

**Whitchurch Parish Council**  
**Clerk to the Council – Mrs Ann-Marie Davies**

**Minutes of the Meeting of Whitchurch Parish Council on Tuesday 13 October 2015 in the Methodist Church at 7.30pm**

**Present:** Chairman Ashley Bond  
Vice Chairman Paul Foot  
Councillor Charlotte Lincoln  
Councillor David Meakin  
Councillor Susan Ford  
Councillor Paul Alderman  
Councillor Mark Parrott  
Clerk – Ann-Marie Davies

County Councillor Netta Glover  
District Councillor Janet Blake  
Plus 14 residents

- 1. To note apologies for absence:** to accept apologies for absence – None received.
- 2. To receive a presentation from Ian Hopper of Community Impact Bucks –** No-one from Community Impact Bucks had arrived to do this presentation. The Clerk reported that despite numerous attempts, she had not been able to obtain a response from Community Impact Bucks on their attendance at this meeting. She would continue to press for an answer.

**ACTION: AMD**

THE CHAIRMAN BROUGHT FORWARD PLANNING ITEM **15/03270/AOP – Land to the south of Oving Road and adjacent to 49 Oving Road, Whitchurch, Bucks, FOR THE BENEFIT OF RESIDENTS IN ATTENDANCE.**

Councillor David Meakin read a statement which he had prepared on behalf of the Parish Council and which stated clearly our list of objections to this proposed planning application. A resident asked that when the Parish Council submit their response, could they also make reference to the 250 objections that were made for the previous application of 80 houses as this no longer appeared on the AVDC Planning Portal.

**ACTION: AMD**

Another resident asked that the Parish Council also refer to the submitted statement from Highways in relation to this application and make it clear that the data to which they referred was national data and irrelevant to Whitchurch. In addition, any traffic surveys that were to be undertaken, should be more meaningful than ones which had previously been undertaken.

**ACTION: AMD**

- 3. Open Forum for Parishioners:** (under adjournment).  
County Councillor Netta Glover read a report to all in attendance. It is attached to these minutes for reference.  
District Councillor Janet Blake referred to the planning application to the land to the south of Oving Road and agreed to look at it in more detail. She also referred to the Parish Councils objections and stated that some of the Local Plan retained items to which we referred were no longer in existence. She agreed to let the Parish Council have details of the obsolete items.

**ACTION: JB**

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Councillor Blake also urged Councillors and residents to find out more detail about Neighbourhood Plans, the Vale Lottery and the Devolution Meeting. The Clerk confirmed all Councillors had been sent information on each of these items. Councillor Blake asked for feedback on the AVDC website. Residents and Councillors both spoke of their frustration that all phone numbers had been removed. Councillor Blake agreed to take this feedback back to AVDC.

4. **Declaration of interest in items on the agenda:** to declare any interests – Chairman Ashley Bond declared his interest as Members of the AVDC Strategic Development Control Group and also the Development Management Committee.
5. **To confirm the minutes of the meeting of 8 September 2015** – the minutes were agreed and signed as a correct record.
6. **To update on matters arising from the minutes of the last meeting and agree any further actions required.**

The Clerk reported that she was still working on a welcome pack for new parishioners and would bring back to a future meeting for Councillors to approve. **ACTION: AMD**

Following discussion, Councillor Foot and Ford agreed to come back to the Clerk with details on the damaged zip wire cover. **ACTION: PF/SF**

At the last meeting Councillors voted to adopt a monthly tick list approach to Health & Safety in the play area. The Clerk had found out that ROSPA could provide a tick list bespoke to Whitchurch at a cost of £30. Councillors agreed to obtain this list and the Clerk raised a cheque. The Clerk confirmed that the Parish Councils insurers were happy to undertake the cover for the Firework Night display following a suitable risk assessment that was sent through to them for approval. The Clerk had also arranged for two footpaths to be closed on the evening of the event.

