

WHADDON PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of the Whaddon Parish Council Meeting

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

5th September 2022 at 8pm

Present:	Chairman	L Ginger
	Councillors	D Townsend, J Hart, W Elbourn & A Birch, and N Strudwick.
	Parish Clerk	A Bridges
	District Councillor	J Hales
	Members of the Public	Two

1. **Apologies for Absence** – County Councillor S van de Ven and District Councillor S A Hart.
 2. **Approval of Minutes** – approval and signing of the minutes from the Parish Council Meeting of 11th July 2022. These were approved.
 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 Hart stated she would send a date for defibrillator training at the village hall imminently.
The Chairman informed the meeting that Speedwatch should resume in October.
Malan Peyton, who is leading the Parish Plan process, said that they had received about 83 online replies to date. It was felt that a possible reason for the lower number of responses than previously, was due to the large number of new households in the village, who may not have established views or concerns of Whaddon.
Cllr Elbourn agreed to ask the supplier of the recreation ground fence to fix the problems around the gate which has probably been caused by the dry weather.
 5. **Reports from District and County Councillors** – see later in the minutes.
 6. **Public Participation** – The member of the public stated she had a question for the District Councillor.
 7. **Planning update** - 22/02968/FUL - 128 Meldreth Road Whaddon Cambridgeshire - Single storey timber outbuilding. Not approved by the Planning Committee.
 8. **To discuss co-option for the vacancy on the Parish Council**
The meeting agreed to formally appoint for the vacancy at the next Parish Council meeting. It was agreed to use the application forms in the CaPALC policy but, as in previous co-options, the PC would hold a meeting with each of the prospective candidates, before the PC meeting to formally Co-opt. Cllr Ginger will update the policy and circulate.
Cllr Hales entered the meeting at 8.38pm due to attendance at a previous meeting.
- 5. Reports from District and County Councillors**
Cllr Hales spoke of the consultation for a trial to reduce hours for SCDC staff from a five-day week to a four-day week, on the same salary. This is due to the very low staff

numbers and high agency staff fees. The member of the public felt that this would not attract more applicants for roles due to lower than average wages and could reduce the availability of the work force even less.

Cllr Hales also spoke of the future congestion charge consultation in Cambridge, led by the Greater Cambridge Partnership. He encouraged all to take part to give their opinions.

Cllr Ginger noted the update on the LHI but was disappointed that we still do not yet have a start date for the work to begin. The LHI was agreed in Spring 2021 and is an important road safety scheme for Whaddon. He was pleased to hear that Liz Watts, the CEO of SCDC, is now involved following her recent visit to Whaddon.

Cllr Strudwick commented about the wholly unsatisfactory manner by which Network Rail were conducting the Meldreth Road level crossing proposal. Cllr Hales said that Shepreth PC are leading on this issue but there does seem to be a lack of transparency about the proposal to install full barriers at this crossing.

9. Location of 'six free trees' planting

Cllr Hart felt that these should be planted when there is more rainfall, and this was agreed by all.

10. Removal of 'kissing gate' at exit from the Green to Bridge Street

This was removed in August after complaints from members of the public over excess noise.

11. Correspondence: noting receipt of significant items of correspondence

- Greater Cambridge Shared Planning – Greater Cambridge Local Plan (20/7/22)
- Highways - TTRO 22/644 - Various Roads, South Division (28/7/22)
CAPALC bulletin (8/8/22)
- Chief Inspector Paul Rogerson Parish Council presentation- Policing South Cambs 2022 (25/8/22)
- Update from South Cambridgeshire District Council (2/9/22)

12. Finance to approve:

12.1 Staff wages and expenses – £829.92

12.2 Bank reconciliation

Commemorative Jubilee bench – this is now £1077.00 as the previous figure did not include VAT or engraving.

Cllr Strudwick left the meeting at 9.31pm.

12.3 To consider a grant application from Melbourn Mobile Warden Scheme

The Parish Council are unable to support the grant application as it does not come under the legal requirements under S137 funding but will consider support when reviewing the council's charity donations for the next budget year.

13. Whaddon Village Hall and Recreation Ground Trust update – no further meetings.

14. Village Upkeep and Maintenance

i) Reporting of upkeep or maintenance issues and agreement of actions

It was agreed that the grass contractor would do a further cut of the footpaths and the bank by the ditch on Bridge Street.

15. Confidential Staff Matter – including motion to exclude the public and press

The Parish Council agreed to the annual increment on the national pay scale to the Clerk's salary.

Date of next meeting – 10th October 2022