



Whitley Parish Council

MINUTES OF THE PARISH COUNCIL MEETING

Held in Whitley Village Hall, Village Lane on Tuesday 17 March 2026 at 7.00pm

- Councillors:
- * Cllr M Thompson (Chair)
 - * Cllr P Barber
 - Cllr M Bratherton
 - * Cllr R Brock
 - * Cllr J Cooper (Vice Chair)
 - Cllr M Crook
 - * Cllr G Warburton
 - * denotes attendance

Also in Attendance:

T Noble (Clerk)
Borough Cllr L Gibbon
Headteacher Mr Russell David
Two Residents

26/105. **Apologies**
Apologies were received and accepted from Cllr M Bratherton and Cllr M Crook.

26/106. **Declarations of Interest**
Members are reminded of their responsibility to declare any disclosable pecuniary or non-pecuniary interest in which they have in any item of business on the agenda no later than when the item is reached. Declarations are a personal matter for each Member to decide and the decision to declare or not, is the responsibility of the Member.

26/107. **Minutes of the Pervious Meeting**
The minutes of the Parish Council Annual Meeting held on Tuesday 17 February 2026 were confirmed as a true record and signed by the Chairman.

26/108. **Public Forum**
26/108.1 **Members of the public**
Noted that no resolutions can be made during Public Forum.

26/108.2 **Police Report**
A report has been circulated by PCSO Wiggins which included surgeries that had been held within the ward. There were no reports for Whitley on antisocial behaviour, burglaries, theft or road safety in and around Whitley.

26/108.3 **Whitley Village School Report**
A report was submitted to the Clerk by the Headteacher of Whitley Village School. A concern was raised regarding the condition of the road surface between the village hall and the school, which becomes waterlogged and is therefore unsuitable for children walking from the village hall car park to the school.



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The low-level fencing at the front of the school has been identified as a safeguarding concern. It is understood that fencing should be a minimum height of 2 metres, and the Trust is planning to upgrade the fencing to meet this requirement.

The current pupil roll stands at 79. Admissions for Reception in 2026 will be confirmed closer to the time.

26/109.

Cheshire West and Chester Borough Councillors Reports

Borough Cllr L Gibbon attended the meeting, gave an update on the recently circulated Borough Councillors report:

Key updates included, protecting Marbury's greenbelt and rural character, Council finances 2026-2027 including the council tax increase of 4.99%.

The proposed HyNet hydrogen pipeline continues to affect a number of Parishes in and around the ward, including Sutton Weaver, Dutton, Little Leigh, Whitley and Antrobus. The Borough Councillors are continuing to monitor the scheme closely and make representations where necessary.

Devolution will bring a new Cheshire & Warrington Combined Authority, with the first mayoral election due in May 2027.

Road condition, drainage, parking pressure and verge damage remain among the most common issues raised.

Members budget will reopen in April 2026.

26/110.

Planning (0)

Appeals (0)

Notice of Decisions (0)

Appeal Decisions (0)

26/111.

Finance

Resolved that payments listed in Appendix 1 were approved.

26//111.1

AGAR 2025-2026

Noted the Clerk reported that the 2025-2026 audit instructions have been received and that the process to prepare and submit the required documentation has begun.

26/111.2

VAT Reclaim

Noted the VAT reclaim for the period 1 March 2025 to 28 February 2026 was submitted and a refund of £1,676.35 has been received.

26/112.

Standing Orders and Model Financial Regulations

Current Standing Orders were reviewed and the updated Model Financial Regulations were formally adopted.

Resolved



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- 26/113. **Flood Relief**
The road surface of the 'Walled Area' needs attention, this is a treasured conservation area of the village.
Resolved that the Parish Council approach the Borough Councillors for advice and assistance to improve the road surface.
- 26/114. **Part 2 Confidential**
Pit 2
Under the Public Bodies, admissions to meetings, Act 1960, the public to be excluded for the remainder of the meeting because of the likely disclosure of private and confidential information of matters.
- 26/115. **Time and Date of Next Meeting**
The Parish Council meeting was confirmed as Tuesday 21 April 2026 at 7.00pm in Whitley Village Hall.

Meeting closed at 8.31pm

Signed as a true record:

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Cllr M Thompson
Chairman

Dated: 21 April 2026



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Appendix 1

Payments March 2026

DESCRIPTION	INVOICE	NET	VAT	TOTAL	CODE
Amazon Stationery	W5VXI	£7.71	£1.54	£9.25	207
Amazon Stationery	X28ORI	£17.57	£3.52	£21.09	207
Viking Direct Clerks Chair	64286W	£144.99	£29.79	£178.73	208
SLCC Qualification	QL208976-1	£19.25	£3.85	£23.10	204

Income March 2026

DESCRIPTION	INVOICE	TOTAL	CODE
Members Budget Village Drainage	Bank Trans	£1509.00	102
Daresbury PC Clerks Chair	Bank Trans	£72.50	102
VAT Reclaim	Bank Trans	£1676.35	102



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