7. **To consider proposals to introduce a skatepark into the village following representations by young residents.**

A 12 year old young man from the village gave a comprehensive, informed and articulate presentation to the Parish Council on this issue. He told of the petition he had carried out which had obtained 25 signatures in support of a skatepark being introduced to the village. Councillors asked several questions regarding proposed positioning of this skatepark, the materials that could potentially be used which would reduce the effects of noise, the potential for older teenagers to 'abuse' this facility, and lastly, why there was only one young man who had attended this meeting to plea for a skatepark. Outcomes of this presentation were that the Clerk was asked to source costs for a concrete ramp and the young resident was asked to bring further support to future meetings so that the Parish Council to get a view of the wider support.

**ACTION: AMD**

8. **Planning:** To discuss planning applications and make recommendation, and to include those planning applications received after this agenda is published, if urgent:

**15/03071/APP – 9, Firs Close, Whitchurch, Bucks, HP22 4LH** – Single storey front extension – Councillors considered the detail that was available from AVDC and decided that there was not enough information to make a decision. The Clerk was asked to contact AVDC, ask for further

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information and also an extended consultation date so that adequate time was given for the information to be disseminated and decided upon. **ACTION: AMD**

**15/03281/APP – 5 Green Acres Close, Whitchurch, Bucks, HP22 4JP** – First floor front extension - Due to the proximity of his own property, Councillor David Meakin declared an interest and declined to take part in this item – The Parish Council decided it had **NO OBJECTIONS** to this planning application. **ACTION: AMD**

**15/03270/AOP** – Land to the south of Oving Road and adj to 49 Oving Road, Whitchurch, Bucks - Please see notes prior to Open Forum.

**9. Finance:**

- a. To draw cheques

The Council resolved to draw the following cheques:-

AVDC	chq 494	£815.80
Ann-Marie Davies	chq 495	£370.94
D P Alderman	chq 496	£30.00
ROSPA	chq 497	£30.00

- b. To agree accounts for August & September 2015 – The accounts for August were agreed as a correct record. September bank statements had been received too late to reconcile for the meeting and would be moved to the next meeting for approval. **ACTION: AMD**

**10. Highways, Footpaths & Footways, Street Lighting:**

Councillor Foot reported two streetlights out. One by Two Hoots and the other by Stone House. The Clerk would report to the lighting contractors. **ACTION: AMD**

Councillor Parrott reported that overgrown hedges in Weir Lane needed cutting back and also the ditches to that area needed digging out. The Clerk was asked to report it to the Local Area Technician. **ACTION: AMD**

Councillor Ford reported that the planned works to the Sandpath for 28 September had not taken place and this situation was now dangerous as it was impassable. The Clerk would contact the Local Area Technician urgently. **ACTION: AMD**

The Clerk updated the group on the late arrival of the Feasibility Study for the pedestrian crossing in the High Street and her ongoing dialogue with the Deputy Cabinet Member for Transportation. She would update the group on further developments. **ACTION: AMD**

Councillors asked for an update on the installation of the new footway to the bus stop in the High Street. The Clerk advised that she had chased TFB for a response but had not received a reply – she would continue to chase. **ACTION: AMD**

**11. Recreation Ground**

Councillor Foot reported that an elderly local resident was struggling to cut back bramble growth at the back of his property which adjoined the recreation ground. Councillor Parrott offered to deal with this matter. **ACTION: MP**

**12. To consider correspondence and other communications received since last meeting:**

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- a. To note the correspondence received from Community Impact Bucks which instructs Parish Councils to hold a 'Register of Interest' for applicants for rural exception scheme properties in the village.

The Clerk read out the full letter from Community Impact Bucks which now devolved the duty of retaining a register of applicants for rural exception scheme properties in the village to the Parish Council. The Council agreed to keep a register in place and also advertise this matter widely via the Whitchurch News and village websites.

**ACTION: AMD**

**13. To agree the date of the next meeting** – The date of the next meeting was agreed as Tuesday 10 November 2015 at 7.30pm in the Methodist Church Hall.

Signed:

Date