

**Full Council Meeting**

Monday 11 August 2025, 7.30 pm start
 Whittle-le-Woods Village Hall, Whittle-le-Woods

MINUTES

| | | |
|-------------------|-------------------------|---------------------|
| Attendance | Cllr Peter Auwerx | Cllr Barbara Higham |
| | Cllr Chris Briscoe | Cllr Peter Higham |
| | Cllr Colin Evans, Chair | Cllr Wendy McDonald |
| | Cllr Steve Fogerty | Cllr Dedrah Moss |
| | Cllr Russ Green | Cllr Tina Newall |
| | Cllr Jamie Halliwell | Cllr Will Yates |

Clerking: D Platt

1. Apologies – none.
2. Declarations of interest and dispensation considerations – none.
3. Minutes of previous Council meetings to be approved, or received at a later date

Resolved: Minutes of the meeting held on 14 July 2025 were approved.

4. Statutory Business

- 4.1 Planning - Consider planning report, approve responses and ratify responses made between meetings or to meet deadlines.

Cllr Green declared an interest in the Planning.

660/PIP Object, BN1 Police and access

639/FULHH comment that neighbours should be consulted and materials in-keeping

642/PIP Object over access on to the A6 and Greenbelt land

703/FUL materials in-keeping, consult the neighbours

Resolved: Council approved these comments to be submitted.

5. Financial items

- 5.1 Consider and approve expenditures in the circulated report, and any after the agenda, submitted to the meeting

Resolved: Council approved payments for

| Date | Payee | Purpose | £ |
|------------|----------------------|------------------|---------|
| 01/08/2025 | Easy Web Sites | Web Site Hosting | £62.04 |
| 11/08/2025 | Salary - August 2025 | Employee 2 | £592.74 |
| 11/08/2025 | Locum DP | Locum works | £875.00 |
| 11/08/2025 | LB Clerk | Back pay | £67.47 |
| 11/08/2025 | C. Evans | Reimbursements | £26.70 |
| 11/08/2025 | Wizard Computers | Laptop repairs | £60.00 |

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- 5.2 CIL budget – consider a request to allocate a sum toward the creation/placing of village entrance signs

Resolved: Councillors noted the report.

- 5.3 Update on Unity Trust Bank Account

The accounts are now operational. Money will be transferred to the current account so some practice payments can be made.

6. Project updates from Councillors

Councillors updated Council.

- Progress on village entrance signs

Members had looked in to sign designs and what the village presently has, albeit they have been covered a bit with hedge and weed growth. Design ideas with costings were requested to come forward to a future meeting so Councillors could discuss.

- Progress on land for Youth use

Members discussed a possible piece of land on Royton Drive which could accommodate amenities such as skate park, parking, pitches, bowling etc. Currently this land is in Chorley's control so a conversation would need to take place with CBC regarding the land.

- 'Old' laptop

This has been to the computer shop and cleansed and updated, it works.

Members discussed the football fields which is run by a Charity/Trust. It was queried why the Council pays up to £5K in maintenance fees – this will be investigated before the next budget setting.

7. Proposal – to discuss the recall of the land and football pitch back into the Parish Council domain - Withdrawn

8. Proposal – to discuss expanding the lengthsman service by employing another member of staff

It was suggested as Whittle was growing that a further lengthsman may be required.

Resolved: This will be referred to the Staffing Committee to review and cost and bring back to Council prior to the budget setting meeting.

9. Proposal – to discuss researching to purchase a weed killing system

Members discussed a demonstration of a powered weeding/sweeping machine. Although CBC do kill weeds they do not return to take away the dead weeds. A machine could be hired or purchased but consideration needs to be given to its storage, whether electric or powered, how its is moved around the village, who operates it.

Resolved: This will be referred to the Staffing Committee to review whilst considering the item above.

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10. Matters for information

Chair raised a request that Councillors should work together to make the Parish Council more professional and if there are parish articles being written by Councillors they should run by the Clerk/Chair before publishing and consider using them for the newsletter.

A member asked if reporting potholes should go through the Clerk so everyone is not reporting the same.

A member asked for an item on the agenda to report the Defib checks – so the Clerk could then log in to the system and report them for the Councillors.

A member asked why other elected members were on the website eg. Borough, County, MP and thought it should be just Parish Councillors. Members were asked to review the current arrangement on the website ready for an agenda item at the next meeting.

11. Exclusion of Press and Public

Resolved: Council resolved because of the confidential nature of the business to be transacted the press and public are excluded from the forthcoming item of business - pursuant to section 1(2) of the Public Bodies (Admission to Meetings) Act 1960¹ and defined in Paragraph 1, Part 1 of Schedule 12A to the Local Government Act 1972².

11. Recruitment update

It was reported that a new Clerk will start with the Council on 1st September.

Chair closed the meeting.

9.16 pm

¹ <https://www.legislation.gov.uk/ukpga/Eliz2/8-9/67/section/1>

² <https://www.legislation.gov.uk/ukpga/1972/70/schedule/12A>