

Whittington Parish Council

One Parish : One Community



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Meeting of Whittington Parish Council

at 7:00PM on Tuesday 23rd June 2026 at Whittington Community Hall, WR5 2RQ (///wonderfully.paper.agent)

Minutes 06/2026

Present: Adam Hooper (Chair), Stuart Austin, Katie Lambeth-Mansell, Helena Bennett

In attendance: David Hunter-Miller (Clerk), Rob Adams (District Councillor), Liz Turier (District Councillor), Jayne Rayer (Whittington Church), Anita Hodgson (Whittington Community Hall), Linda Robinson (County Councillor)

1. Chairman's welcome and announcements

Adam Hooper opened the meeting and welcomed attendees.

2. Apologies for absence: To receive apologies and to approve reasons for absence

All members present.

3. Declarations of personal and prejudicial interest

3.1. Register of Interests: With reference to items on the agenda councillors are reminded of their responsibility to declare interests and to update their register of interests as required.

Noted.

3.2. Disclosable Pecuniary Interests: To declare any Disclosable Pecuniary Interests in items on the agenda and their nature.

Nil declared.

3.3. Other Interests: To declare any Other Registerable Interests or Non-Registerable Interests in items on the agenda and their nature.

Adam Hooper declared an Other Registerable Interest in item 5.7 (Whittington Community Hall) and an Other Registerable Interest in item 5.9 (Whittington Events Group).

Katie Lambeth-Mansell declared an Other Registerable Interest in item 5.8 (Whittington Charities) and an Other Registerable Interest in item 5.9 (Whittington Events Group).

Helena Bennett declared an Other Registerable Interest in item 5.8 (Whittington Charities) and a Non-Registerable Interest in items 8.1 and 8.5.1 (Wychavon Town and the South Worcestershire Development Plan).

3.4. Dispensations: To consider any written dispensations from councillors who have declared an interest but wish to stay in the meeting during that time to aid discussion / speak / vote.

A dispensation had previously been granted to Adam Hooper to allow participation and voting on all matters pertaining to Whittington Community Hall.

A dispensation had previously been granted to Helena Bennett to allow participation, but not voting, on all matters pertaining to Wychavon Town and the South Worcestershire Development Plan.

4. Co-option: To consider any applications received to fill the councillor vacancies

No applications had been received.

5. Open Session

The meeting was adjourned for the open session.

5.1. Public participation

No questions were received.

5.2. District Councillors

Rob Adams provided an update on the Section 62A Town and Country Planning Act 1990 designation for Wychavon District Council (item 8.3).

Liz Turier provided an update as follows:

Measles

Cases of measles are rising in our area. If you or your child develops symptoms it's important to act quickly. Do not go straight to GP surgery, urgent care or A&E instead call GP practice or NHS 111 first. MMR or MMRV vaccine is the most effective. If you are unsure whether you or your child has had both doses, check with your GP. For more information, symptoms, vaccination etc contact: <https://www.nhs.uk/conditions/measles/>

Wychavon Town

Wychavon town is designated within the government's New Homes Accelerator (NHA) Fund, and the Council continues to work with Homes England to progress the proposal, including early delivery of key infrastructure.

Wychavon DC has also undertaken public consultation on the Wychavon Town draft Supplementary Planning Document which will be reported for adoption at the full Council meeting on 24th June. The two planning applications for housing (W/25/02814/OUT) which is Town Centre and Railway station area and W/25/02813/OUT – Southern neighbourhood and the two planning applications submitted for employment uses adjacent to Junction 7 – (W/25/02776/OUT) and (W/25/00698 OUT) are likely to go before the Planning Committee probably towards the then of the year.

Wychavon Growth Fund

This fund offers grants of £500 to £15,000 for projects that can help organisations expand, improve productivity or create jobs. The fund is open to micro, small and medium enterprises, Community Interest Companies, social enterprises and commercially active not-for-profit organisations across a wide range of sectors in Wychavon. Growth@wychavon.gov.uk

5.3. County Councillor

Linda Robinson provided an update that would be made available on the Parish Council's website.

5.4. Whittington C of E Primary School

Helena Bennett provided an update:

- Whittington C of E Primary School would be involved in the Whittington Fayre.
- An event had been arranged to take the children to the top of Whittington Tump.

