

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 12th January 2026 at 7.30pm.

Present: Cllrs A Bond (Chair), P Alderman, L Davies, S Ford, S Jefferies, R Shuffill, and A White.

Public Attendance: 11 members of the public plus Buckinghamshire Council Cllr Gomm.

Clerk: A Skeggs

Absent: None

26/01	<p>Apologies for Absence There were no apologies.</p>
	<p>Open Forum for Residents</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Road Closure – The recent road closure by Anglian Water and the problems it caused was raised. Cllr Gomm informed the meeting that the Oving Road had been closed in the wrong place and that in future there would be a “Hard Closure”, which would prevent vehicles reaching Mount Pleasant / Market Hill.• Horse Riding Signage – A resident raised the issue of the increase of inconsiderate drivers which was making riding horses along the Oving Road very dangerous. The signage needed to be modernised. Clerk to contact Buckinghamshire Council.• Footpaths – A resident updated the position on the Definitive Map Statement requests. The reports had been written and were now awaiting sign off, which could be months.• A resident asked whether traffic calming in the village could be a possibility to reduce the speeding and volume of traffic.• Planning Application 25/01533 – No decision yet from Buckinghamshire Council. <p>Buckinghamshire Council Councillor Update</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• The Chief Executive, Rachel Shimmin had left.• A balanced budget for 2026/27 had been agreed despite losing £44.4m in grant because of the Fair Funding review. Funding for a specialist SEND school had been withdrawn by Central Government.• Utility contractors now had to apply for a £2,500 license for roadworks. It was hoped that this would speed up roadworks.• A light for the central reservation on the High Street had been ordered.• The footpaths in Ashgrove Gardens were being assessed.
26/02	<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 of interest.</p>
26/03	<p>Approval of Minutes: The minutes of the meeting of the Council held on 8th December 2025, were approved, and signed by the Chair.</p>

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26/04	<p>Grass Cutting Contract</p> <p>This item was deferred until the February meeting as the Supply of Service contract was not available.</p>
26/05	<p>Planters Around the Village</p> <p>Consideration was given to purchasing some planters to be positioned around the village, The Clerk was to obtain some quotes. Cllr Jefferies suggested that Village gates at the entrances to the village should be considered. Cllr Gomm agreed to speak to Buckinghamshire Council to determine the process and the potential cost.</p>
26/06	<p>Traffic Problems Around Mount Pleasant</p> <p>This item was covered during the Open Forum section.</p>
26/07	<p>Grit Bin in Playing Field Car Park</p> <p>A resident had raised the issue of exiting The Meadows when the road was icy. After consideration it was proposed by Cllr Bond that the Parish Council should purchase a 200-liter grit bin to be positioned at the playing field entrance. This was AGREED.</p>
26/08	<p>2026/27 Precept and Band D</p> <p>It was NOTED that the precept for 2026/27 would be £36,230 and that the Band D tax base would be £69.97.</p>
26/09	<p>Finance</p> <p>The list of payments for January was APPROVED, details at the end of the minutes.</p>
26/10	<p>Planning</p> <p>Although, there were no applications for consideration an application at Newman Close was raised. This was a Permission in Principle application to determine if the site was suitable. If the site is deemed suitable then a detailed application will be made which will come to the Parish Council for consideration.</p>
26/11	<p>Date of Next Meeting: The next meeting would be on Monday 9th February 2026.</p>

The meeting closed at 8.15pm.

Chair's Signature Date.....

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Actions List

Minute	Action Required	Action By	Progress
25/85	Write to residents of Ashgrove Gardens.	Clerk	To Be Done
26/05	Obtain quotes for Planters.	Clerk	In Progress
26/05	Obtain Process for Village Gates.	Cllr Gomm	
26/07	Purchase 200-liter Grit Bin.	Clerk	In Progress

BANK POSITION

Bank Balance At	Account	Bank Balance	Total
31 December 2025	Current Account	£2,816.60	
31 December 2025	Deposit Account	£72,499.43	
31 December 2025	Investment Account	£30,403.89	£105,719.92

INCOME AND EXPENDITURE LISTING

Income	£
Lloyds Bank – Interest for December.	£34.54
TOTAL INCOME SINCE THE LAST MEETING IN DECEMBER	£34.54

Expenditure	Payment	£
Invoices to be approved at Parish Council meeting.		
Forde & McHugh ⁽⁶²⁾ – Repair of Three Streetlights on High Street.	FPO	£516.00
SSE ⁽⁶³⁾ – Street Lighting for Period 01/11/25 to 30/11/25.	DD	£898.78
Intology Systems ⁽⁶⁴⁾ – Email Addresses for December.	DD	£46.37
Buckland Landscapes ⁽⁶⁵⁾ – December Verges/Recreation Ground.	FPO	£889.15
Whitchurch PCC ⁽⁶⁶⁾ – Hall Hire for January 2026 PC Meeting.	FPO	£25.00
Clerk ⁽⁶⁷⁾ - Salary and Expenses for January 2026.	FPO	£560.82
Lloyds Bank ⁽⁶⁸⁾ – December Account Maintenance Charge.	DD	£4.25
TOTAL OF PAYMENTS FOR APPROVAL		£2,940.37
For Information - Reclaimable Vat from 1 April for 2025/26		£3,897.75