

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 November 2024 at 7.30pm.

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

Public Attendance: 2 members of the public, plus Buckinghamshire Council Cllrs Bond, and Blamires.

Clerk: A Skeggs

Absent: None

24/116	Apologies for Absence Apologies were received and accepted from Cllrs Palin and Thomas.
	Open Forum for Residents <ul style="list-style-type: none">The resident raised issues with the drain outside Quaker Barn in Market Hill and the footpath outside Stone House and the Sandpath.A member of the WWEG informed the meeting that they wished to provide boxes and feeders for small birds. The boxes/feeders would be available to residents to purchase. They would like a grant towards the costs from the Parish Council. The request would be considered at the next Parish Council meeting.A resident informed the meeting that there had been a lot of negative feedback regarding the new goals at the playing field. Cllr Ford responded that they had been inspected by ROSPA and were safe.Buckinghamshire Council – A possible viable cycle route between Aylesbury and Whitchurch had been identified but required national funding. The first fine for littering using an image from a dashcam in England had been issued in Aylesbury.
24/117	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. There were no new declarations.
24/118	Approval of Minutes: The minutes of the meeting of the Council held on the 7 th October 2024, were approved, and signed by the Chair.
24/119	Village Appearance <ol style="list-style-type: none">Work had started on identifying areas in the village that could be improved, starting with planting bulbs in the verges. The Chair propose that a budget of £150 be set to enable the bulbs to be purchased. This was AGREED with four in favour and one against.The condition of footpaths around the village was considered and it was proposed that an annual programme of footpath clearance being established with the following areas being cleared twice a year:<ul style="list-style-type: none">The Sandpath.From The Firs down the Whitchurch Village sign.

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	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Top of Market Hill and Weir Lane. • Outside the Gulf Petrol Station. <p>This was unanimously AGREED. It was suggested that all residents be encouraged to clear the areas at the front of their properties. A note to go in the Village magazine and on Facebook.</p>
24/120	<p>Street Lighting</p> <p>a) The Clerk had been in touch with UKPN who had confirmed that all the posts in the High Street were owned by the Parish Council. Before the identified post was replaced it was AGREED that an inspection of all the streetlights in the High Street be carried out.</p> <p>b) The Clerk had been in contact with the developer of Newman Close phase two, and he was going to inspect them at night to assess the problem. The Clerk was to contact him again as he had not been in touch.</p>
24/121	<p>Speed Watch</p> <p>Cllr Perry reported on the recent Speed Watch sessions that had been held. Ten ½ hour sessions had been booked. The Council was hiring the Sentinel equipment from Waddesdon PC which made the recording of information easier. The Police would decide on what action should be taken once the data had been uploaded. The new SID at the top of Whitchurch Hill was now producing data. Over a two-week period, it had recorded 76,882 movements, which showed an average speed of 27mph.</p>
24/122	<p>Communications</p> <p>a) A draft Communications Policy had been circulated by the Clerk. After consideration it was agreed that a section on the use of WhatsApp needed to be added. The Clerk was to update and bring back to the December meeting.</p> <p>b) As there would be elections in May 2025 the Chair suggested that a communications plan on the role of a Councillor be drawn up along with the achievements of the Council to try and encourage a range of candidates. The Chair would prepare an article for the December magazine and the website. It could be repeated in the New Year.</p>
24/123	<p>Weedon Road Junction</p> <p>There had been an increase in accidents at the junction over the last few months. The Parish Council was waiting for Buckinghamshire Council to supply the data before deciding what action could be taken.</p>
24/124	<p>Finance</p> <p>a) It was NOTED that NALC had agreed a pay award for council staff for 2024/25, effective from the 1 April 2024. It was AGREED to apply the pay award to the Clerk's salary.</p> <p>b) The list of payments for November were APPROVED, details at the end of the minutes.</p>

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	c) The combined bank account position at the 31 October was NOTED .
24/125	Points of Interest <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Community Board Area – From May 2025 Whitchurch PC would be part of the new larger West Bucks Board. School Bell Project – A pictorial record of the project had been produced. It was decided to donate the book to the school. Highways Stakeholders Conference - Cllr Perry had attended and found it very useful. Residents are encouraged to report poor / substandard pothole repairs on fixmystreet.
24/126	Planning There were no applications for consideration.
24/127	Date of Next Meeting: The next meeting would be on Monday 9 th December, starting at 7.30pm.

The meeting closed at 8.55 pm.

Chair's Signature Date.....

Actions List

Minute	Action Required	Action By	Progress
24/119	Contact Bucklands for quote on footpath clearing	Clerk	Completed
24/120a	Arrange inspection of High Street streetlights.	PC	Outstanding
24/120b	Contact developer of Newmans Close.	Clerk	Completed
24/122a	Amend Communications Policy for next PC meeting.	Clerk	Completed
24/122b	PC achievements for Village Magazine.	Chair	Completed
24/125	Present pictorial record of school bell to school.	PC	Outstanding

BANK RECONCILIATION

Reconciled Bank Balance At	Account	Bank Balance	Total
31 st October 2024	Current Account	£11,500.04	
31 st October 2024	Deposit Account	£42,052.93	
31 st October 2024	Investment Account	£30,403.89	£83,956.86

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INCOME AND EXPENDITURE LISTING

Income	£
Lloyds Bank – Interest for October.	£52.93
Salvation Army – Clothes Bank for September.	£4.37
Various – Donations to School Bell Project.	£2,238.33
TOTAL INCOME SINCE THE LAST MEETING IN OCTOBER	£2,295.63

Expenditure		
Invoices to be approved at Parish Council meeting.	Payment	£
Clerk ⁽⁵²⁾ - Salary and Expenses for October 2024.	FPO	£532.35
Clerk ⁽⁵³⁾ – Paediatric Pads for Defibrillators.	FPO	£324.00
Buckland Landscapes ⁽⁵⁴⁾ – October Verges / Recreation Ground.	FPO	£846.81
Whitchurch PCC ⁽⁵⁵⁾ – Hall Hire for November 2024 PC Meeting.	FPO	£25.00
ENC Ltd ⁽⁵⁶⁾ – Street Light Repairs Opposite 16 Rickyard Close.	FPO	£477.60
Truvelo Ltd ⁽⁵⁷⁾ – TruSign 300CR SID.	FPO	£6,048.00
Glasdon UK Ltd ⁽⁵⁸⁾ – Three Kings Charles III Coronation Benches	FPO	£2,542.96
Clerk ⁽⁵⁹⁾ – Two Poppy Wreaths for Remembrance Sunday.	FPO	£75.00
Clerk ⁽⁶⁰⁾ - Salary and Expenses for November 2024.	FPO	£674.81
Waddesdon Parish Council ⁽⁶¹⁾ – Hire of Sentinel.	FPO	£40.00
Buckland Landscapes ⁽⁶²⁾ – Siding Out Footpath by Swan Close	FPO	£300.00
TOTAL OF PAYMENTS FOR APPROVAL		£11,886.53
Direct Debits		
SSE Swalec - Street Lighting for September.	DD9	£96.11
SSE Swalec - Street Lighting for October.	DD10	£100.10
TOTAL OF DD PAYMENTS FOR NOTING SINCE THE OCTOBER MEETING		£196.21
For Information - Reclaimable Vat from 1 April for 2024/25		£8,923.23

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.