

WHITSBURY PARISH COUNCIL

MEETING MINUTES FROM 7.00PM ON MONDAY 8TH JANUARY 2024 IN WHITSBURY VILLAGE HALL

1. Attendance Register, Apologies and Declarations of Interest.

Present: Cllr G Thompson (Chair), Cllr H Sutton, Cllr S Husher, Mr E Hale (Clerk)

Apologies: Cllr C Harper, Cllr G Dominey, Cllr E Heron (HCC), Cllr J Richards (NFDC)

In Attendance: Mrs J Kinsey, Mrs C Colborne, Mr S Fanton

Declarations of Interest: None

2. Minutes of Meeting held on 30th October 2023

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

3. Items raised by Members of the Public.

Mrs Colbourne asked if anything could be done about the gate swinging open at Dunn Cottage, which she had closed twice. Cllr Thompson agreed to investigate this. Cllr Sutton asked if the meeting could discuss the Woodside Close hedge and the white lines proposed for the road edges. Cllr Husher said he would give an update on the Village Show.

4. Report by NFDC Cllr Richards and HCC Cllr Heron

Cllr Richards had submitted a written report, which will be circulated with the minutes.

5. Precept for 2024-25

The Clerk had reported the Parish Council is underspent so far this year, and is likely to have a current year surplus of around £500 at year end. Cllr Thompson said there could be additional spending next year on the speed reduction measures, but this could be taken from existing reserves. He proposed the Precept should remain at the current level of £2,200, and this was supported by all Councillors.

6. Financial Reports and Payments

The Clerk said the current total in the two accounts is £13,977.25. Cllr Husher had requested payment of £105.44 for website domain and hosting. The Clerk had requested £180.00 for duties from May to October 2023. These were both approved. The balance after these payments will be £13,692.11.

7. Planning Applications

No recent planning applications. Cllr Thompson said there will be an application for the training yard soon, as outlined by Cllr Harper at the last meeting.

8. Jim Dyer Legacy

Cllr Thompson said he had reviewed the options proposed at the previous meeting and thought it would be wrong to spend the funds on the Church as this is not owned by the village and has other sources of funding. He proposed the money should be spent on an annual Jim Dyer Supper. This could be a free barbeque at The Cartwheel, similar to recent royal events. This will need to be arranged by the Village Social Committee and a date agreed with the pub. Cllr Husher said this idea addressed the request for more village social events from the Village Plan consultation. Cllr Sutton said she did not support using the funds for a village meal to be held in The Cartwheel and would prefer the funds to be spent on improving mobile phone coverage with an additional phone mast. Councillors discussed the options and agreed to start arranging a 2024 supper, but also investigating the mobile phone options. The spending can be reviewed again at future meetings.

9. Village Plan

Cllr Husher said reviews of the plan are continuing and two items, speed reduction and broadband, were being addressed by the Council.

10. Whitsbury World

Cllr Husher said there was no update on this.

11. Speed Reduction

Cllr Dominey had given an update to say HCC have made proposals but have asked for evidence of consultation on the proposals. This will include some 'Slow' markings on the road and white lines at the road edges to narrow the vehicle section. Cllr Sutton said she thought the edge markings would be obscured by hedge cuttings and other debris. Other Councillors said schemes in villages such as Godshill had been successful.

12. Broadband

Wessex Internet have been busy installing cables in the village and residents are being offered the new service. Some residents have received letters about disruption while cables are laid.

13. Correspondence

Only the report from Cllr Richards, which will be circulated with these minutes.

14. Any Other Business

Cllr Sutton asked if the inside of the hedge at Woodside Close could be cut. It seems there are too many other trees and shrubs restricting access.

Cllr Husher reported the Whitsbury Village Show will be on 3rd August 2024, which falls between Damerham Show and Ellingham Show.

Cllr Husher said the Village Hall Committee had agreed to pay for a new projector and screen.

15. Future Meetings

The next meeting will be at 7pm on Monday 25th March 2024.

The other 2024 meetings will be on Mondays 13th May (revised date), 29th July, and 28th October.

This meeting closed at 7.35pm

Parish Council Accounts

Balance at start of current year		13,053.46
Income	Precept from NFDC	+ 2,200.00
	Bank interest	+ 15.56
Expenditure	Insurance	165.92
	Newsletter copying	169.55
	Website costs	105.44
	Election expenses	75.00
	Clerk duties	396.00
	Auditor	125.00
	Grass cutting	<u>540.00</u>
		- 1,576.91
Current balance		<u>13,692.11</u>