

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 11th December 2023 at 7.30pm.

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

Public Attendance: 2 members of the public, plus Buckinghamshire Council Cllr D Blamires.

Clerk: A Skeggs

Absent: None

23/138	Apologies for Absence Apologies were received and accepted from Cllrs Ford, and James-Friday. BC Cllrs Bond and Cooper also gave their apologies.
	Open Forum for Residents <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Cllr Blamires reported on the recent Community Board meeting which had discussed Health, Recycling and Repair Shops. Future meetings would be held in person.• A request had been made to have a book library in the bus shelter opposite of the Surgery. The Parish Council supported the idea.
23/139	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. No new declarations raised.
23/140	Approval of Minutes: The minutes of the meeting of the Council held on the 13 th November 2023, were approved, and signed by the Chair.
23/141	Newman's Close Flat Nomination In the absence of Cllr Ford, the Chair gave a brief update. The Parish Council had been informed that the flat had been offered to an applicant from the Parish Council Register of Interest.
23/142	Recreation Ground Cllr Alderman updated the meeting with progress made on gaining ideas for new equipment. Several suggestions had been submitted via Facebook. The Parish Council was waiting for the school to submit their suggestions.
23/143	Rights of Way The Chair reported that a few gates in Weir Lane had been replaced and that she had spoken to rRipple to understand how they operated. It was unanimously AGREED to fund a new gate on footpath WHI/16/1.
23/144	2024/25 Draft Budget The clerk circulated the draft budget for 2024/25. After consideration the following changes were made to the budget:

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	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The Grants budget was increased to £1,000. • The Neighbourhood Plan budget was set at £1,500. • A budget of £500 was included for providing new footpath gates. <p>The Chair asked Councillors to consider possible projects for next year. These would need to be costed before inclusion. She informed the meeting that consideration should be given to increasing the Precept for 2024/25.</p>
23/145	<p>Finance</p> <p>a) The list of payments for December were APPROVED, details at the end of the minutes.</p> <p>b) The combined bank account position at the 30th November was NOTED.</p>
23/146	<p>Neighbourhood Plan</p> <p>The Neighbourhood Plan group had received several comprehensive questions and points from the Inspector and Buckinghamshire Council. Some were of a specialist nature and required a response from the Council’s consultants. The process was three weeks behind schedule.</p>
23/147	<p>Planning</p> <p>The following planning applications were considered by the meeting:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 23/03070/APP – 1a Ashgrove Gardens – Raising of Roof to Create First Floor Living Accommodation and Front & Rear Dormers. Replacement and Repositioning of Porch, Detached Garage and Workshop/Office with Gym. Following a site visit by the Planning Group there were a few concerns: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Location of the office/workshop/gym was very close to the neighbouring property. • Overbearing Development. • Black weather boarding – Not in keeping with the surrounding properties. • Plans indicated that the new height would be higher than the existing two storey gable. <p>It was AGREED to object to the application for the reasons stated above.</p>
23/148	<p>Points of Interest</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Defibrillator Training – The defibrillator training had been well received with 13 residents participating. The Parish Council was keen to run further sessions.
23/149	<p>Date and Time of Next Meeting: The next meeting would be on Monday 8th January 2024 starting @ 7.30pm.</p>

The meeting closed at 8.15 pm.

Chair’s Signature Date.....

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Actions List

Minute	Action Required	Action By	Progress
23/20	Investigate Christmas lights in the High Street.	Clerk	On Hold
23/90	Order three benches with Kings Coronation emblem.	Clerk	In Progress
23/105	Consult on Equipment Options for the Rec. Ground.	Cllr Ford	In Progress
Forum	Investigate MVAS pole and socket on High Street	Cllr PA/CT	In Progress

BANK RECONCILIATION

Reconciled Bank Balance At	Account	Bank Balance	Total
6 th December 2023	Current Account	£13,711.41	
6 th December 2023	Playing Field Account	£431.24	
6 th December 2023	Deposit Account	£56,198.56	
6 th December 2023	Investment Account	£30,403.89	£100,745.10

INCOME AND EXPENDITURE LISTING

Income	£
Buckinghamshire Council – Community Board Grant for Defibrillators	£1,750.00
Salvation Army – Clothes Bank for October.	£31.32
TOTAL INCOME SINCE THE LAST MEETING IN NOVEMBER	£1,781.32

Expenditure	Payment	£
Invoices to be approved at Parish Council meeting.		
Buckland Landscapes ⁽⁵⁷⁾ – November Verges Grass Cutting.	FPO	£526.82
Whitchurch PCC ⁽⁵⁸⁾ – Hall Hire for December 2023 PC Meeting.	FPO	£0.00
Clerk ⁽⁵⁹⁾ - Salary and Expenses for December 2023.	FPO	£491.15
BALC ⁽⁶⁰⁾ – Demystifying Planning – Cllr Perry.	FPO	£60.00
Cllr C Lincoln ⁽⁶¹⁾ – Village Website Domain Registration.	FPO	£15.00
South Central Ambulance Charity ⁽⁶²⁾ – Donation for Training.	FPO	£50.00
TOTAL OF PAYMENTS FOR APPROVAL		£1,142.97
Direct Debits		
SSE Swalec ^(DD9) - Street Lighting for October.	DD	£92.71
TOTAL OF DD PAYMENTS FOR NOTING SINCE THE NOVEMBER MEETING		£92.71
For Information - Reclaimable Vat from 1 April for 2023/24		£4,101.65

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.