

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 13th January 2025 at 7.30pm.

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

Public Attendance: 4 members of the public, plus Buckinghamshire Council Cllrs Blamires and Bond.

Clerk: A Skeggs

Absent: None

| | |
|-------|---|
| 25/01 | <p>Apologies for Absence</p> <p>Apologies were received and accepted from Cllrs Grimes and Palin.</p> |
| | <p>Open Forum for Residents</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Issues raised were - the top section of the Sandpath needed resurfacing, the footpath outside The Firs needed sweeping, foliage was over hanging the footpath from the properties in Appleyard Close.• A resident raised the issue of the volume and weight of vehicles travelling along the Oving Road and proposed a weight limit be introduced. Discussions were being had within Buckinghamshire Council.• Cllr Thomas suggested EV charging points in the playing field car park. It was agreed that he could do some investigation work.• Buckinghamshire Council – New mobile traffic enforcement cameras were now in use around Aylesbury. Seventy percent of fly tippers are now prosecuted. |
| 25/02 | <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>There were no new declarations.</p> |
| 25/03 | <p>Approval of Minutes: The minutes of the meeting of the Council held on 9th December 2024, were approved, and signed by the Chair.</p> |
| 25/04 | <p>2025/26 Budget and Precept</p> <p>a) The Clerk presented an updated 2025/26 budget for consideration. It showed precept options of between 0% to 10% and how this would reduce the deficit. The budget did not allow for those items identified at the December meeting. After discussion it was AGREED to include the following in the budget, to be funded from reserves:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• £4,000 - New streetlight column on the High Street.• £3,000 - Provision of a footpath along Bushmead Road to Beechmoor Farm Shop.• £1,500 – Village Appearance project. <p>b) The setting of the precept was then considered. After some discussion Cllr Lincoln made a proposal to increase the precept by £6.60 per annum, this was not seconded. Cllr Perry then made a proposal, seconded by Cllr Thomas, to increase the precept by</p> |

Whitchurch Parish Council

| | |
|-------|--|
| | £7.92 per annum. Cllr Ford then proposed an amendment that the precept be increased by £3.30 per annum, this was seconded by Cllr Alderman. A vote was taken with two for and three against. The proposal was defeated. A vote on the proposal of an increase of £7.92 per annum was taken. The vote was three for and two against, the proposal was carried. The increase would mean a Precept of £36,235, a band D tax of £73.93 and a Budget of £50,130 for the 2025/26 financial year. |
| 25/05 | Policies The Clerk presented two policies for consideration, “Apologies for Absence” and “Asset Register”. After consideration it was proposed by Cllr Lincoln, seconded by Cllr Perry, that both policies be adopted. This was AGREED . |
| 25/06 | Finance a) The list of payments for January were APPROVED , details at the end of the minutes. b) The combined bank account position at the 31 December was NOTED . |
| 25/07 | Points of Interest <ul style="list-style-type: none"> The Chair that the Clerks appraisal had been carried out and that an action was for the Clerk to undertake some Contract Management training. The Chair reported that she had contacted the new MP Laura Kryke-Smith to ask if she would attend a meeting. |
| 25/08 | Planning – The following application was considered. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 24/03716/APP – Newmans Close Phase 2 – Erection of Entrance Gates. After consideration it was proposed to OBJECT to the application on the grounds that it was out of character for the village, the volume of traffic that would be using the gates, there was potential for vehicle congestion, and it would impact on the existing development. |
| 25/09 | Date of Next Meeting: The next meeting would be on Monday 10 th February 2025. |

The meeting closed at 8.40 pm.

Chair's Signature Date.....

Actions List

| Minute | Action Required | Action By | Progress |
|---------|--|-----------|-------------|
| 24/120a | Arrange inspection of High Street streetlights. | PC | Outstanding |
| 24/125 | Present pictorial record of school bell to school. | PC | In Progress |
| 24/131 | Prepare grass cutting specification for tender. | Clerk | Outstanding |
| 24/132 | Arrange meeting with developer of Newmans Close. | Clerk | In Progress |
| 25/04 | Inform Buckinghamshire Council of Precept request. | Clerk | Completed |

Whitchurch Parish Council

BANK RECONCILIATION

| Reconciled Bank Balance At | Account | Bank Balance | Total |
|----------------------------|--------------------|--------------|------------|
| 31 December 2024 | Current Account | £9,852.39 | |
| 31 December 2024 | Deposit Account | £56,568.98 | |
| 31 December 2024 | Investment Account | £30,403.89 | £96,825.26 |

INCOME AND EXPENDITURE LISTING

| Income | £ |
|--|-----------------|
| Lloyds Bank – Interest for December. | £561.21 |
| Salvation Army – Clothes Bank for October. | £1.69 |
| TOTAL INCOME SINCE THE LAST MEETING IN DECEMBER | £ 562.90 |

| Expenditure | | |
|---|---------|------------------|
| Invoices to be approved at Parish Council meeting. | Payment | £ |
| Buckland Landscapes ⁽⁶⁹⁾ – Leaf Clearance of Footpaths. | FPO | £828.00 |
| Intelogy Ltd ⁽⁷⁰⁾ -Microsoft Business Basic for December 2024. | FPO | £47.04 |
| Buckinghamshire Council ⁽⁷¹⁾ – Dog Waste Bin Emptying 2024/25. | FPO | £702.00 |
| BALC ⁽⁷²⁾ – Listed Building and Conservation Area Training. | FPO | £100.00 |
| Buckland Landscapes ⁽⁷³⁾ – December Verges/Recreation Ground. | FPO | £846.81 |
| Whitchurch PCC ⁽⁷⁴⁾ – Hall Hire for January 2025 PC Meeting. | FPO | £25.00 |
| Clerk ⁽⁷⁵⁾ - Salary and Expenses for January 2025. | FPO | £572.47 |
| TOTAL OF PAYMENTS FOR APPROVAL | | £3,121.32 |
| Direct Debits | | |
| SSE Swalec - Street Lighting for November. | DD11 | £0.00 |
| TOTAL OF DD PAYMENTS FOR NOTING SINCE THE NOVEMBER MEETING | | £0.00 |
| | | |
| For Information - Reclaimable Vat from 1 November for 2024/25 | | £609.73 |