

WHADDON PARISH COUNCIL

PARISH COUNCIL MEETING

Minutes of the Whaddon Parish Council Meeting

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

on 13th November 2023 at 7.30pm

Present:	Chairman	L Ginger
	Councillors	W Elbourn, C Hales, N Strudwick, J Hart.
	Members of the Public	None
	County/District Councillor	J Hales
	Parish Clerk	A Bridges

- 1. Apologies for Absence – District and County Cllr’s** S van de Ven and S A Hart gave their apologies. D Townsend also gave her apologies.
- 2. Approval of Minutes** – approval and signing of the minutes from the Parish Council Meeting of 9th October 2023. These were agreed and signed.
- 3. Receiving Declarations of Interest from Councillors on items on the agenda** – Cllr Elbourn stated that he was interested in the old railings.
- 4. Reports from Clerk and Councillors** – verbal updates about progress on resolutions and actions from previous Parish Council meetings.
Adding an additional bollard to block Byway 22 was discussed, to stop vehicles driving around the posts. The Parish Council also discussed adding an additional gate to the public bridleway at the top of St Mary’s Close, to stop unwanted vehicles from entering.
- 5. Reports from District and County Councillors** – a written report was given.
- 6. Public Participation** – none.
- 7. Planning update:** St Marys Close response from Greater Cambridge Shared Planning Cllr Hales entered the meeting at 7.53pm.
The Chairman spoke about the continued confusion surrounding how many homes in St Mary’s are rental and how many are shared ownership properties, which still has not clarified by SCDC.
Cllr Hales advised that the S106 officer and Housing Lead for SCDC should be contacted to clarify the housing situation, to ensure that these are kept as lower cost homes and not sold by the housing association.
- 8. Correspondence:** noting receipt of significant items of correspondence – Six Free trees from SCDC.
- 9. Parish Plan** – A resident has commenced his training leading environmental groups in communities and is seeking volunteers to join to promote Whaddon’s ecosystem.
- 10. Handyman insurance** – It was confirmed that the handyman is not covered by the Parish Council’s insurance for this role, because he is a contractor, rather than an employee. The Parish Council agreed that they have a duty of care to ensure that he is covered for all activities to protect both himself and the general public. It was agreed by all that the handyman role requires insurance, and the Clerk would investigate this with insurance companies. It was also suggested that the best outcome would be for

the Parish Council to employ the handyman and would therefore be automatically insured.

- 11. Greater Cambridge Statement of Community Involvement consultation** – this will be completed by Cllr Strudwick.
- 12. Budget requests and precept setting** – Cllr Hales requested that Melbourn Warden Scheme is considered in the next budget year, and the Chairman stated that the annual donation set by the Parish Council was risen to £200 per year.
The precept meeting was agreed to be on December 18th and the next Parish Council meeting was agreed to be on the 8th of January.
- 13. Finance to approve:**
 - 13.1** Staff wages and expenses – £492.61
 - 13.2** Handyman wages - £192.74
 - 13.3** Herts & Cambs Ground Maintenance - £78

To add to payments:
Herts and Cambs - £78
Staff working from home allowance and backdated pay from 1st April (due to national annual pay increase) -£456
Poppy Appeal - £30
- 14. Clerks appraisal** – this was agreed to be discussed at the end of the meeting.
- 15. Discussion to agree location to plant free trees** – The Parish Council agreed for two of the trees, that had been looked after for the last two years by Cllr Hart, were agreed to be planted on the grass verge by Ridgeway Close, two were agreed to be planted on the recreation ground and one on the verge opposite Bumpkins.
It was also agreed that the Clerk should apply for the 6 Free Trees offered from Scamb and these should all be planted together.
- 16. Discussion to agree on the old fence for recreation ground** – the contractor confirmed to the Clerk that they are of scrap value only. It was agreed that Cllr Elbourn would donate a sum of money to the Parish Council for the railways and would restore them to be used at his property.
- 17. Whaddon Village Hall and Recreation Ground Trust update** – no further updates, due to lack of meeting.
- 18. Village Upkeep and Maintenance** – Cllr Hales spoke about the tree overhanging the road along Bridge Street/Ridgeway Close, which was confirmed to belong to Scamb.
- 19.** The Clerk and District Councillor Hales left the meeting at 9.02pm and item 14, the Clerks appraisal, was discussed.
- 14. Clerks appraisal** – this was agreed to be now held in March and the Clerk's SCP scale was increased to SCP 19.
- 19. End of meeting**