

Whittington Parish Council
Minutes for the Annual Parish Council Meeting
Monday 15th May 2023
Following the Annual Parish Assembly
In Whittington Village Hall

Contact: The Clerk Gillian Newton, 14 Marton Drive, Bare, Morecambe, LA4 6RB.
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Agenda & Full Minutes of meetings available on the noticeboard, by request from the Clerk & on the Lancaster City Council site <https://committeeadmin.lancaster.gov.uk/ecCatDisplay.aspx?sched=doc&cat=13179&path=13175,13177>

Audit details available by request or Lancaster City Council

<https://committeeadmin.lancaster.gov.uk/ecCatDisplay.aspx?sched=doc&cat=13177>

Present at the meeting were Cllrs Colin Hall, Iain Sutherland, David Hutton, Mike Kormanic, City Cllr Ross Hunter, the Clerk Gillian Newton and no members of the public.

1599 Apologies for absence were received from Cllr Malcolm Fell.

1600 Minutes of the Annual Parish Council Meeting Monday 16th May 2022 were read, agreed by Cllrs and signed as a true record by Cllr Hall.

1601 No matters arose from the previous minutes.

1602 PACT Annual report : 2022 – 2023 **PACT Police & Communities Together**
<https://www.police.uk/pu/your-area/lancashire-constabulary/upper-lune-valley/?tab=CrimeMap>

May and June – none, July – Anti-Social Behaviour on or near Docker Lane, August, September, October, November, December, January – none, February – Violence against a person, includes grievous bodily harm or sexual offence on or near Manor Farm.

All crimes reported and recorded at [www/police.uk](http://www.police.uk) Lancashire Constabulary Upper Lune Valley and then your postcode. Crimes are recorded as on or near the postcode.

1603 Chair's report - It gives me great pleasure to present this Annual Report for the period 2022-2023.

As usual the parish council have continued to work closely with a vibrant Village Hall Committee and the Parochial Church Council, helping provide a calendar of Village events enjoyed by everyone.

As usual both garden competitions, Secret Gardens and Front Gardens were well contested and of an extremely high standard culminating in the grand prize giving at the Annual village BBQ.

However an added horticultural highlight this year has been the Whittington Open Garden event ably organised by volunteers Caroline and Val, oversubscribed on entries and visited from far and wide. An astonishing success and will be hopefully repeated in years to come.

The monthly Pop up Pub event, held on the last Friday of each month continues to attract a convivial crowd, providing a much needed focal point for those missing the now defunct Dragons Head.

As I mentioned in my last years report work was due to be finalised on the short stretch of footpath repair on the River Lune. This was indeed completed on time, under budget and was such a success that a new project is now in the planning process.

I ought to briefly mention our City Councillor, Ross Hunter, who represents the village at City Council level, acting as a conduit for local issues that Parish Council may not be equipped to handle. He has assiduously attended our bi-

monthly meetings and proved to be a useful weapon oiling the wheels of local government. I am pleased to say he was re-elected in the recent elections.

It goes without saying that Stuart Close who has retired after 30 years of service on the Parish Council, will be missed although I am grateful that he will continue to be responsible for the Village Christmas Tree display.

Two new members have joined the Parish Council, David Hurst and Mike Kormanic. Their contact details can be found on the Village noticeboard and we look forward to their contribution in the coming months.

Finally I would like to thank all the Parish Council members for their help and support over the past year and look forward to the next 12 months with confidence.

Colin Hall
Chairman

1604. Clerk's report - The closing balance in the Current Account at the end of March 2023 is £8,726.51 Sheet 336 30th March 2023. The reconciliation shows the true balance to be £8,476.51 one unpresented cheque 662 £250.00 Stephen's Cancer Research walk . The closing balance in the Bonus Saver account at the end of March 2023 is £144.59 Sheet 94 31st March 2023 . Precept received from Lancaster City Council of £6,000,00 as requested.

The accounts have been internally audited by Anne Pettifor May 2023. The accounts are due to be audited externally by PK Littlejohn July 2023 . Certificate of Exemption to be completed and returned to external auditors.

The Annual Return, cash book, deeds, contracts, bills, vouchers and receipts relating to the accounts will be available for inspection and to make copies, by request, from Monday 5th June to Friday 14nd July 2023 as required by regulations.

1605. Election of Chair, Vice-Chair, LALC representative and Trustee for Whittington Charity.

Chair : Cllr Hall was nominated by Cllr Hutton and seconded by Cllr Sutherland. Cllr Hall agreed to remain as Chairperson.

Vice Chair : Cllr Sutherland was nominated by Cllr Kormanic and seconded by Cllr Hutton. Cllr Sutherland agreed to remain as Vice-Chairperson.

Cllrs agreed no LALC representative was required and that Cllrs would attend meetings when available.

Trustee : Cllr Sutherland agreed to remain as Trustee representative,

1606. Finances:

Annual Grazing Rights - Cllrs agreed to continue at £50 p/a

Annual Shooting Rights – Cllrs agreed the £200 p/a remain the same with the proviso that land opposite the Chestnuts be used by the Parish Council and the community for an annual event.

Clerk's Salary (currently £1,667.68 nett) which shall remain at this figure for the following year.

1595. All members signed new Declarations of Acceptance of Office and agreed there are no changes to be made to the Notification by Members of Parish Council of Other Interests and the Disclosable Pecuniary Interests forms.

1607. Risk Assessment of street furniture, assets and fidelity guarantee completed. Thanks to Cllr Sutherland for continued examination of the Defibrillator and to Simon Raistrick for maintaining and emptying the two dog bins.

1608. Proposed dates for the following year were agreed on the 3rd Monday of alternate months.

2023 17th July, 18th September, 20th November. 2024 15th January, 18th March

1609. No Business introduced by Councillors.