

# 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 13 March 2023 at 7.30pm.

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

Public Attendance: Three members of the public, and Buckinghamshire Council Cllrs A Bond, D Blamires, and P Cooper plus TVP Officers Jake Bye and Dionne Edwards.

Clerk: A Skeggs

Absent: None

23/27	<p><b>Apologies for Absence</b></p> <p>Apologies were received and accepted from Cllrs V James-Priddy, and M Palin.</p>
	<p><b>Open Forum for Residents</b></p> <p>Thames Valley Police Report</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• They outlined how they operated and highlighted that they do get pulled away to cover the Aylesbury area.</li><li>• Between 1<sup>st</sup> January and 12<sup>th</sup> March there had been 27 incidents reported. Two classed as a crime (criminal damage and theft). The rest covered domestic / concern for welfare / anti-social behaviour and motor collisions.</li><li>• Residents were encouraged to contact the police directly even if they felt it wasn't relevant as it helps to show potential patterns.</li><li>• PCSO's do patrol the village but do get pulled away to areas with higher crime activity.</li></ul> <p>Buckinghamshire Council Report:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Defibrillator Grant – This would be ring fenced for a year.</li><li>• A413 Repair – This may get brought up the list for inclusion in the 2024 programme.</li><li>• New Highways Contractor – There is a meeting planned with the new contractor.</li></ul>
23/28	<p><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.</p> <p>No declarations were made.</p>
23/29	<p><b>Approval of Minutes:</b></p> <p>The minutes of the meeting of the Council held on the 13<sup>th</sup> February 2023, were approved, and signed as a true record after a correction to the Neighbourhood Watch item.</p>
23/30	<p><b>Neighbourhood Plan</b></p> <p>The regulation 14 consultation period had ended. The next stage was to review and respond to all the comments received. Some comments were beyond the scope of the Plan. Most of the comments from Buckinghamshire Council have been taken on board but a face-to-face meeting was being arranged with the Neighbourhood Plan team. Once complete the Neighbourhood Plan would come to the Parish Council for the Regulation 15 stage of</p>

# Whitchurch Parish Council

	<p>passing to Buckinghamshire Council for the formal inspection. There was no date set for the referendum.</p>
23/31	<p><b>Recreation Ground</b></p> <p>a) Play Area Inspection Regime – The frequency of inspections was considered. Currently, there was an annual inspection but there was an option of quarterly. It was proposed by Cllr Lincoln, seconded by Cllr Thomas to continue with an annual inspection. This was <b>AGREED</b> by 4 votes in favour, with Cllr Ford against. Cllr Thomas would undertake a monthly visual check of the equipment.</p> <p>b) Play Area / Signs / Litter Bin – The sign had been ordered. Both the new sign and litter bin needed cementing in. It was <b>AGREED</b> to ask Lifestyle Building Services to quote for the work.</p> <p>c) Ivy - It was <b>AGREED</b> to remove the ivy from the two trees at the entrance to the playing field. Clerk to contact Buckland Landscapes for a quote as well as asking Robin Moore.</p>
23/32	<p><b>Kings Coronation</b></p> <p>The chair suggested that the old metal benches should be replaced. She also suggested the parish council should offer a choice of benches and that donations be requested to help fund the project. There may be a funding route via the Heart of Bucks, Cllr Lincoln would progress the project.</p>
23/33	<p><b>Planting of Tree Opposite the School</b></p> <p>It was <b>AGREED</b> that the tree identified by Cllr Ford be planted opposite the school. Cllr Ford to progress the project.</p>
23/34	<p><b>Mount Pleasant</b></p> <p>a) Streetlights – The clerk had received a quote to replace the lights in Mount Pleasant to LEDs but keeping the heritage style. The cost was £538 per light with a delivery charge of £231 per order. The casing would be painted as part of the upgrade. It was proposed, seconded, and <b>AGREED</b> to replace the two lights.</p> <p>b) Trees – It was <b>NOTED</b> that planning consent has been granted to remove one tree and reduce the crowns of three other trees.</p>
23/35	<p><b>Best Kept Village Competition</b></p> <p>It was <b>AGREED</b> to enter the Best Kept Village Competition again this year.</p>
23/36	<p><b>1<sup>st</sup> Granborough Scout Group</b></p> <p>The 1<sup>st</sup> Granborough Scout Group had again approached the parish council for a donation. Cllr Lincoln highlighted that the group had been given access to the ash tree for them to sell as firewood and there was still more wood for them. The clerk was to contact them to see how much income they had generated.</p>
23/37	<p><b>Website</b></p> <p>Cllr Thomas reported that the whitchurchpc.org.uk domain name was available. The hosting</p>

