



Whiteparish Parish Council

MINUTES of the Meeting of Whiteparish Parish Council held on Tuesday 17th March 2026 at 7.30pm in the Memorial Centre, Whiteparish.

Present: Councillors King (Chairman), Aldhouse, Agate, Camley, Elder, Harris, Palmer, Pavey and Snowden.

In attendance: Bev Cornish (Locum Parish Clerk), Wiltshire Councillor Gregory Cooper, 2 members of the public.

Police Report

In the absence of the Neighbourhood Policing Team officer, the Clerk read out his report which covered the last 30 days:

- On 25th February unknown suspects stole the copper cables from telegraph poles on Brickworth Road. This is currently under investigation.
- At the start of March several stolen tools were seized by Police in woodland on Common Road. These were linked to a theft from Hampshire and returned to the owner.
- On 2nd March Police executed a successful warrant at an address on Romsey Road.
- Speed Enforcement recorded 8 vehicles speeding on 3rd March on Romsey Road, a 30mph zone. The fastest vehicle was recorded travelling at 44mph. Proceedings will now be undertaken to ensure the most appropriate outcome for the offenders takes place.

Public question time

No questions or statements were received.

Wiltshire Councillor Cooper gave a brief report advising:

- Following its rejection by the Planning Inspectorate's Examiners, Wiltshire Council will have to start the process of re-drafting the Local Plan. The delay in its adoption would leave the Council open to the risk of speculative development, especially as the 5 year housing supply currently stood at between 2.5 and 3.8 years.
- The Council's budget for 2026/27 had been approved with a very small majority and included an overall increase of £40 million when compared to 2025/26. The key costs were Special Education Needs and Disabilities and young people and adult social care.
- There was a predicted £16 million overspend on the 2025/26 budget.
- Consultations were being held on traffic regulation orders and parking charges and there were proposals for three-weekly bin collections to reduce costs.
- Parish Stewards were still being re-assigned to road surfacing and potholes and it was unclear when they would return to parishes.
- The funding for the Parish Emergency Assistance Scheme will continue in 2026/27 but it was unlikely to be funded beyond that financial year.

To receive and accept apologies for absence

331/25 Apologies were received and accepted from Councillor Hayday due to a holiday commitment.

To receive any Declarations of Interest, and to decide upon any requests for Dispensations relating to matters on this agenda

332/25 No declarations were received.

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

333/25 Whiteparish Parish Council RESOLVED to discuss agenda item 18 - To receive an update on confidential staffing matters following the exclusion of the press and public.

To approve and sign as a correct record the Minutes of the Meeting of the Parish Council held on Tuesday 17th February 2026

334/25 Whiteparish Parish Council RESOLVED to approve the Minutes of the Meeting of the Parish Council held on Tuesday 17th February 2026, and they were signed by the Chairman.

Planning and enforcement update

335/25 The Locum Clerk had circulated the update prior to the meeting and there were no comments.

To consider and agree responses to planning applications received

336/25

The Chairman proposed from the Chair and it was RESOLVED that the meeting be opened for members of the public to speak on the planning applications.

A member of the public spoke in support of planning application PL/2026/01229.

PL/2026/01229 Courtens Garden Centre, Romsey Road, Whiteparish - Retrospective construction of a shipping container, outfitted as a kitchen for production of alcohol: Whiteparish Parish Council RESOLVED to raise no objection subject to the applicant having the HMRC compliance documentation in place.

The Chairman closed the meeting to the public.

Finance update.

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

337/25 Whiteparish Parish Council RESOLVED to authorise payments totalling £1,770.90 and approved the account balances. It was agreed that the approval of staff costs would be deferred to be considered under item 18 on the Agenda.

Payee	Amount	Detail
Phil Moore	150.00	Tidying of noticeboard, bus stop & skatepark areas in March
B Cornish	466.50	Locum Clerk services & travel expenses February 2026 (22 hrs)
Whiteparish Memorial Trust	1,154.40	Payment for playground repairs using CIL monies
Total	1,770.90	

Unity Trust Bank Current Account 11.03.26 £6,431.70

Unity Trust Bank Savings Account 11.03.26 £80,541.80

Cambridge & Counties 2 Year Bond £21,020.00 maturity date 04.06.27

Cambridge & Counties 2 Year Bond £32,741.27 maturity date 19.06.26

Rights of Way and Common Land update

338/25 Whiteparish Parish Council noted the Planning Inspector's decision not to confirm the modification order for Path no.42.

Councillor Camley said that he and Councillor Snowdon would meet shortly to devise a plan for a survey of all the parish footpaths. The Locum Clerk advised that she would try to find out further information on the Wiltshire footpaths app when she attended a meeting on Friday 20th March.

