

## WINTERBORNE WHITECHURCH PARISH COUNCIL

### Minutes

**Wayne Lewin – Clerk to the Parish Council**  
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Minutes of Full Council held on **Wednesday 18<sup>th</sup> February 2026** in The Old School Room  
Meeting commenced at 7.00 pm

#### **Councillors in attendance:**

**Julien Turner, Liam Deeney, Geoff Eaton, Ricky Trim, and Chris Royle**

There were 18 members of the public in attendance  
Cllr Emma Parker (Dorset Council)

#### **FULL COUNCIL**

##### **1. Apologies for absence**

Cllr Holford-Walker sent apologies.

##### **2. Declarations of pecuniary or other interest**

No declarations were made.

##### **3. Minutes of the previous meeting held on 21<sup>st</sup> January 2026**

These were agreed as a true and accurate record of the meeting.

##### **4. Clerk's report**

The Clerk was delighted to announce that the new Bus Shelter for opposite Lady Bailey had been ordered.

There was a lead delivery time of around six weeks.

##### **5. Chair's update**

The Chair had no points at this stage.

##### **6. Public participation – items on the agenda only**

The Chair opened the floor to the public and stated that notes would be taken and addressed at the relevant agenda item.

##### Item 8 Concerns were raised on the following:

Impact on Dorset National Landscapes due to the proximity of the site

Outside of Village Boundary

Scale and harshness of dwellings

Lack of affordable housing

Factual deficiency on number of amenities in the Village

Highways safety

Increase flooding risk

##### Item 10

Consideration of a zebra crossing

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**Minutes**

Item 14

Maintenance of culvert with a view to it being bigger  
Village flood plan  
The responsibility of the riparian owner  
Road Closures  
Dorset Council Highways response

It was also questioned as to the fence of Chescombe onto the A354, in that it was deemed a large Health and Safety issue.

**The Chair confirmed that this had been dealt with at the last meeting and stated that Dorset Council Planning and Highways had approved the structure.**

**7. Dorset Councillors report**

Cllr Parker had no points at this time but would answer any questions later in the meeting if required.

**8. Planning**

**a. P/FUL/2026/00320**

**Land South Of Chescombe Lane Winterborne Whitechurch  
Erect five dwellings and associated infrastructure**

Members agreed to OBJECT to this application.

A detailed breakdown is attached at Annex A.

**9. Financial matters**

**a. Payments for authorisation**

There were 7 payments (PV's 64-70), totalling **£4303.96**, that were approved and authorised for payment.

**10. Traffic calming on A354 – options for discussion**

Members supported the Dorset Council proposal of option 3, with option 2 also approved as a suitable alternative.

Option 3 is attached as Annex B to these minutes.

**11. Funding request from Life Education Wessex**

It was decided that the request did not meet the grant funding criteria of the Parish Council and was therefore declined.

**12. Funding request from Dorset Community Transport**

Councillors were supportive of this scheme and approved a grant of £250 towards helping offset the costs of this not-for-profit charity. This grant to be reviewed annually.

**13. Discussion on suitable alternative greenspace for Village Green (centre)**

Cllr Eaton remains keen to create a focal point of a Village Centre, of which matters such as a Village History board could be installed. Any ideas would be very welcome.

**14. Flooding – actions on including sandbag store**

All were in agreement that the recent flooding was extreme, primarily caused by the three storms in succession. However, it was felt it was exacerbated by poor maintenance of the river by riparian owners and non-existent clearing of drains and gullies by Dorset Council.

The following actions were agreed:

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To write to the Environment Agency, to request they inform all legal riparian owners of their responsibilities.

To request the Environment Agency fulfil their obligations of culvert clearance within the context of an onsite with the Parish Council.

To invite Dorset Council Highways to a meeting to discuss improvements in both routine maintenance and to the hardscaping of the location with engineering solutions.

To update the flood plan and disseminate to the public (on demand).

The Clerk suggested that a secure and dry located be identified for storage of filled sandbags for emergency use.

### **15. Update and actions from recent Dorset meetings**

The Clerk had attended a presentation by the Dorset Council planning team.

It was mentioned that the National Planning Policy Framework (NPPF) was being redrafted which may have a considerable effect on the new draft Dorset Local Plan.

It was also confirmed that any potential breach of planning must be reported by the person observing and not via a third party.

The Clerk also attended the DAPTC Clerk's conference. It was confirmed that the Parish Council was in total compliance with the new Digital and Data regulations.

To conclude, a discussion was held on Community Engagement and how the Parish Council could engage further with the public.

The Clerk welcomed views from the public and Councillors.

### **16. Public participation – items not on the agenda for discussion or update only**

That the area knocked out of the culvert (south of A354) be replaced (this matter was in hand).

That some people who might use Dorset Community Transport were still out of homes.

How long was Whatcombe going to be closed for as people still could not leave.

Cllr Deeney agreed to meet with Chescombe Court residents to talk through flood resilience.

It was stated that the Parish Council working group had a budget for keeping the village tidy and clear.

It was asked if the Parish Council would support an individual to discuss access to Queens Square **(it was agreed this was a private matter)**

It was asked if bollard markers could be placed along Whatcombe Lane up to Queens Square entry (to be discussed with Dorset Council), for pedestrian safety reasons.

### **17. Items and date for the next meeting**

**18<sup>th</sup> March 2026**

Provisional end of year accounts

There being no further business the meeting closed at **2055 hours**.

**Julien Turner** \_\_\_\_\_ Chair of Winterborne Whitechurch Parish Council

**Dated** \_\_\_\_\_