WHADDON PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of the Parish Council Meeting held on Monday 12th October 2026

Present

Councillors: W Elbourn (Chairman) (WE), J Hart (JH), D Short (DS), J Burgess (JB) and B Fairclough (BF).

A Culver – Parish Clerk

Also present: County Councillor A Bostanci; District Councillors S A Hart and J Hales; and one member of the public.

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1. Apologies for Absence

Apologies for absence were received from D Townsend.

2. Declarations of Interest

There were no declarations of interest.

3. Parish Councillor Co-option

The Council considered candidates for co-option to fill the two current vacancies on the Parish Council.

It was agreed unanimously to co-opt Jo Burgess onto the Parish Council.

4. Approval of Minutes

The minutes of the Parish Council meeting held on 14 September 2026 were approved and signed by the Chairman.

5. Public Participation

A member of the public raised the issue of weed control on pavements and along the roadside of the roads in the parish. It was confirmed that Cambridgeshire County Council had recently undertaken weed control.

The member of the public also raised concerns about potholes on the Whaddon turning off the A1198, which had reportedly been marked for repair several months previously. County Councillor A Bostanci acknowledged the severity of the potholes and agreed to follow up the matter.

6. County and District Councillor Reports

County Councillor A Bostanci confirmed that Highways had approved the agreement for the MVAS pole, to be situated at the top of Meldreth Road (nearest to Meldreth) earlier that day.

He also confirmed that he would attend the meeting with South Cambridgeshire District Council on 4 November, to discuss affordable housing in the Parish, on land owned by County Farms (Cambridgeshire County Council)

The Chairman asked about the bus consultation and the decision not to include a bus stop in Whaddon. County Councillor A Bostanci suggested that the size of the village may have been a factor in the decision and encouraged the Parish Council to express their dissatisfaction with the proposed service.

7. Matters Arising

MVAS installation: The Clerk would identify a suitable contractor to undertake the installation.

Affordable housing: A meeting with Helen Shaw was scheduled to take place at 11.00 am on 4 November. District Councillor Hales stated he would confirm if this was a remote or onsite meeting.

8. Pickering Wood

The Council considered a request for financial assistance towards the maintenance of the permissive footpath in Pickering Wood.

It was agreed that the Parish Council would reimburse the annual maintenance costs of the permissive footpaths, estimated at £350–£400. An invoice would be sent to the Clerk.

9. Sustainable Whaddon

No update had been received.

10. Whaddon Village Hall and Recreation Ground Trust

No update had been received.

11. Village Maintenance and Upkeep

The Council discussed the playground at Cardiff Place and noted that, as the land is owned by the MOD, any improvements would require confirmation that the MOD would take responsibility for ongoing maintenance, insurance and routine safety inspections. It was therefore agreed that the Parish Council would focus its efforts on enhancing the main village playground to encourage greater use and attract more visitors.

A fallen tree branch at the top of Meldreth Road, by the entrance to the public footpath, was reported. The Clerk would report the matter to Highways.

Trees overhanging power cables along Meldreth Road were also discussed. Residents were advised to report these to UK Power Networks to undertake cutting back.

The Council discussed the possibility of installing a 30-mph speed limit sign on the side of the bus stop. The Clerk would investigate the available signage options and the relevant requirements.

12. Finance

i) Payments for Approval

The following payments were presented for approval:

Payee / Description	**Amount**
Herts & Cambs Ground Maintenance – grass cutting	£102.00

Payee / Description	Amount
CAPALC – councillor training	£45.00

The following payments were added to the agenda to avoid late payment:

Payee / Description	Amount
Herts & Cambs Ground Maintenance – grass cutting statement	£1,788.00
Jonathan Burgess – handyman services	£218.18

ii) Bank Reconciliation

DS agreed to review the bank reconciliations.

iii) Bank Signatories

Jo Burgess was agreed to be authorised as a signatory on the Unity Bank account.

The meeting closed at 8.24 pm.