Highways update

To consider a request from a resident to apply to the Local Highways and Footpath Improvement Group for a road nameplate for Brickworth Down to be installed

339/25 Whiteparish Parish Council RESOLVED not to approve a request from a resident for a road nameplate for Brickworth Down due to it being a private road.

Consultations

340/25

a. **National Planning Policy Framework Consultation**

To ratify a response to the HM Government consultation on a revised National Planning Policy Framework (NPPF) and other changes to the planning system: Whiteparish Parish Council RESOLVED to ratify the response submitted by the Locum Clerk.

b. **New Forest District Council Local Plan Review**

To ratify a response to NFDC's Local Plan Review consultation on Regulation 18 Spatial Options and Policy Direction: Whiteparish Parish Council RESOLVED to defer this item to the next meeting.

Best Kept Village Competition

To consider whether Whiteparish should enter the competition in 2026

341/25 Whiteparish Parish Council RESOLVED not to enter the competition in 2026 and agreed that an article be placed in Steeple & Street to see whether any village organisations were interested in taking the lead.

Whiteparish Memorial Trust

To nominate 3 people to join the Trust.

342/25 Whiteparish Parish Council RESOLVED to re-nominate Councillors Pavey and Snowdon and nominate Councillor Camley to join the Whiteparish Memorial Trust.

CIL monies

To consider ways in which the balance of the Council's CIL monies can be spent by the June 2026 deadline

343/25 Whiteparish Parish Council RESOLVED to allocate the remaining CIL monies, required to be spent by June 2026, to the Whiteparish Memorial Trust.

Charging Points for Electric Vehicles

To consider Wiltshire Council's suggested locations for Electric Vehicle Charging Point locations in Whiteparish

344/25 Whiteparish Parish Council RESOLVED that the following locations within the parish be put forward to Wiltshire Council for 'On Street' Electric Vehicle Charging Points:

- 2 on street charging points in the bus stop in The Street opposite Doves Lane.
- 2 on street charging points on Romsey Road opposite the boundary of the play area and tennis courts for the Whiteparish Memorial Centre.
- 2 charging points in the layby in Ashmore Close.
- 1 on street charging point at the far end of Green Close past Highlands Way turning.
- 1 on street charging point in Meadow Court opposite Bushey Cottages.
- 1 on street charging point on Witchell Way.

All charging points to have dual sockets.

Policy

To approve a Data Protection Road Map to meet the requirements of the new Assertion 10 as part of the Council's Annual Governance Statement

345/25 Whiteparish Parish Council RESOLVED the Data Protection Map with one minor amendment.

346/25 Reports from representatives for information purposes only:

- **Whiteparish Memorial Trust** – Councillor Agate reported that the Trust may be able to be paid for its electricity following a survey of the meters. The next meeting will be held on w/c 23rd March.
- **Neighbourhood Tasking Group/Police** - Councillor Harris advised that a meeting was held on 23rd February at which it was reported that crime had gone down when compared with February 2025. There were currently 14 officers in the local Neighbourhood Policing Team following the recruitment of a new officer.
- **Southern Wiltshire Area Board** – Councillor King reported that he had raised the parking in the Green Close area with Inspector Tina Osborne who had said that it was not proving to be a significant issue but she had said that the site was being monitored and information notices were being put on cars to alert them to park appropriately. As far as Wiltshire Police were concerned, they were awaiting the installation of yellow line but as far as he was concerned, Councillor King said that he had advised her that no yellow lines were going to be installed until the Parish Council had held further discussions with the Local Highways Officer and taken a decision at a meeting.

Councillor King reported further that there had been a presentation by Public Protection at the meeting and £33,000 had been awarded in grants to local organisations.

Correspondence/communications update

347/25 Councillors noted the correspondence circulated by the Clerk.

The next scheduled Parish Council meeting is to be held on Tuesday 21st April 2026 at 7.30pm in the Memorial Centre, Whiteparish.

CONFIDENTIAL

Exclusion of the press and public.

To review confidential staffing matters.

348/25 Whiteparish Parish Council RESOLVED to note the Chairman's update regarding the Clerk's absence on extended leave. The Council agreed to the recommendations made on pay and support, following the Clerk's written request to return to work in a phased way on 23rd March. The support of the Locum Clerk will continue over the transition period up to and including the meetings scheduled for Tuesday 21st April.

The Council RESOLVED to delegate the approval of staff costs for the next 4 week period to the Chairman and Clerk with email notification to the Council and placed on written record once they were known.

The Chairman closed the meeting at 9.46 pm.