

WHADDON PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of the Whaddon Parish Council Meeting

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

14th March 2022 at 8pm

Present:	Vice Chairman	N Strudwick
	Councillors	J Hart, A Birch & W Elbourn
	Parish Clerk	A Bridges
	Members of the Public	One
	County Councillor	CLr van de Ven
	District Councillors	SA Hart & J Hales

1. Apologies for Absence

CLr Ginger and CLr Townsend gave their apologies.

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

CLr Strudwick reported that there were no updates from County Broadband, although he felt that developments were slow.

CLr Strudwick reported that the new recycling unit, to be situated by the Village Hall, was delayed as we are still awaiting the bins offered by SCDC. District Councillor Hales is doing all he can to speed up the process. CLr Birch confirmed that the VH&RGT agreed the bins would now be situated next to the existing waste bin, outside the kitchen window.

5. Reports from District and County Councillors

CLr Hales reminded the meeting that there was Community Chest funding available from SCDC for local Queens Jubilee celebrations. The Clerk confirmed that she had applied for funding for a new bench for the recreation ground from SCDC.

6. Public Participation

The member of the public reminded the meeting that the grips still needed to be done along Bridge Street. The member of the public also stated that some potholes had just been mended by County Highways and the overgrown trees affecting cables in Dyers Green will be cut by County Farms in September.

The member of the public also spoke of the delays with County Broadband and CLr van de Ven confirmed she had received concerns from residents in other villages and that

all were welcome to send this feedback to her and she would pass this on to Cambridgeshire County Council.

7. Update on Church Street beech tree and tree in Recreation Ground

Cllr Strudwick confirmed that the Parish Council had recently had an independent assessment from an arborist who confirmed the tree was in good health with no signs of disease, both from a visual inspection and from the sample taken. These results were sent to Highways, who have agreed that no action will be taken now and stated they will assess the tree later in the year when it is in full leaf.

A second tree in the recreation ground was also assessed and this was confirmed to be likely of most importance as a habitat for birds and other wildlife. It was recommended that the tree should be reduced in height for safety and the Parish Council should gain the advice of an ecologist before work commenced.

8. LHI Bid update – Cllr Strudwick confirmed the current entrance to the new homes opposite Whaddon Gap will be closed. CCC Highways will be able to continue planning for the improvements once this has happened. Cllr van de Ven indicated she had received an assurance that the work to prepare these entrances had been programmed in and Cllr Strudwick said he would contact the officer concerned to find out more details.

9. PC Charity donation – It was proposed by Cllr Elbourn to donate £100 to the local Homestart charity and this was agreed by all.

The member of the public and District and County Cllrs left the meeting at this point.

10. Correspondence: noting receipt of significant items of correspondence

- CAPALC membership and DPO information (23/2/22)
- Notice of election and nominations – SCDC (24/2/22)
- Closure of Post Office at the Golf Club – Post Office (4/3/22)
- Concerns on speeding through village from resident (14/3/22). This will be explored in the Parish Plan.

11. Queen’s Jubilee celebrations

The Clerk advised that the National Lottery had a grant for funding local celebrations, and the details will be passed to the working group.

12. Finance:

- 12.1** Staff wages and expenses - £512.46
- 12.2** Chairman’s allowance - £100
- 12.3** Chairman’s expenses (wheelie bin lock for recycling bin) - £26.85
- 12.4** CAPALC membership and DPO scheme - £322.44
- 12.5** Confirmation of appointment of internal auditor for Annual Return 2021-2022.

12.6 Noted cheque for £500 to new bank account.

13. Annual Parish Meeting – this was confirmed to be on the 25th April at the Village Hall.

14. May Parish Council elections – This was confirmed to take place on the 5th May 2022. An election poster will be displayed on the village noticeboard and the website from March 28th and election papers must be submitted between the 28th March to April 4th to SCDC in Cambourne. These can be found on the SCDC website or by contacting the Clerk.

15. Whaddon Village Hall and Recreation Ground Trust update

Cllr Birch confirmed that the AGM will be held on the 16th May. The film nights will restart in September.

16. Village Upkeep and Maintenance - Reporting of upkeep or maintenance issues and agreement of actions

Cllr Hart confirmed that the grass on the recreation ground needs to be cut and stated that the flower bed by the village hall also needs to be maintained. It was agreed that Cllr Hart and Cllr Townsend would plant some flowers.

17. Items for next meeting – noting of requests for agenda items

None.

The meeting finished at 9.00pm