another other section highlighted the problem ex-AVDC parish councils were having with their s.106 applications. Most of the parishes were unaware of the review. Buckinghamshire Council had instigated the review to try and smooth out the inconsistencies of the four former district councils.</p>

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22/71	<p>Clerks Update</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> LAT Walkabout - The clerk and a few councillors had met with the LAT to highlight areas that needed attention / confirmation of ownership around the village. He requested that everything should be reported on fixmystreet. Street Nameplates - Nameplates on the Oving Road, Mount Pleasant and Rickyards Close had been reported to the appropriate section at Buckinghamshire Council and would be repaired shortly.
22/72	<p>Date of Next Meeting: Due to the absence of the chair and clerk it was proposed to bring the meeting forward a week to Monday 6th June 2022 @ 7.30pm. This was AGREED.</p>

The meeting closed at 8.15 pm.

Chair's Signature Date.....

FIXMYSTREET.COM

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

Here is the link www.fixmystreet.com If you do have the 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.

BANK RECONCILIATION

Reconciled Bank Balance At	Account	Bank Balance	Total
30 th April 2022	Treasurers	£23,590.98	
30 th April 2022	Playing Field	£9,061.85	
30 th April 2022	Business	£40,273.79	
30 th April 2022	Investment	£30,000.00	£102,926.62

INCOME AND EXPENDITURE LISTING

Income	£
Buckinghamshire Council - Devolved Services Grant.	£2,920.80
Salvation Army – Clothes Bank for March.	£10.35
HMRC - Reclaimed VAT for 2021/22 Financial Year.	£6,386.32
Buckinghamshire Council - First Half of Precept Payment.	£14,397.50
TOTAL INCOME SINCE THE LAST MEETING IN APRIL	£23,714.97

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Expenditure		
Invoices to be approved at Parish Council meeting.	Cheque	£
Bucks Best Kept Village ⁽¹¹⁾ - Competition Entry Fee - Paid.	FPO	£25.00
BALC ⁽¹²⁾ - Membership for 2022/23.	FPO	£161.99
ENC ⁽¹³⁾ - Streetlight Repairs Mount Pleasant.	FPO	£186.00
MT Loo's ⁽¹⁴⁾ - Hire of Portable Toilets Queen's Platinum Jubilee.	866	£318.00
Oddsox ⁽¹⁵⁾ - Live Music & Disco for Queen's Platinum Jubilee.	867	£600.00
Buckland Landscapes ⁽¹⁶⁾ – April Verges Grass Cutting.	FPO	£526.82
Buckland Landscapes ⁽¹⁶⁾ – Playing Field Grass Cutting (2)(21/142a).	FPO	£480.00
Clerk ⁽¹⁷⁾ - Salary and Expenses for May 2022.	FPO	£430.92
Whitchurch PCC ⁽¹⁸⁾ – Hall Hire for May PC Meeting.	FPO	£20.00
Groundwork UK ⁽¹⁹⁾ - Repayment of Unused NP Grant.	868	£4,775.00
All My Own Work ⁽²⁰⁾ - Mugs & Tea Towels for Platinum Jubilee	869	£752.40
TOTAL OF PAYMENTS FOR APPROVAL		£8,276.13

For Information - Reclaimable Vat to date for 2022/23	£1,161.16
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