



Whiteparish Parish Council

MINUTES of the meeting of Whiteparish Parish Council held on Tuesday 21st February 2023 at 7.30pm in the Memorial Centre, Whiteparish.

Present: Cllrs King (Chairman), Hayday (Vice Chairman), Bishop, Camley, McFarland, Palmer, Pavey and Gould.

In attendance: 1 member of the public and PC Pete Jung and Maria Pennington (Parish Clerk).

Public questions

PC Pete Jung gave an update on recent issues in Whiteparish including another sheep attack within the village. He confirmed the bike security marking event in Whiteparish will be held on Saturday 18th March at 9am in the Memorial Centre carpark.

The member of the public raised concerns over agenda item 11.

7.40pm The Chairman suspended Standing Orders to allow public questions to continue.

The member of the public asked if the Parish Council had contacted any stakeholders? They were asked what stakeholders were they referring to and it was Wiltshire Council and the Church of England. The Parish Council had not and the discussion regarding it would be later in the meeting.

The member of the public spoke in support of the grant application for the Parochial Church Council towards the grass cutting of the churchyard.

7.45pm Standing Orders were re-instated.

To receive Apologies for Absence and to approve the reasons given.

35/23 Prior to the meeting apologies were received from Cllr Bell and Cllr Francis due to prior commitments. Whiteparish Parish Council RESOLVED to accept the apologies for the reason given. Unitary Councillor Richard Britton had also sent his apologies due to a prior work commitment.

To receive any Declarations of Interest from Members.

36/23 There were no declarations of interest.

Exclusion of the press and public. To agree any items to be dealt with after the public, including the press, have been excluded under the Public Bodies (Admissions to Meetings) Act 1960 and Local Government Act 1972 ss100.

37/23 This was not required.

To receive written applications for the office of parish councillor and co-opt candidate to fill the vacancy.

38/23 The Chairman reported that there has been an enquiry however no written applications have been received.

To approve and sign as a correct record the Minutes of the Parish Council Meeting held on Tuesday 17th January 2023.

39/23 Whiteparish Parish Council RESOLVED to approve the Minutes of the Parish Council meeting held on 17th January 2023 as a true record and they were signed by the Chairman.

To approve and sign as a correct record the Minutes of the extra ordinary Parish Council Meeting held on Wednesday 25th January 2023.

40/23 Whiteparish Parish Council RESOLVED to approve the Minutes of the extra ordinary meeting held on 25th January 2023 as a true record and they were signed by the Chairman.

To consider a response to planning applications received:

41/23 PL/2022/09505 Whites Farm, Newton Lane, Whiteparish SP5 2QQ. Change of use from agricultural land to domestic garden. Whiteparish Parish Council RESOLVED to make no comment to this application.

42/23 CONSENT UNDER TREE PRESERVATION ORDERS PL/2023/00318 Old Nursery House, Romsey Road, Whiteparish SP5 2SD Atlantic Cedar to be reduced back to previous point to retain shape, and keep away from buildings. Two Deodar Cedar to be removed. Whiteparish Parish Council RESOLVED to make no comment to this application.

Planning and enforcement update.

43/23 The Clerk had circulated the update prior to the meeting there were no queries.

Finance update.

44/23 The Clerk reported that the internal audit takes place on 18th April 2023.

To approve accounts for payment and to record the bank balances.

45/23 Whiteparish Parish Council RESOLVED to authorise payments totalling £2,077.17
Community Account Balance 17.02.23 - £8,340.76
Business Reserve 17.02.23 - £100,355.74

To consider the legality of the Parish Council awarding grants to the Church of England.

Prior to the meeting the Clerk had circulated documents from the National Association of Local Councils, the Society of Local Council Clerks and a report questioning the legality of the Council awarding grants to the Church of England.

46/23 A motion was proposed, and seconded, that after receiving the advice from the National Association of Local Councils and the Society of Local Council Clerks that Whiteparish Parish Council does not support any financial contributions to the Church of England. There were 4 votes against and 2 abstentions. Motion failed.

47/23 The Parish Council having considered the legal position as it relates to making donations to the Church of England and the fact that the consensus on the law is unclear and a test case is required to clarify the issue, a motion was proposed and seconded that Whiteparish Parish Council RESOLVED to agree it would continue to consider applications from the Parochial Church Council for financial support under its grant policy. There were 2 votes for, 2 against and 2 abstentions. Motion carried.

To consider a grant application from the Parochial Church Council, All Saints' Church, Whiteparish for financial assistance of £745.00 towards grass cutting of the churchyard.

48/23 Whiteparish Parish Council RESOLVED, with 6 votes for, 1 against and 1 abstention to award the grant of £745.00 to the Parochial Church Council towards the grass cutting of the churchyard under the Local Government Act 1972 Section 214(6) as it is a public amenity in the centre of the village.

To consider a request for a public waste bin on The Green/Dean Lane following Wiltshire Councils advice and costings.

49/23, 376/22 Whiteparish Parish Council RESOLVED that it considers there are enough bins in the village and that the proposal would not be value for money.

To update on suggestions received to commemorate King Charles III Coronation.