# Whitchurch Parish Council

	fee would be around £150 per year.
23/38	<p><b>Rural Exception Housing Scheme</b></p> <p>Cllr Ford reported to the meeting the failings of Bucks Home Choice when it came to letting properties in Newman Close. They had not contacted the parish council to review the list that the parish council held. Two properties had been let to people with no connection to the village. Bucks Home Choice had broken the covenant, but the only redress would be expensive litigation. Both Bucks Home Choice and Hastoe Housing were now aware of their responsibility when it came to letting these properties.</p>
23/39	<p><b>Village Eco Group (VEG)</b></p> <p>In the absence of Cllr James-Friday this item was deferred until the next meeting.</p>
23/40	<p><b>Finance</b></p> <p>a) The list of payments for March were <b>APPROVED</b>, details at the end of the minutes.  b) The combined bank account position at the 28<sup>th</sup> February was <b>NOTED</b>.</p>
23/41	<p><b>Planning</b></p> <p>The following planning applications were considered by the meeting:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>23/00305/APP – 2 Firs Close</b> – Demolition of Conservatory and Erection of a Single Storey Rear Extension. It was <b>AGREED</b> that the parish council had <b>NO OBJECTIONS</b> to the application.</li> <li>• <b>23/00690/APP – 56 High Street</b> – Change of Use to Coffee Shop and Ancillary to this Occasional Use as a Wine Bar. It was <b>AGREED</b> that the parish council had <b>NO OBJECTIONS</b> to the change of use to a coffee shop so long as there were no problems with litter and parking. With the occasional use as a wine bar. Parking may be an issue, there was no room for an A-Board on the pavement and any lighting changes needed to conform to the Conservation Area requirements.</li> </ul>
23/42	<p><b>Points of Interest</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Cllrs Lincoln and Palin had attended a Responding to Planning Applications training.</li> </ul>
23/43	<p><b>Date and Time of Next Meeting:</b> The date of the next meeting would be on Monday 17<sup>th</sup> April 2023 starting @ 7.30pm.</p>

**The meeting closed at 9.20 pm.**

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

# Whitchurch Parish Council

## BANK RECONCILIATION

Reconciled Bank Balance At	Account	Bank Balance	Total
28 <sup>th</sup> February 2023	Current Account	£5,994.99	
28 <sup>th</sup> February 2023	Playing Field Account	£4,146.50	
28 <sup>th</sup> February 2023	Deposit Account	£55,823.68	
28 <sup>th</sup> February 2023	Investment Account	£30,000.00	£95,965.17

## INCOME AND EXPENDITURE LISTING

Income	£
Section 106 Funding – Play area Resurfacing.	£48,298.00
Salvation Army – Clothes Bank for January.	£25.53
<b>TOTAL INCOME SINCE THE LAST MEETING IN FEBRUARY</b>	<b>£48,323.53</b>

Expenditure	Payment	£
<b>Invoices to be approved at Parish Council meeting.</b>		
ENC Ltd <sup>(88)</sup> – Repairs to Street Light at 10 Oving Road	FPO	£372.00
ENC Ltd <sup>(89)</sup> – Repairs to Footpath Street Light in Oving Road.	FPO	£564.60
Buckinghamshire Council <sup>(90)</sup> – Dog Waste Collection for 2022/23.	FPO	£725.00
Buckinghamshire Council <sup>(91)</sup> – Speed Indicator Device.	FPO	£3,295.00
Buckland Landscapes <sup>(92)</sup> – February Verges Grass Cutting.	FPO	£526.82
Whitchurch PCC <sup>(93)</sup> – Hall Hire for March 2023 PC Meeting.	FPO	£20.00
BALC <sup>(94)</sup> – Planning Application Responses Training M Palin.	FPO	£45.00
BALC <sup>(95)</sup> – Planning Application Responses Training C Lincoln.	FPO	£45.00
Kompan <sup>(96)</sup> – Visit to investigate damage to equipment.	FPO	£86.20
Clerk <sup>(97)</sup> - Salary and Expenses for March 2023.	FPO	£466.37
<b>TOTAL OF PAYMENTS FOR APPROVAL</b>		<b>£6,145.99</b>

Direct Debits	£
SSE Swalec <sup>(DD6)</sup> - Street Lighting for February.	£118.57
<b>TOTAL OF DD PAYMENTS FOR NOTING SINCE THE DECEMBER MEETING</b>	<b>£118.57</b>

<b>For Information - Reclaimable Vat to date for 2022/23</b>	£6,033.99
--	-----------

## Actions List

Minute	Action Required	Action By	Progress
23/06	Contact Wingrave PC re: playing field drainage.	Cllr Perry	
23/17b	Order “Froggo Litter Bin”.	Clerk	In Progress
23/19	Contact landowners regarding bench project.	?	
23/20	Investigate Christmas lights in the High Street.	Clerk	In Progress

## FIXMYSTREET.COM

This is the website that Buckinghamshire Council recommends you use to report problems, which could

# Whitchurch Parish Council

be blocked road drains, potholes, broken pavements, signage problems, overgrown foliage etc.

Here is the link [www.fixmystreet.com](http://www.fixmystreet.com) 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.