

# 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 14 November 2022 at 7.30pm.

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

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

Clerk: A Skeggs

Absent: None

22/113	<p><b>Apologies for Absence</b></p> <p>There were no apologies as everyone was present.</p> <p>Buckinghamshire Council Cllr Blamires gave her apologies.</p>
	<p><b>Open Forum for Residents</b></p> <p>The following points were raised:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Drain outside Trent Cottage – A resident reported that the drain was blocked again. The clerk would register it on fixmystreet (<i>last cleared 01/11/2022</i>).</li><li>• High Street Noisy Road / Manhole Cover – The road around a manhole cover needed to be reported to Thames Water for smoothing out.</li></ul> <p>Buckinghamshire Council Report:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Helping Hands Initiative – Encourage more use of village halls to residents in need. The Community Board would help with costs i.e., contribution to food provision.</li><li>• Community Board Grants – Now improving and paying smaller grants quicker.</li><li>• ‘Two Hoots’, Oving Road – Enforcement officers to inspect exposed tree roots. A planning application had been submitted to repair the boundary wall.</li></ul>
22/114	<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>
22/115	<p><b>Approval of Minutes:</b></p> <p>a) The minutes of the meeting of the Council held on the 10<sup>th</sup> October 2022, were approved, and signed as a true record.</p> <p>b) Following the publication of a new format of reporting the parish council meeting in the parish magazine, several comments against the format had been received. The council would work on providing an informal summary of the meeting.</p>
22/116	<p><b>Proposed Footpath Redirection the Old Vicarage</b></p> <p>The chair reported that a site visit had taken place and so she proposed that the request to</p>

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	<p>support the redirection the footpath be voted on. The result was two (2) in favour and four (4) against with one (1) abstention. The chair added that as the village was surrounded by numerous footpaths that there needed to be a very high bar before a redirection was supported.</p>
22/117	<p><b>Neighbourhood Plan Steering Group (NPSG)</b></p> <p>a) It was <b>NOTED</b> that the parish council had received a presentation from the NPSG of the Neighbourhood Plan on the 7<sup>th</sup> November 2022.</p> <p>The following motion was <b>AGREED</b> by six (6) votes in favour with one (1) abstention that Whitchurch Parish Council:</p> <p>b) Approves the content of, and delegates to the NPSG the task of publicising the draft Neighbourhood Plan for at least six (6) weeks, and in accordance with Regulation 14 of the Neighbourhood Plan (General) Regulations 2012 (as amended).</p>
22/118	<p><b>Play Area Resurfacing Project</b></p> <p>It was reported that the planned works had started on Monday 31<sup>st</sup> October and were progressing. They would be on site a week longer than expected due to the wet weather.</p>
22/119	<p><b>Recreation Ground</b></p> <p>a) The Granborough scouts had cleared two thirds of the fallen ash tree. It was <b>AGREED</b> that the remainder could be left until next Spring. Cllr James-Priddy volunteered to explore the possibility of finding a wood carver to produce a sculpture.</p> <p>b) The clerk reported that Fenland Leisure had been instructed to examine and, if required, repair the zip wire as well as repair the wooden runway. He was still negotiating a date for the works.</p>
22/120	<p><b>Community Board Projects</b></p> <p>a) The meeting considered possible locations for defibrillators around the village. Ideally, near to the school and to the White Swan/Garage. Cllr Bond suggested that the parish council put a bid into the Community Board for 50% of the cost. Cllr James-Priddy agreed to complete the forms.</p> <p>b) The chair updated the meeting on the availability of potential funding for the traffic calming measures previously identified. Again 50% could come from the Community Board. It was suggested that Arla and Silverstone be approached for contributions.</p>
22/121	<p><b>Finance</b></p> <p>a) The list of payments for November were <b>APPROVED</b>, details at the end of the minutes.</p> <p>b) The combined bank account position at the 31<sup>st</sup> October was <b>NOTED</b>.</p> <p>c) It was <b>NOTED</b> that NALC had agreed an increase in the hourly rate for council staff of £1.00, effective from 1<sup>st</sup> April 2022.</p> <p>d) The meeting considered a request from Cllr Palin for the parish council to fund the cost of the Neighbourhood Watch Group public meeting in April 2023. Cllrs Palin and Perry</p>