5.5. Whittington Church

Jayne Rayer provided an update:

- The Annual Memorial Service is scheduled for 6:30PM Sunday 19th July 2026.
- Children from Year 6 Whittington C of E Primary School had visited the church and received a copy of the bible and a booklet on the transition to secondary school.

5.6. Brethren Church

No matters were reported.

5.7. Whittington Community Hall

Anita Hodgson provided an update:

- Revised T&Cs to enable quicker payment following bookings
- Engagement with public and hall hires

5.8. Elizabeth Stephens & Fanny Clifton Charity

Helena Bennett provided an update:

- The recent afternoon tea event had been a great success with 45 attending plus 10 volunteers.
- The charity had provided support to children to attend events at the school and had supplied packs of stationery for children moving up to secondary school.

5.9. Whittington Events Group

It was noted that the Whittington Fayre would be the biggest yet and was scheduled for Saturday 11th July 2026.

The meeting resumed following the open session.

6. To consider and adopt the minutes from the parish council meeting on the 19th May 2026

It was RESOLVED to adopt the minutes as a true record and they were duly signed by the Chair.

7. Progress reports

7.1. Councillor vacancies

It was noted that there were five vacancies on the Parish Council and enquiries from parishioners were welcomed.

7.2. Berkley Close anti-social behaviour and fly-tipping

It was noted that Wychavon Community Safety Team had undertaken an assessment and were working with Rooftop Housing to tackle the issues.

8. Planning

8.1. To consider any updates on the South Worcestershire Development Plan (SWDP)

It was RESOLVED to contact Wychavon District Council about public events being held at Norton and Stoulton regarding road infrastructure as details had not been circulated to Whittington and no similar event was scheduled for Whittington Community Hall.

8.2. To note proposals to submit outline planning permission for 180 homes at 'Land at Battenhall Farm Whittington Road Worcester', adjacent to parish boundary

It was noted that the Parish Council would consider a formal response if/when a planning application is submitted for this proposed development.

8.3. To note Ministry of Housing, Communities and Local Government Designation under Section 62A of the Town and Country Planning Act 1990

It was noted that developers would now have the option to apply to the government for planning applications relating to 10 or more houses and commercial development, bypassing Wychavon District Council. Further details were awaited, especially on how this might impact the Wychavon Town development.

8.4. To consider the following planning matters to be determined by Wychavon District Council:

8.4.1. W/26/01169/HP (associated ref: W/24/02585/HP): Astoria House, Church Lane, Whittington, Worcester, WR5 2RQ. Single storey rear extension, new patio area, new garage with associated groundworks and landscaping (Variation of condition 2 - Ref W/24/02585/HP).

It was RESOLVED that the Parish Council do not object in principle but would comment that the proposals do appear to represent an overdevelopment of the site and there is concern that there may be a reduction in privacy for adjacent neighbours.

8.4.2. W/26/01093/FUL: A13 Engineering Workshop At, Pond Farm, Church Lane, Whittington. Construction of extension to commercial building.

It was RESOLVED that the Parish Council do not object in principle but do have concerns regarding the cumulative increases of HGV traffic using Church Lane, which already suffers from rat-running traffic and lack of pedestrian footway provision. The Parish Council requests that a formal passing place be provided on the highway to allow vehicles, cyclists and pedestrians to navigate the limited space more safely.

8.5. To note responses submitted under delegated authority for the following applications:

8.5.1. W/26/00698/OUT: Land At (Os 8859 5217) Pershore Road High Park Whittington. Outline planning application with all matters reserved except for access for the demolition of existing buildings and the phased development of up to 66,890 sq. m. (720,000 sq. ft.) of floorspace, of which no more than 743 sq. m. (8,000 sq. ft.) shall comprise commercial uses (including fuel filling and/or electric vehicle charging, retail and food and beverage uses within Use Classes E(b) and Sui Generis), with the remainder comprising employment floorspace within Use Classes B2, B8 and E(g)(iii), together with associated infrastructure including parking, servicing, landscaping and drainage.

It was noted that a comprehensive objection had been submitted and was available on the Parish Council's website.

