

WHITSBURY PARISH COUNCIL

MINUTES OF MEETING AT 7.00PM ON 31ST OCTOBER 2022 IN WHITSBURY VILLAGE HALL

1. Attendance Register, Apologies and Declarations of Interest.

Present: Cllr G Thompson (Chairman), Cllr C Harper, Cllr H Sutton, Cllr G Dominey

Apologies: Cllr D Bellini

In Attendance: Mrs C Thompson, Mrs J Kinsey, Mrs S Cumming, Mr S Husher, Mr C Cobb-Smith,
Cllr E Heron (HCC and NFDC), Mr E Hale (Clerk)

No Declarations of Interest

2. Minutes of Meeting held on 1st August 2022

Accepted as a true record. The Chairman signed the previous minutes to confirm this.

3. Items raised by Members of the Public.

Cllr Sutton said she would like to discuss the road junction at the north end of the village later.

4. Report by HCC and NFDC Cllr Heron

Cllr Heron confirmed he will be standing down as the NFDC councillor for the area north-west of Fordingbridge at the elections in May 2023, but he hopes to continue as an HCC councillor. He has been an NFDC councillor for 16 years and wants to return to his work as a planning consultant. He welcomed the work on the Village Plan and suggested villagers can find out other information through HCC and NFDC Newsletters and his own blog.

Cllr Heron reminded villagers to report any highway issues using the HCC online system. If an issue has been reported correctly, HCC councillors can find out details of planned repairs. Cllr Heron offered to arrange a talk on waste and recycling to explain when waste becomes a valued asset.

7. Village Plan

Cllr Thompson thanked the Village Plan committee, particularly Mr Husher.

Mr Husher explained how the questionnaires, which were returned by around 50% of villagers, were used to prepare the document. He said the document will be updated to include any feedback from this meeting, and the final version available on the website in a few weeks' time. There will also be printed copies available if requested. It is intended the document will be refreshed every five years. New items in the plan include the green agenda and emergency planning. Concerns highlighted included slow broadband, poor mobile reception, and the state of roads.

The vision statement is similar to the previous version but updated, and states that Whitsbury has a balance of residents who work in the village with those who travel away from the village to work. It is important to preserve the current village feel, with no street lights or pavements.

Cllr Thompson asked the Parish Council to accept the document, as it had commissioned it.

Cllr Sutton said the Village Hall Entertainment Committee is no longer operating, but some events will continue to be arranged by the same villagers.

Mr Husher said the Parish Council is already working on many items in the plan, such as the welcome pack for new residents. Cllr Dominey asked if the actions could be prioritised so some could be resolved quickly. Cllr Thompson suggested a meeting of Councillors and will arrange this in the next two months. This will ensure the document is not just left on the shelf for five years.

Mr Husher asked for any other feedback in the next ten days, so the document can be issued soon.

5. Finance

The Clerk said the current balances are £11,071.22 and £2,490.43, making a total of £13,561.65.

Since the last meeting, the main account has paid £360 to Mr Colborne, but received £1,100 as 50% of the precept from NFDC. The other account has received 30p in interest.

The Clerk asked for approval of a payment to Mr S Colborne of £135 for grass cutting from August to October, and to himself of £288 for Clerk Duties from January to September inclusive.

6. Planning Applications

Application 22/11103. Minors Cottage. Rebuild chimney to incorporate cavity trays. Councillors voted to recommend approval as it is an important repair and has no impact on the appearance.

8. Whitsbury World

Mrs Thompson reported the group now has a cultivation licence for their section of verge and thanked Cllr Heron for his advice on this. She and another member of the group attended the Greening Campaign presentation at Winchester. There has been an offer from the Hampshire Wildlife Trust to speak at Whitsbury. The group are organising another litter pick soon which will include the roads towards Brookheath and Breamore, and over Whipps Hill. Rockbourne and Damerham schools are now arranging extra recycling for more unusual materials.

Mrs Kinsey asked if any cut branches could be cut off further back, to be away from road edges.

9. Speed Reduction

Cllr Dominey said he will meet Ms Ware of HCC to discuss traffic calming options in two weeks. Mr Husher asked if the proposals would affect the appearance of the village. Cllr Dominey said the new signs will be on existing posts. There may be 30mph markings on the road at both village entrances.

10. Broadband

Cllr Dominey said the procurement process is continuing with contract award due by June 2023.

11. Correspondence

None.

12. Any Other Business

Cllr Thompson reported there had been three recent robberies around the village, including one where a vehicle drove across a field and rammed the doors of a building.

Cllr Sutton asked if the faded markings on the junction at the north end of the village can be reported to HCC for action, as it is unclear who has priority and could cause an accident.

13. Next Meeting

7pm on Monday 9th January 2023. Other meetings are scheduled for 27th March, 8th May, 31st July and 30th October 2023. The meeting closed at 8.15pm

Edward Hale 3.11.2022

Income and Expenditure since March 2022

Balance at 31st March 2022		10,111.20
Income	Precept (2,200.00) + Grant (138.00)	+ 2,338.00
Expenditure	Website	112.21
	Insurance	156.93
	S Colborne (135.00 + 90.00 + 360.00)	585.00
	Notice board	398.84
	External audit	<u>125.00</u>
Balance at 31st October 2022		<u>11,071.22</u>