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	took no part in the vote which <b>AGREED</b> to contribute a £100 to the costs.
22/122	<p><b>Website</b></p> <p>There was a requirement for parish councils to have their own websites. It was <b>AGREED</b> to set a working group to progress the creation of the website. Cllrs James-Friday and Thomas volunteered to take this forward with the clerk.</p>
22/123	<p><b>Meeting Dates for 2023</b></p> <p>The meeting dates for 2023 were confirmed as being on the 2<sup>nd</sup> Monday of the month. It was <b>NOTED</b> that the 2<sup>nd</sup> Monday in April and in May were Bank Holidays so the meetings would be on the 17<sup>th</sup> April and 15<sup>th</sup> May 2023.</p>
22/123	<p><b>Points of Interest</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• BALC Climate Change Conference – Cllr Perry reported back on the Climate Conference, highlighting sustainability websites, the Haddenham PC climate report, calculating your own climate footprint. She also highlighted the use of local markets, managing grass verges and green bus shelter roofs.</li> <li>• 1,000 Trees Project – The clerk reported that the parish council had been given eight trees and he would be collecting them on the 28<sup>th</sup> November from High Wycombe.</li> </ul>
22/124	<p><b>Planning</b></p> <p>There were no applications for consideration.</p>
22/125	<p><b>Date and Time of Next Meeting:</b> The date of the next meeting would be on Monday 12<sup>th</sup> December 2022 starting @ 7.30pm.</p>

**The meeting closed at 8.40 pm.**

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

## **BANK RECONCILIATION**

<b>Reconciled Bank Balance At</b>	<b>Account</b>	<b>Bank Balance</b>	<b>Total</b>
31 <sup>st</sup> October 2022	Current Account	£4,503.15	
31 <sup>st</sup> October 2022	Playing Field Account	£4,065.76	
31 <sup>st</sup> October 2022	Deposit Account	£40,277.84	
31 <sup>st</sup> October 2022	Investment Account	£30,000.00	<b>£78,846.75</b>

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## INCOME AND EXPENDITURE LISTING

Income	£
Salvation Army – Clothes Bank for September.	£14.43
HMRC – Reclaimed VAT to 30 <sup>th</sup> September.	£9,983.07
<b>TOTAL INCOME SINCE THE LAST MEETING IN OCTOBER</b>	<b>£9,997.50</b>

Expenditure	Cheque	£
<b>Invoices to be approved at Parish Council meeting.</b>		
BALC <sup>(64)</sup> – Planning Training M Palin.	FPO	£45.00
BALC <sup>(65)</sup> – Planning Training C Lincoln and K Armour.	FPO	£90.00
Buckland Landscapes <sup>(66)</sup> – October Verges Grass Cutting.	FPO	£526.82
Buckland Landscapes <sup>(66)</sup> – Playing Field Grass Cutting <sup>(Final)(21/142a)</sup> .	FPO	£480.00
Whitchurch PCC <sup>(67)</sup> – Hall Hire for November PC Meeting.	FPO	£20.00
Whitchurch PCC <sup>(68)</sup> – Hall Hire for Neighbourhood Plan Meeting.	FPO	£20.00
Buckland Landscapes <sup>(69)</sup> – Playing Field Flail Mowing <sup>(22/104c)</sup> .	FPO	£540.00
Clerk <sup>(70)</sup> - Salary and Expenses for November 2022.	FPO	£652.42
Kompan <sup>(71)</sup> – Urgent Operational Inspection of Zipwire.	FPO	£290.40
<b>TOTAL OF PAYMENTS FOR APPROVAL</b>		<b>£2,664.64</b>

Direct Debits	£
SSE Swalec <sup>(DD1)</sup> - Street Lighting for September.	£133.68
SSE Swalec <sup>(DD2)</sup> - Street Lighting for October.	£122.20
<b>TOTAL OF DD PAYMENTS FOR NOTING SINCE THE OCTOBER MEETING</b>	<b>£ 255.88</b>

<b>For Information - Reclaimable Vat to date for 2022/23</b>	<b>£512.39</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, pot holes, broken pavements, signage problems, overgrown foliage etc.

Here is the link [www.fixmystreet.com](http://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.