

Whaddon Parish Council Minutes

9th June 2025 at 7.30pm

Location: Whaddon Village Hall

Present: District Councillors J Hales & SA Hart

D Townsend - Chairman(DT), N Strudwick (NS), J Hart (JH), B Fairclough (BF), D Short (DS)

Clerk: A Culver

1. Apologies for absence - apologies from council members unable to attend. Cllr Elbourn gave his prior apologies.

2. Approval of minutes – approval and signing of the minutes from the Parish Council meeting of 12th May 2025. These were signed and approved by DT.

3. Declaration of interests - Members to declare any personal or prejudicial interests in agenda items. None.

4. Matters arising from previous minutes - Updates on actions and decisions from the last meeting.

The Clerk informed the Parish Council that Cambridgeshire County Council had confirmed that they are fully responsible for trees on Bridge Street and will reduce them in size so that they do not overhang the road.

SCDC contacted the Clerk to investigate the land behind Ridgeway Close, which was cleared of weeds without their knowledge. DT said she had spoken to nearby residents who witnessed a contractor on the site and concluded that UK Power Networks may have done the work, as there is power substation on this site which requires access. The Parish Council spoke of the possible future use for the land and felt that tall trees and asbestos would both have to be removed should the area be used for allotments.

5. Public participation

- Opportunity for residents to raise concerns or ask questions about local issues.

No members of the public present.

6. County and District Councillor reports – District Councillor SA discussed her written report which was circulated to the Parish Council. This highlighted local issues such as Cambridgeshire County Council low-income family tracker, which aims to identify households who are not claiming their full benefits. Cllr SA Hart reminded the Parish Council that the newly elected County Councillor A Bostanci has asked to meet with the Chairman and Vice Chairman of Whaddon Parish Council to look at ongoing issues and areas of need for residents. Clerk to email all.

7. Planning applications - Review and discussion of planning applications and decisions. **25/01830/HFUL** - Single storey side and rear extension, garage front and side extension. Solar panels to the front roof elevation and internal alterations. 119 Meldreth Road Whaddon. JH informed the meeting that this was felt to be a modest extension, and it was approved by the Planning Committee.

8. Approval of payments - Consideration and approval of outstanding payments. These were approved by all.

Herts and Cambs grounds maintenance	£390/£102
E E Plumbridge Whaddon News print	£298
Zurich insurance	£361.56
Internal auditor for AGAR	£100

9. Parish maintenance - Updates on maintenance works, including roads, footpaths, and public spaces. BF asked if the contractor was able to cut the hedge back by Town Farm Close as he had requested this for several months. The Clerk confirmed that she had asked the contractor and would remind them again, although it is their peak season for grass cutting. DT agreed that the work needed to be carried out as the footpath was too narrow.

10. Correspondence - Review and discussion of correspondence received since the last meeting. None.

11. Parish Plan update – BF spoke of the recommendations that came out as higher priority for Whaddon residents in the Parish Plan. The majority (63%) wanted the speed of traffic to be reduced. The Parish Council discussed the possibility of applying for a 20mph speed limit though Whaddon and NS reminded the meeting that this was discussed by the Parish Council in the last three years, when it was first introduced by Cambridgeshire County Council and it was felt to be unsuitable partly due to spread out nature of the village.

It was agreed that the Parish Council should contact the MVAS (mobile vehicle activated sign) co-ordinator to request the monthly data to compare speeds, giving the Parish Council statistics on the rate that vehicles pass through the village.

BF also spoke of the 40% of residents who stated that they would use a cycle/walking path to Meldreth and Melbourn on a weekly basis. DT stated that Whaddon ends before the old Eternit site, meaning the vast majority of this would be in Meldreth. It was agreed that this should be discussed Cllr Bostanci as it would be beneficial for residents in Burtons in Meldreth.

12. MVAS update – DS gave the Parish Council information on a possible MVAS for the A1198, which was able to measure the speed of a high number of cars per day, without being mains operated. DS agreed to send this information to the Parish Council to consider.

Clerk to get quotes for village MVAS and to ask Highways for permission to put a mast by New Farm, to install the MVAS.

13. Date of next meeting – July 14th.

The meeting ended 8.36pm