

WHADDON PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of the Whaddon Parish Council Meeting

at Whaddon Village Hall, Church Street, Whaddon, SG8 5RY.

11th April 2022 at 8pm

Present:	Chairman	L Ginger
	Councillors	J Hart, A Birch, N Strudwick, D Townsend & W Elbourn
	Parish Clerk	A Bridges
	Members of the Public	Two
	County Councillor	CLlr van de Ven
	District Councillors	SA Hart & J Hales

1. **Apologies for Absence** – none.

2. **Approval of Minutes** – approval and signing of the minutes from the Parish Council Meeting of 14th March 2022. These were agreed and signed by the Chairman.

3. **Receiving Declarations of Interest from Councillors on items on the agenda**
None.

4. **Reports from Clerk and Councillors – verbal updates about progress on resolutions and actions from previous Parish Council meetings**

CLlr Strudwick stated he had received around 20 replies to the questionnaire sent to residents concerning County Broadband. Many had reported that County Broadband were not responding to their queries and requests.

CLlr Strudwick also reported that the new recycling unit, located by the Village Hall, is now in use.

The Chairman requested that the grips needed to be dug along Bridge Street by Cambridgeshire County Council. CLlr van de Ven offered to discuss this with Highways. The Chairman confirmed that road works in Whaddon will commence on May 23rd and last until 1st June for resurfacing, with Whaddon Gap closing for a day on May 23rd.

The Chairman reported that a new volunteer co-ordinator for Speed Watch has been recruited, which will restart SpeedWatch in the village soon.

Lastly, the Chairman informed the meeting that the Parish Council had 6 nominations for Parish Councillors and is therefore an unopposed election, with one vacancy remaining.

5. **Reports from District and County Councillors**

CLlr van de Ven confirmed that the oil club will be closing. CLlr van de Ven, stated the trains will be slowly increasing in frequency slowly as passenger numbers rise. The

Community Rail Partnership will continue with the new railway contract that has just been renewed with the existing company, GTR.

- 6. Public Participation** – The member of the public spoke about verge cutting in the village and requested that a metre should be cut for safety reasons if the Parish Council adopt the SCDC No Mow May initiative.
The member of the public also stated that their County Broadband internet connection is intermittent.

- 7. SCDC No Mow May initiative and verge cutting regime** – The Chairman stated that the County Council will not cut Highway owned verges in May and are asking Parishes to follow suit. The Parish Council agreed to not cut the verges in May but would ask the contractor to cut in April to help manage those which may become overgrown. The verges opposite Bumpkins and by St Marys Close were agreed to be cut a metre back for visibility for motorists and the verge by the recreation ground was agreed to be cut fully back. The Parish Council agreed to tend this verge more regularly and look at the possibility of sowing wild flowers in some of the village verges. The Chair and Clerk would discuss with our grass cutting contractor.

The Treasurer for WVH&RGT entered the meeting at 8.45pm to discuss the plans for the Queen’s Jubilee, which was agreed to be brought forward on the agenda.

- 12. Queen’s Jubilee celebrations** – This was confirmed to be a series of events from Thursday 2nd June to Sunday 5th June. Events included a cricket match for everyone. A disco, family fun day, live screenings of The Trooping the Colour and the Saturday evening concert and finishing with the traditional Whitsun celebrations and lunch on the Sunday on the recreation ground, with a raffle and presentation. The Golf Club will also be running their beer festival throughout the weekend. All details will be sent to residents shortly.

- 8. LHI Bid update** – The official consultation for a reduced 40MPH speed limit along the A1198 from Cambridgeshire County Council was recently publicised. Action: Clerk to confirm that the PC support this notion.
- 9. Parish Plan update** – It was confirmed that the Development Officer from SCDC visited the last meeting for the Parish Plan. It was agreed that a questionnaire would be given to individuals, rather than households and that a separate questionnaire would be offered for younger people. This will be done both online and as a paper version.
- 10. Verbal report on visit to Bassingbourn Barracks** – The Chairman spoke of his and Cllr Strudwick’s recent tour of the Barracks. Bassingbourn Barracks confirmed that it will remain an important training centre in the area. It was agreed that a senior Officer should be invited to speak at the Annual Parish Meeting to discuss the work and future plans of the Barracks.
- 11. Correspondence:** noting receipt of significant items of correspondence

- Ukraine Financial Support - Town and Parish Councils – CAPALC (15/3/22)
- No Mow May – Highways (18/3/22)
- SCambs Parish Council E Bulletin (19/3/22)
- Well-being training – SCDC (23/3/22)
- May Elections – SCDC (1/4/22)
- CAPALC bulletin (1/4/22)
- Community Chest Funding SCDC (6/4/22)
- Communities Update SCDC (7/4/22)
- Proposed 40MPH Speed Limit – Old North Road. Cambridgeshire County Council (11/4/22)

12. Queen’s Jubilee celebrations - as above

13. Finance:

- 13.1** Staff wages - £494.34
- 13.2** Expenses for telephone kiosk on Meldreth Road renovation - £199.55
- 13.3** Handyman wages - £257.24
- 13.4** Catalyst2 (website) - £59.99
- 13.5** Herts and Cambs Ground Maintenance - £156 – an addition grass cut was added to payments.

14. Annual Parish Meeting – this will take place on 25th April at the Village Hall at 7.30pm for refreshments to start at 8pm. The Chair reported that the Barracks have agreed to be represented to update villagers and answer questions on Barracks’ activities. He also reported that he had invited the new Vicar of Whaddon, Helen Orr, to attend and talk about her first few months as the Vicar and give a short update on St. Mary’s.

15. Whaddon Village Hall and Recreation Ground Trust update – Cllr Birch reported that there had been no further meetings in the last month. The Trust had received a Covid related business grant from SCDC to help with running costs of the hall during Lockdowns.

16. Village Upkeep and Maintenance - Reporting of upkeep or maintenance issues and agreement of actions – none.

17. Items for next meeting – noting of requests for agenda items – none.

Dates of next meetings – Annual Parish Meeting – 25th April 2022.

AGM of the Parish Council - Monday 11th May 2022