50/23 The Clerk updated there have been suggestions for a new bench in the churchyard and residents have been advised to contact the Parochial Church Council. Late correspondence had been received with various suggestions however, as posted in the Parish Council notes, the Parish Council is happy to only consider a level of funding should any village organisation wish to arrange an event or activity.

To note the skatepark annual inspection report and agree any related immediate works necessary.

51/23 Whiteparish Parish Council noted the skatepark annual inspection report, distributed by the Clerk prior to the meeting, with no immediate action required.

To note the Unity Trust Bank update.

52/23 The Clerk had circulated the update that the two Unity Trust Bank accounts have been opened and registration should be taking place shortly for internet banking. Whiteparish Parish Council noted the update.

To approve the transfer of funds from the Barclays Bank accounts to the Unity Trust Bank accounts.

53/23 Whiteparish Parish Council RESOLVED to approve the transfer of funds as follows:

- Transfer £80k from Barclays Savings Account to Barclays Current Account (£5k top up for current account).
- Transfer £1.00 from Barclays Current Account to Unity Trust Bank Current Account.
- When successful, transfer £75k to Unity Trust Bank Current Account.
- Transfer £70k from Unity Trust Bank Current Account to Unity Trust Bank Instant Access Account.

To consider renewing the Open Spaces Society (OSS) annual membership of £45.00.

54/23 Whiteparish Parish Council RESOLVED to renew the annual membership of £45.00 to the OSS.

To consider renewing the Campaign to Protect Rural England (CPRE) annual membership of £36.00.

55/23 Whiteparish Parish Council RESOLVED to renew the annual membership of £36.00 to the CPRE.

To consider renewing the Society of Local Clerks and Councils (SLCC) annual membership of £177.00.

56/23 Whiteparish Parish Council RESOLVED to renew the annual membership of £177.00 to the SLCC.

To discuss the Annual Parish Meeting on 28th March 2023.

57/23 The Clerk reported that the Annual Parish Meeting is for residents to express their views relevant to the parish and it is not a Parish Council meeting but it is Chaired by the Parish Council Chairman or Vice Chairman in accordance with legal requirements. There is a notice to go in the Steeple and Street, on the noticeboard and website.

To approve using the Councils website provider (e-mango's) own web statistics system.

58/23 Whiteparish Parish Council RESOLVED to use e-mango's web statistics system.

To consider a request for a code of conduct regarding responsibilities of dog walkers.

59/23 Further to receiving the New Forest National Park article on responsible dog walking Whiteparish Parish Council RESOLVED for Cllr Camley to produce a Whiteparish code of conduct for dog walkers for approval by the Parish Council at a future meeting.

To update and approve Councillors who wish to attend councillor training.

60/23 The Clerk reported that she has not yet had a new date for councillor training at Idmiston, or anything from Wiltshire Association of Local Councils however there has been training offered by Calne Town Council. No councillors were able to take up this opportunity.

To consider the Clerk carrying forward 5 days' leave into the following leave year.

61/23 Whiteparish Parish Council RESOLVED to approve the Clerk carrying forward 5 days' leave into the following year.

Rights of Way and Common Land update.

62/23 It was reported that the stile is broken on ROW 24.

63/23 It was reported that the Public Footpath sign has fallen over opposite Alderstone Farm entrance on Dean Lane.

64/23 The Clerk reported that ROW 21 is being used by horses without the landowner's permission.

65/23 The Clerk advised that the footbridge on ROW 5 is broken and has been reported to Wiltshire Council.

Highway's update.

66/23 The Clerk advised the Parish Steward's have all been on emergency road maintenance throughout the County. Wiltshire Council have not yet confirmed if they will be back on normal duties in March.

67/23 Complaints continue to be received about the poor condition of Miles Lane. The Clerk advised Wiltshire Council have used a temporary measure on the potholes however the road surface is still very poor. Miles Lane is on Wiltshire Council Highways maintenance list, but no date has been set yet.

68/23 Further to the complaints about the poor condition of the passing places on Dean Lane Wiltshire Council have stated there are no official passing bays on Dean Lane.

69/23 Wiltshire Council have advised the Sparkle Team has ceased therefore the outstanding issue of pulling the weeds in the verges on Highlands Way will not be actioned.

70/23 Reports from representatives:

Memorial Trust: Cllr Bishop updated on the Memorial Trust activities.

New Forest National Park: Cllr Palmer advised there has been no meeting.

Area Board: The next meeting is on Thursday 23rd February in Alderbury. Cllr Hayday advised he will attend.

Whiteparish Education Foundation: Cllr Palmer reported there have been several applications.

Neighbourhood Tasking Group: Cllr Bishop had circulated the report and advised the next NTG meeting is in Downton on 20th March 2023.

Correspondence/communications update

71/23 The Clerk had circulated the update prior to the meeting. There were no queries.

The Annual Parish meeting is to be held on Tuesday 28th March 2023 at 7.30pm at the Memorial Centre, Whiteparish.

The next scheduled full Parish Council meeting will follow directly after the Annual Parish meeting.

The Chairman closed the meeting at 9.23pm.

Whiteparish Parish Council – Parish Council Meeting Tuesday 21st February 2023
Minutes approved as a true and accurate record, and signed as so by the Chairman presiding

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Date.....