

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 10 January 2022 at 7.00pm

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

Public Attendance: Three members of the public plus Buckinghamshire Council Cllr Balmires.

Clerk: A Skeggs

Absent: None

22/01	<p>Apologies for Absence</p> <p>Apologies were received and accepted from Cllr V James-Friday. Buckinghamshire Council Cllrs A Bond 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">• Wildflower Area Oving Road – A request had been made to name the wildflower area on the Oving Road after a resident. Whilst the parish council was not against the idea in principle the clerk was asked to contact the proposer for the rationale behind her suggestion.• Dogs in the Recreation Ground – There had been a minor incident involving a child and a dog off its lead. Everyone is reminded that it is a privilege that dogs are not required to be on their leads in the recreation ground. All dog owners are reminded to keep their dogs under control.• Car Parking in Ashgrove Gardens – Residents in Ashgrove Gardens had reported that parents were parking on the grass verges, across residents' driveways and on the corner of the junction when dropping off and collecting their children. It was AGREED to write to the school and ask them to circulate a letter to the parents. In addition, Cllr Lincoln suggested that a few councillors should patrol the area for a month and advise the parents that there was ample parking in the recreation ground.• Buckinghamshire Council – Cllr Blamires reported on the Lockhart's Farm planning application. As the decision had been deferred, the planning portal was now open for resident comments.
22/02	<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>
22/03	<p>Approval of Minutes: The minutes of the meeting of the Council held on the 13th December 2021, were approved, and signed as a true record.</p>
22/04	<p>2022/23 Budget and Precept</p> <p>The chair went through the draft budget prepared by the clerk and highlighted several</p>

Chair's Initials: _____

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	<p>items:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Precept - An increase in the tax base had resulted in an additional £1,200 in precept with no change to the current Band D of £55. • VAT - Reclaimable VAT would be around £5,000. • Play Area - Provision had been made for resurfacing the play area from S.106 funds. • Street Lighting – The budget had been increased to reflect the increased cost of electricity. It was proposed by Cllr Thomas, seconded by Cllr Lincoln that the clerk be asked to look for a new fixed price tariff. This was AGREED. • One Off Clearances – A budget had been included for one off maintenance issues. • Recreation Ground Grass Cutting – The budget reflected the new cost recently agreed by the Parish Council. <p>Cllr Lincoln then pointed out that the budget did not include any provision for new initiatives or projects. These could only be funded by an increase in the precept / Band D. After discussion it was proposed by Cllr Lincoln and seconded by Cllr Thomas that the Band D amount of £55 should be increased to £65. There was then a counter proposal from Cllr Perry, seconded by Cllr Palin that the Band D be increased to £60. The counter proposal was then put to the meeting. The vote resulted in three For and three Against. The Chair had the casting vote and voted in favour of the proposal of a £60 Band D. It was AGREED that the Band D for 2022/23 would be £60, which would result in a precept of £28,795.</p>
22/05	<p>Defibrillator</p> <p>The clerk had received a confusing reply from 3W Health regarding the repositioning of the defibrillator. It was AGREED that the clerk should respond requesting a meeting with the Practice Manager.</p>
22/06	<p>Road Safety / MVAS / Speedwatch</p> <p>Cllr Perry updated the meeting on the discussions she had had with the Waddesdon PC over using the Community Speedwatch camera.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Training – All volunteers would be trained on how to use the camera. • Sites – Suitability of sites would need to be approved by Thames Valley Police. • Signage – This would be required at all the chosen sites. • Sessions – Up to three times a month for 1 to 1 ½ hours at a time. • Offenders – Notification by letter, could be up to three for persistent offenders. • Options – Bushnell Speed Gun or more expensive Sentinel Gun Camera. <p>Cllr Perry was finding it difficult to find a parish council that had a speed camera available to be borrowed. It was suggested contacting Weedon Parish Council. After consideration it was AGREED to set up a team of volunteers of councillors and residents and to purchase a Bushnell Speed Gun.</p>

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22/07	<p>Neighbourhood Plan</p> <p>Keith Armour gave an update on progress to date.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • There were three critical areas of work outstanding - Housing Needs Assessment, Design Guide and Strategic and Environmental Assessment (SEA). • The formal allocation of houses from the Buckinghamshire Council local plan was still required. • The village referendum was expected to be in late spring or early summer.
22/08	<p>Recreation Ground</p> <p>a) Play Area – The clerk had prepared a specification for the required works which would be sent to the three contractors for them to re-quote. It would be uploaded on to the Gov.uk 'Find A Tender' website. Any comments to be fed back to the clerk.</p> <p>b) The zip wire had been padlocked up pending inspection. It was proposed that a new company be approached to carry out the annual inspection. This was AGREED.</p>
22/09	<p>Land Purchase Opportunities</p> <p>The chair introduced the item and the reasoning behind it. After consideration it was unanimously AGREED to grant delegated authority to the Chair and Clerk to make 'Without Prejudice' enquiries, should the need arise, if appropriate pieces of land became available.</p>
22/10	<p>Rights of Way / Footpaths</p> <p>The ROW WHI/47/1 had become overgrown and needed clearing. Clerk to contact the landowner.</p>
22/11	<p>Planning</p> <p>There were no planning applications to be considered.</p>
22/12	<p>Finance</p> <p>a) The list of payments for January was APPROVED, details at end of the minutes.</p> <p>b) The combined bank account position at the 31st December was NOTED.</p>
22/13	<p>Meeting Dates for 2022</p> <p>After further consideration it was AGREED to continue with the second Monday of the month starting at 7.00pm.</p>
22/14	<p>Date of Next Meeting: Monday 14th February 2022 @ 7.00pm.</p>

The meeting closed at 8.33 pm.

Chair's Signature Date.....

Chair's Initials: _____

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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 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
31 st December 2021	Treasurers	£6,273.34	
31 st December 2021	Playing Field	£9,061.55	
31 st December 2021	Business	£57,272.05	
31 st December 2021	Investment	£30,000.00	£102,606.94

INCOME AND EXPENDITURE LISTING

Income	£
Lloyds Bank – Compensation for Online Banking Registration Problems.	£25.00
Salvation Army – Clothes Bank for November.	£14.91
TOTAL INCOME SINCE THE LAST MEETING IN DECEMBER	£39.91

Expenditure	Cheque	£
Invoices to be approved at Parish Council meeting.		
Buckland Landscapes (78) – Foliage Removal Around Light MP1	848	£108.00
Buckland Landscapes (79) – December Grass Cutting	848	£497.00
BALC (80) – Councillor Skills Training – V James-Priday	849	£38.00
BALC (81) – Councillor Skills Training – C Thomas	849	£38.00
Whitchurch PCC (82) – Hall Hire for January PC Meeting	850	£20.00
Clerk (83) - Salary and Expenses for January 2022	851	£414.80
Community Heartbeat Trust (84) – New Defibrillator Battery	852	£318.00
TOTAL OF PAYMENTS FOR APPROVAL		£1,433.80

Direct Debits	£
NPower (85) (December – Street Lighting)	£1,021.72
TOTAL OF DD PAYMENTS SINCE THE DECEMBER MEETING	£1,021.72

For Information - Reclaimable Vat to date for 2021/22	£4,947.77
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