

WINTERBORNE WHITECHURCH PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes

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Minutes of Full Council held on **Wednesday 17th September 2025** in The Old School Room

Meeting commenced at 7.00 pm

Councillors in attendance:

Julien Turner, Liam Deeney, Ricky Trim, and Alan Holford-Walker

There were 11 members of the public in attendance

Prior to the formal opening of the meeting, the Chair requested all to take a moment to reflect on the tragic events at Lady Bailey.

He wished to thank all within the community that provided and continue to provide help and support to those in most need.

FULL COUNCIL

1. Apologies for absence

Cllr Geoff Eaton (WWPC) and Cllr Emma Parker (DC) sent apologies.

2. Declarations of pecuniary or other interest

No declarations were made.

3. Minutes of the previous meeting held on 16th July 2025

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

4. Clerk's report

The Clerk confirmed all gov.uk were now live and that Cllr Eaton was an authorised signatory on Unity Trust Bank – thus providing business continuity.

5. Chair's update

The Chair reminded all on the theme of Self Help and Self-Funding and was delighted to see volunteers and agencies all working together on projects within the village.

He was also pleased to see the excellent turnout at the recent Village Hall AGM and looks forward to it remaining a great centre of activity in the future.

As always, the public were reminded that the Parish Council were still needing more members.

6. Public participation – items on the agenda only

Concerns were raised as to regards traffic on Rook Lane / Lower Street especially the speed and poor driving.

Both the Chair and Clerk confirmed that the Parish Council had requested action from Dorset Council but had been rebuffed as the road did not meet the criteria for consultation. It was suggested that a direct correspondence to the Ward Councillor could be the way forward.

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7. Dorset Councillors report

There was no report from the Dorset Ward Councillor.

8. Planning

There were no new planning applications to discuss.

9. Financial matters

a. Payments for authorisation

There were **16** payments (**PV's 23-38**), totalling **£ 3475.19** were approved and authorised for payment.

b. External audit report

Other than one minor error of not ticking the charities box (now rectified), there were no issues. It was therefore resolved that the audit for 24/25 was completed.

10. Traffic Management measures update

There had been a couple of meetings with Dorset Council Highways team.

The next step was to conduct a pedestrian crossing survey (between the two bus stops) and arrange a meeting with the portfolio holder.

The 20 is plenty consultation was due in October.

11. DAPTC matters

Cllr Turner confirmed that The Fresh Start consultation was completed by the Clerk and the Chair on behalf of the Parish Council.

He reminded members that any Councillor could also complete this.

12. Solar Hub goodwill funding gesture of £40K from Naturalis and Centrica

Members unanimously accepted this offer and the agreement signed.

The Chair wished to formally thank both Ian Bruce and Helen Hakimzadeh for their robust and detailed work in bring this deal to fruition.

13. Village signage and gateways

Cllr Holford-Walker suggested that a wrought iron signage could be placed in prominent positions within the village, giving it identity and character.

It was suggested that alternative funding (see agenda item 12), maybe a better source of monies, as the Parish Council have other priorities at this time.

14. Initial discussion and thoughts on Dorset Council Local Plan Consultation 2025

It was noted that no development sites had been proposed for Winterborne Whitechurch, so no action was needed.

15. Public participation – items not on the agenda for discussion or update only

It was asked if the gate on the public footpath on south side of Dorchester Hill could be moved as it was a safety issues.

It was noted that this was a public footpath and not within the power of the Parish Council.

The Chair referred to agenda item 10, that crossing the road was the issue.

The public were reminded that the Parish Council had budgeted for a new bus shelter opposite Lady Bailey (subject to boundary confirmation).

It was asked as to parking of contractors on the corner / turning from A354 onto Chescombe.

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Unfortunately, this was not within the power of the Parish Council, and it was suggested that the police be informed by complaints if it continued.

The Chair also confirmed that the fence was at this location was with Dorset Council. The Parish Council had highlighted the visual concerns.

16. Items and date for the next meeting

Co-option of new Parish Councillor for Winterborne Whitechurch

Half year financial reports

Traffic calming update

Solar fund next steps

Next Meeting is scheduled for 15th October 2025

There being no further business the meeting closed at **1951 hours**.

Julien Turner _____ Chair of Winterborne Whitechurch Parish Council

Dated _____