

WINTERBORNE WHITECHURCH PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes

Wayne Lewin – Clerk to the Parish Council
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Minutes of Full Council held on Wednesday 19th March 2025 in The Old School Room
Meeting commenced at 7.00pm.

Councillors in attendance:

Julien Turner, Liam Deeney, Ian Bruce, Ricky Trim, and Geoff Eaton.

There were 5 members of the public in attendance along with
Cllr Emma Parker (Ward Councillor)

FULL COUNCIL

1. Apologies for absence

Apologies were received from Cllr Alan Holford-Walker.

2. Declarations of pecuniary or other interest

No declarations were made.

3. Minutes of the previous meeting held on 15th January 2025

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

4. Clerk's report

The Clerk confirmed that Sovereign would make good the ruts in the roundabout at the top of Fields Close.

5. Chair's update

The Chair stated that a team from Pipe Fix had made good Fields Close, and were coming back soon to complete the job.

The Chair had also arranged a meeting with the Sovereign representative, with a view to forging closer working ties.

It was confirmed that the new Bus Shelter and concrete base were all in good condition, whilst the guttering on the opposite bus shelter had been completed.

6. Public participation – items on the agenda only

It was confirmed that the VE Day 80 event would constitute a tea dance with cake and sandwiches.

There were contrasting views on the future of the telephone box.

7. Dorset Councillors report

Cllr Parker stated that the Highways Traffic Management meeting had been chased, and a reply from the Highways Safety Officer (Mr Tony Burden) had been sent.

She also confirmed that a large fly tip in Lower Street had been reported (in her Dorset Council Ward Councillor capacity),

The Chair confirmed that this had already been cleared.

Cllr Deeney would also report many dumped black bin bags in the lay by.

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8. Planning

a. P/NOTP/2025/0085

Telephone Kiosk, Whatcombe Lane, Winterborne Whitechurch

Remove payphone (Call box I.D. 01258880576). (Retain telephone kiosk - to be locked)

This application was supported.

However, the Parish Council would like to explore the option of leaving the door unlocked with a view to a change of use for a project such as the installation of a defibrillator or a book swap store.

b. P/HOU/2025/01216

The Old Inn, Dorchester Hill, Winterborne Whitechurch, DT11 0HP

Demolish single storey side extension, replace with new two storey side extension with Juliet balcony and erect front porch.

The Parish Council supported this application.

9. Financial matters

a. Payments for authorisation

There were **9** payments (**PV's 39-47**), totalling **£ 4689.47** that were approved and authorised for payment – subject to satisfactory resolution on agenda item 14.

10. Traffic Management measures update

A reply from Dorset Council had been received.

Members were very disappointed, bordering on angry at the reply which missed the point of the letter which was to facilitate a face to face on site meeting with relevant stakeholders.

It was suggested that members of the Parish Council could meet relevant personnel at Council Hall if that was easier.

The Clerk would write to Cllr Andrews and Mr Burden suggesting this.

11. Eco Hub funding update

Cllr Bruce confirmed he had spoken to the relevant department at Centrica, who stated that there was no funding available for the South West and no documentation or correspondence suggesting any funding had been offered.

Cllr Deeney would trawl through previous matters and try and establish any formal pledges or agreements.

12. Transition to new website – www.winterbornewhitechurchparishcouncil.gov.uk

It was agreed that the new website would become the primary website with effect from 01st of April 2025.

A link would be placed on the old website to direct to the new.

The old website would remain live for information purposes only.

13. Grant towards VE 80 party

It was agreed to grant a sum of £200, to cover the costs of this event.

No receipts were required.

14. Termination agreement with Work Nest

Cllr Deeney confirmed that a three-year contract was agreed with Worknest but with a break clause after year 2.

With this in mind, members agreed not to pay any further monies until correspondence was received from Worknest or further evidence from Cllr Deeney, on this matter.

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15. Damage of defibrillator at Village Hall

Cllr Trim and (Mr Pringle) confirmed that the defibrillator was again working and no further action was needed.

Mr Pringle requested (and it was agreed), that any new bags would be paid for by the Parish Council.

16. Play Park repairs

Cllr Deeney confirmed that he would source a new bolt for the round swing. Once purchased it would be inserted into the bracket and the swing reinstated.

All were happy with this.

Cllr Eaton suggested that adult exercise equipment would be a great addition to the area. It was stated that this would be inappropriate for the children's play park but would seem an excellent project for other public areas.

It was agreed this to be an item for the Annual Village Meeting.

17. Provisional End of Year Accounts

The Chair was happy to confirm the reduction in Precept for Winterborne Whitechurch council tax payers and thanked the Clerk for financial due diligence.

The following financial matters were agreed:

1. 47 payments totalling £ 28163.94
2. 5 receipts totalling £ 25280.89
3. Budget spend of 64.22%
4. Agreement of reserves
5. Total banking funds at end of year of £ 18511.56

18. Public participation – items not on the agenda for discussion only

It was requested that the poem be read out by a member of the Parish Council at the plot of the Commonwealth War Grave, and also placed on FB.

Cllr Deeney accepted this matter.

Cllr Deeney confirmed that his personal bunting and flags could be loaned for this, and the VE Day 80 events.

It was suggested that the length of time between meetings was too long.

The Chair stated this would be reviewed at the Annual General Meeting, however an Extraordinary Meeting could be called at any time – usually for planning applications.

It was asked if more information on meetings could be disseminated.

The Clerk confirmed that the Parish Council go over and beyond the minimum legal requirements.

19. Items and date for the next meeting

Annual Village Meeting

Full Council

Annual General Meeting

21st May 2025

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20. That the public and press be excluded from the meeting for agenda item 21 as it contains exempt information as defined in Paragraphs 3 and 5 of Schedule 12A of the Local Government Act 1972 (as amended)

Members agreed that the motion as stated in agenda item 21 conformed with the said regulations.

21. Initial budget and pension facilitation for staff from 01 April 2025

It was unanimously agreed to formally offer the employee a work pension.

Members recommend the provider to be NEST, the payment monthly in arrears at a rate of 8% gross of pay.

This would cost around £500 per year.

The Employees' contract would be amended to reflect this.

There being no further business the meeting closed at **2051 hours**.

Julien Turner _____ Chair of Winterborne Whitechurch Parish Council

Dated _____