

# 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<sup>th</sup> February 2025 at 7.30pm.

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

Public Attendance: 8 members of the public, plus Buckinghamshire Council Cllrs Bond and Gomm.

Clerk: A Skeggs

Absent: None

25/10	<b>Apologies for Absence</b> Apologies were received and accepted from Cllr Palin.
	<b>Open Forum for Residents</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Issues raised were - there was a problem of stones, foliage and a car affecting the pavement in the first Ashgrove Gardens Road. Weir Lane drains were all blocked.</li><li>• A resident raised the issue of declassification of the roads and that it was possible and that he was willing to help in the process. Cllr Gomm responded that a start had been made to set a weight limit of 7.5 tonnes. There would have to be a consultation and that local suppliers would be required to display a notice to travel on the road.</li><li>• A resident raised the subject of the cycleway to Aylesbury. Currently, waiting to find out whether it had been allocated any funding. Approaching HS2 was a possibility.</li><li>• Cllr Gomm reported that he had resurrected the Speedwatch consortium, which he hoped Whitchurch PC would join. One benefit was that there would be a bigger pool of volunteers to call upon.</li><li>• Dog Waste Bins – The emptying day is on a Wednesday. There is currently a sickness problem which has reduced the number of crews available to empty the bins.</li></ul>
25/11	<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. There were no new declarations.
25/12	<b>Approval of Minutes:</b> The minutes of the meeting of the Council held on 13 <sup>th</sup> January 2025, were approved, and signed by the Chair.
25/13	<b>EV Charging Points in the Playing Field Car Park</b> Cllr Thomas updated the meeting on the project. There was a lot of interest from EV companies. A feasibility study would be required particularly to determine whether there was enough capacity in the Ashgrove Gardens sub-station. There were various funding options available, the best would be determined once the details had been agreed. The project had the benefit that it would provide power to the playing field. Discussions would need to be had with the school / parents over the level of potential use. Cllr Thomas had had one response and was waiting for three other companies to respond.

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25/14	<p><b>Newman Close Phase 2 Boundary</b></p> <p>The gap between Newmans Close and the playing field had been enlarged, which was now leading to dogs escaping from the playing field. Cllr Grimes circulated maps showing the extent of the boundary and what should have been provided under the planning permission. There appeared to be no post and rail fencing as specified. After consideration it was <b>AGREED</b> that Buckinghamshire Council Cllr Bond would arrange a site visit with the developer to discuss this and the brightness of the streetlights.</p>
25/15	<p><b>Village Appearance</b></p> <p>a) Consideration was given to making an application for an Asda Foundation grant. The grant to cover the costs identified in improving the village appearance. After consideration it was <b>AGREED</b> to make an application. <i>Following the meeting it was subsequently found that the closing date for applications was the 31 January.</i></p> <p>b) There had been an increase in the number of A-Boards that had appeared around the village advertising businesses. After consideration it was <b>AGREED</b> it was not a problem so long as the boards were for local businesses and did not block the pavements.</p>
25/16	<p><b>Streetlight Green Acre Close</b></p> <p>The streetlight at the end of Green Acres Close needed to be replaced. The cost would be £3,432. Before agreeing to it being replaced, in a bid to reduce light pollution, it was <b>AGREED</b> to ask the residents of the Close what their views were.</p>
25/17	<p><b>Policies</b></p> <p>The Clerk presented two policies for consideration, “Co-option” and “Equality and Diversity”. After consideration it was proposed by Cllr Lincoln, seconded by Cllr Perry, that both policies be adopted. This was <b>AGREED</b>.</p>
25/18	<p><b>Finance</b></p> <p>a) The list of payments for February were <b>APPROVED</b>, details at the end of the minutes. Cllr Ford raised her concern that some invoices had been paid when the work had not been fully completed. The Clerk reported that invoices are only paid following the meeting. The Chair urged all Councillors to report problems when they are noticed so investigations can be made prior to the meeting.</p> <p>b) The combined bank account position at the 31 January was <b>NOTED</b>.</p>
25/19	<p><b>Points of Interest</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>The Chair and Vice-Chair had met with Cllr Gomm to discuss highway related issues.</li> </ul>
25/20	<p><b>Planning</b> – There were no applications considered.</p>
25/21	<p><b>Date of Next Meeting:</b> The next meeting would be on Monday 10<sup>th</sup> March 2025.</p>

The meeting closed at 8.42 pm.

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

## Actions List

Minute	Action Required	Action By	Progress
24/120a	Arrange inspection of High Street streetlights.	PC	Outstanding
24/131	Prepare grass cutting specification for tender.	Clerk	Outstanding
25/14	Arrange Newman Close site visit.	Cllr Bond	In Progress
25/16	Consult residents of Green Acre Close on streetlight.	Clerk	Completed

## BANK RECONCILIATION

Reconciled Bank Balance At	Account	Bank Balance	Total
31 January 2025	Current Account	£6,569.40	
31 January 2025	Deposit Account	£56,613.19	
31 January 2025	Investment Account	£30,403.89	£93,586.48

## INCOME AND EXPENDITURE LISTING

Income	£
Lloyds Bank – Interest for January.	£44.21
Salvation Army – Clothes Bank for December.	£1.64
<b>TOTAL INCOME SINCE THE LAST MEETING IN JANUARY</b>	<b>£45.85</b>

Expenditure		
Invoices to be approved at Parish Council meeting.	Payment	£
Clerk (The Flower Bar) <sup>(76)</sup> – Flowers for Cllr Palin.	FPO	£64.00
Intelogy Ltd <sup>(77)</sup> - Microsoft Business Basic for January 2025.	FPO	£47.04
Buckland Landscapes <sup>(78)</sup> – January Verges/Recreation Ground.	FPO	£846.81
Whitchurch PCC <sup>(79)</sup> – Hall Hire for February 2025 PC Meeting.	FPO	£25.00
Clerk <sup>(80)</sup> - Salary and Expenses for February 2025.	FPO	£547.47
<b>TOTAL OF PAYMENTS FOR APPROVAL</b>		<b>£1,530.32</b>
Direct Debits		
SSE Swalec - Street Lighting for October.	DD11	£99.31
<b>TOTAL OF DD PAYMENTS FOR NOTING SINCE THE JANUARY MEETING</b>		<b>£99.31</b>
<b>For Information - Reclaimable Vat from 1 November for 2024/25</b>		<b>£627.66</b>