8.6. To review future priorities for Biodiversity Net Gain and S106 and to consider representations to Wychavon District Council

It was RESOLVED to submit a request for S106 to support future projects, including:

- Additional community land at Pershore Road
- Additional community land in Whittington Village
- Traffic calming measures to reduce speed/rat running traffic in Church Lane, Old Road and Walkers Lane
- Local amenity, biodiversity and environmental improvements
- Increase to bus service provision
- Improving Whittington Walk safe traffic exit options
- Active travel improvements
- Surfacing and drainage improvements to “urban” footpaths/bridleways at Whittington Walk and Wildmore to make them more usable in all weather conditions and to encourage sustainable modes of transport
- Improvements to existing playground facilities in parish

It was RESOLVED to make a recommendation to Whittington Village Hall Committee to make similar representations for S106 gain.

9. Parish matters for decision/action

9.1. To consider the parish council's 2026/27 action plan

It was RESOLVED to revise previous action plans with a view to adopting an action plan for 2026/27 at the next meeting.

9.2. To consider government plans for safer routes to school

Considered under item 8.6.

10. Highways, PRow and Lengthsman Scheme

10.1. To receive an update on the lengthsman scheme and to consider any items for the work schedule

No matters were reported.

10.2. To consider an update on the proposed stopping up of the highway at 31 and 33 Walkers Lane, Worcester

It was RESOLVED that the Parish Council considers that an obstruction exists at 31/33 Walkers Lane and, under S130 Highways Act 1980, requires the Highway Authority to secure its removal. The Clerk is authorised to serve the statutory notice accordingly.

10.3. To consider speeding concerns relating to Whittington Road / Swinesherd Way

It was RESOLVED to submit a request to Worcestershire County Council for a lower, consistent speed limit on Whittington Road and Swinesherd Way.

10.4. To consider parking concerns at Wildmore

It was RESOLVED to submit a request to Worcestershire County Council for additional parking restrictions on Wildmore.

11. Finance

11.1. To review bank signatories

It was RESOLVED that Katie Lambeth-Mansell would authorise previously approved changes to the bank signatories.

11.2. To consider and approve the latest 2026/27 budget expenditure

It was RESOLVED to approve the latest budget expenditure.

11.3. To consider and approve the latest 2026/27 bank reconciliation

It was RESOLVED to approve the latest bank reconciliation.

11.4. To approve the following invoices for payment:

11.4.1. David Hunter-Miller (salary and expenses)

11.4.2. HMRC (PAYE)

11.4.3. Worcestershire County Council Pension Fund (pension)

11.4.4. Whittington Village Hall (room hire for year): £540.00

11.4.5. Whittington Village Hall (room hire): £10.00

11.4.6. SCJ Gardening (Lengthsman): £190.00

11.4.7. Mr Gary Kennett (Summer Fayre dinosaur hire): £191.25

11.4.8. Andy Loos Limited (Summer Fayre toilets): £216.06

It was RESOLVED to settle the above invoices.

11.5. To note the following direct debit payments between meetings:

11.5.1. 19/05/26 Lloyds Bank (service charge): £4.25

The above direct debit payment was noted.

12. Allotments

12.1. To consider an update on the allotments

No matters were reported.

12.2. To further consider the volunteer allotment caretaker role

It was RESOLVED that Stuart Autin would take an internal role as Allotments Co-ordinator and the role of Allotment Caretaker was no longer required.

12.3. To consider quotes for repair of allotment gate

It was RESOLVED to arrange for the repair of the gate under delegated authority with expenditure up to £50.00.

13. Correspondence for response or action

13.1. Worcester City Council: Community Governance Review consultation

The above consultation was noted.

13.2. Whittington Church: To consider a donation towards maintenance of the churchyard

It was RESOLVED to donate £700.00 towards maintenance of the churchyard.

13.3. Wychavon District Council: Local Government Reorganisation and Environmental Opportunities event, 6-8pm Thursday 24th September

The above event was noted.

14. Councillors' reports and items for the next agenda

It was noted that HGVs accessing the development at Astoria House had damaged the road surface and this would be reported to Worcestershire County Council Highways and Wychavon District Council Planning Enforcement for review. Concern was also expressed at the depth and scale of excavation at this location, including interference with the motorway bund, and this would similarly be reported to Wychavon District Council Planning Enforcement for review.

15. Date of the next meeting

The next scheduled meeting is at 7:00PM on Tuesday 28th July 2026.

The meeting closed at 9:05PM.



David Hunter-Miller
Clerk and RFO