

WINTERBORNE WHITECHURCH PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes

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Minutes of Full Council held on Wednesday 18th September 2024 in The Old School Room
Meeting commenced at 7.00pm.

Councillors in attendance:
Julien Turner, Ricky Trim and Ian Bruce

There were 7 members of the public in attendance

FULL COUNCIL

1. Apologies for absence

Cllr's Deeney and Holford-Walker sent apologies, along with Cllr Parker (Dorset Council).

2. Declarations of pecuniary or other interest

No declarations were made.

3. Minutes of the previous meeting held on 11th June 2024

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

4. Clerk's report

The Clerk confirmed that all banking, VAT, PAYE, and Government Gateway were now resolved.

It was also confirmed that the organisation VISA debit card had been authorised.

5. Chair's update

The Chair publicly thanked the Clerk and was now very content that the Parish Council (for the first time in 3 years), was fully functional and ready to deliver to the community.

6. Public participation – items on the agenda only

A thank you was given to the Parish Council for tidying up the jubilee bench next to the brick bus shelter.

A thank you was also given to the Parish Council for clearing the footpaths, especially at Whatcombe Down.

Support was given to Cllr Bruce on all his endeavours on traffic calming, however – any speed limit was as good as the enforcement.

It was suggested that an average speed through the village would be much more effective than a point speed such as a SID.

The Chair said this would be covered in the agenda item.

7. Dorset Councillors report

There was no report from Dorset Council.

8. Planning

There were no new planning applications

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9. Financial matters

a. Payments for authorisation

There were **14** payments (**PV's 14-27**), totalling **£ 6157.54** that were approved and authorised for payment.

10. Traffic calming measures update:

a. Whatcombe Lane, Chescombe Lane speed data and speed control

The results showed a mean speed of below 30 mph, thus fitting the Dorset Council criteria for a 20mph limit, providing additional speeding controls were added to the sites.

Cllr Bruce extracted from the data, that 1350 vehicles exceeded 35mph (police could take action) equating to 11% of all traffic using the two lanes.

He stated this was the real issue.

It was unanimously agreed to purchase an additional SID (and associated poles and solar panels) – as recommended by Dorset Council.

This SID would rotate between the two lanes.

The purchase will only be made once Dorset Council have formally ratified the 20mph speed limit.

It was agreed to keep in mind additional posts on the way out of the village, as drivers tended to speed more when leaving the area.

b. Rook Lane (scoring for 30mph move) and A354 (next steps)

The request to move the 30mph further up the road was rejected by Dorset Council as it did not meet the minimum points scoring criteria.

For the record it scored 70, whilst 100 was needed even to be considered.

Further to minute 10a, the purchase of a new SID would allow the current two to be rotated on the 4 poles on the A354.

The Parish Council would also keep in mind a pedestrian crossing, or at a minimum a safe island, as once again it was seen that the children run across both lanes after departing the school bus.

Cllr Bruce also mentioned that the Department for Transport guidelines had been changed to encourage Local Authorities to listen to communities.

The Parish Council are hoping to receive the findings of the auto speed watch set up by the Police and Crime Commissioner in late October. It was noted that 8 of these devices had been vandalised.

To conclude, it was noted the Auto Speed Watch camera system is a much more cost-effective method of monitoring average speeds when compared to the existing system approved by the Department for Transport and therefore affordable to many small Parish Councils.

Finally, the overgrown verges on Dorchester Hill had once again been reported to Dorset Council.

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11. Procurement of a new Bus Shelter on Private Land next to the Reading Rooms

a. Selection of option costs of new shelter

The Chair wished to thank the land owner for allowing the siting of the bus shelter on his land.

It was also noted that there were many more children boarding the bus this academic year – now approaching 20.

It was unanimously agreed to purchase the shelter from Barriers Direct. This included side panels but no seat. It also included delivery and installation. Members were happy the debit card being used as an online purchase.

The cost was estimate as £ 4727.76.

The budget used would be the Bus Shelter Reserve.

b. Minor works for surfacing

It was agreed that the area would be resurfaced, with 4 inch / level concrete, the cost of £ 576.00 coming from the Green Spaces fund.

c. New location of jubilee bench

Members were happy that the new shelter would be offset from the bench, and thus no immediate need to move it.

12. Minor repairs to Coronation bus shelter

A budget of £402.00 was set aside for this project which was predominately new guttering at the back. Funds from Green Spaces pot.

13. EV Charging point for Winterborne Whitechurch

This offer was made to the Village Hall committee and was declined.

14. Land at Field Close update from SNG

SNG were still in consultation with internal departments.

If SNG did not wish to sell, then the Parish Council would look at alternative options.

The Chair also mentioned that a resident would water the jubilee tree and maintain the two remaining flower troughs hence forth.

15. Specification for new grass cutting contract at Fields Close and Play Park

The specification was approved, and the Clerk could move to the procurement phase.

16. Insurance policy – agree company and premium

Members agreed to go with Zurich at a cost of £507.00 per annum.

17. Purchase of 'dogs on lead' signs for public rights of way

It was agreed to purchase 5 signs from Dorset Council as friendly remainers on public footpaths only.

18. Funding for grass cutting at the Church

Members approved a grant of £ 1000.00.

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

It was asked with the additional children; that red road markings would be a good idea.

It was confirmed that Dorset Council held a road safety fund.

It was confirmed that there would be no gap in seating provision at the new bus shelter.

Further to the purchase of dogs on leads signage, it was thought that certain owners would take no notice.

It was also mentioned that the same owners would likely be those that left dog waste.

It was requested that a torch for the Lady Bailey defibrillator could be purchased.

This was agreed, with the invoice sent to the Parish Council.

It was noted that the phone box was out of service.

This was now simply a village asset.

20. Items and date for the next meeting

16th October 2024

Further traffic calming measures

Land at Fields Close

There being no further business the meeting closed at **2010 hours**.

Julien Turner _____ Chair of Winterborne Whitechurch Parish Council

Dated _____