Winsley Parish Council

DRAFT Minutes of the Winsley Parish Council Meeting held on 4th November 2025

8.00pm, St Nicholas Church Hall

Parish Councillors Present: Linda Ladner (Chair), Ian Berry, Graham Bostock, Jim Bralsford, Mike Holgate, Kerry Kemp, Richard Mann, Ian Sparrowhawk, Tony Puma, Ed Townsend

Apologies: Caroline Roofe

In attendance: Selina Jobson (Parish Clerk), Unitary Cllr Nigel White

Members of the Public: Four

88. **Declaration of Interests**
Cllrs Holgate & Puma declared a non-pecuniary interest in application PL/2025/08083.

89. **Minutes of Meeting**
Resolved: to approve the minutes of the meeting held on 7 October 2025 as a true record.

90. **Public Participation**
A resident informed the Parish Council that they would be submitting a planning application.

A member of the public spoke; he was a local cycling representative. He supported a 20mph speed limit in the village and a reduction in the speed limit on the B3108. He supported the principle but not the design of the proposed pedestrian crossing on the B3108, suggesting that a traffic light controlled crossing by the Dane Rise junction would be better.

A resident supported the views expressed by the previous member of the public. He reported accident statistics over the past 14 years on the B3108. He supported a 30mph speed limit on the B3108 noting that vehicles using the road were likely to be held up in Bradford on Avon or at Limpley Stoke, which meant that there was no benefit in a higher limit on this road. He felt that the proposed pedestrian crossing was over-engineered and could be improved. He asked the Parish Council to continue to campaign for a reduction in the speed limit on the B3108 and to request improvements to the proposed crossing.

91. **Planning Applications**
PL/2025/07696 Hillview Farm, 2b Bradford Road, BA15 2HL: Demolition of outbuilding & replacement garage, rear extensions including porch & balcony.

Comments were made about the old stone building as a potential site for bats and about the extent to which a proposed balcony might overlook the neighbouring property. It was noted that a bat survey was being undertaken and that neighbours had not, to date, raised concerns about the application.

Resolved: No objection.

PL/2025/08083 10 Poston Way, BA15 2NJ: Extensions to form kitchen/dining/family room, music room, utility and cloakroom at ground floor, bedroom and ensuite at ground floor, garage and studio.

It was considered that the design of the proposed extension to the house, with the ridge height below that of the existing dwelling, made the extension subservient to the existing house.

Concerns were raised about the proposed garage being forward of the front of the house and that this undermined the intention of the proposed extension to be subservient to the house. The ridge height of the garage with a studio above was also considered to be too high. Taken together, it was felt that the proposed garage and house extension would dominate neighbouring properties. It was suggested that the garage building should not include a studio, reducing the ridge height and making the overall development less overbearing. The application did not include a plan of the front elevation of the house and garage together and it was felt that this would be useful to assess the impact of the development.

Concerns were raised over the impact of timber cladding on the local streetscene, noting that the Parish Council had raised this issue with regard to other applications in this part of the village.

Councillors questioned whether it would still be possible for three cars to manoeuvre on the driveway as approved under a previous application (PL/2025/10617). It was requested that the previously submitted 'Proposed Driveway Access Plan', showing the positioning and manoeuvring for up to three vehicles was updated to take account of the proposed garage, ensuring that the parking area could still accommodate the parking and independent turning needs of up to three cars.

Resolved: to object to the application on the grounds that: the garage & studio building was in front of the houseline & the ridgeline was too high; on the use of timber cladding; and on a lack of clarity of the impact of the development on parking & manoeuvring, as outlined above.

PL/2025/07716 Land Opposite 259, Cottles Lane, Turleigh, BA15 2HJ: Change of use of garage to workshop, E(g)(iii) (resubmission of PL/2024/11138).

Councillors did not consider this application to be materially different to the previous application and it did not allay concerns raised previously. Unitary Cllr White would call in the application for consideration at a Wiltshire Council planning meeting should the Planning Officer propose to approve it.

Resolved: to object on the same grounds as previously.

92. **Matters Arising**

Information about the Area Board review would be circulated to those councillors who had attended an Area Board. Clerk

Councillors were encouraged to complete a Wiltshire Council survey about spending priorities.

The Service of Remembrance would take place this Sunday 9 November and a wreath would be laid on behalf of the Parish Council. All Councillors were welcome to attend.

93. **Police Report**

No report had been received from the PCSO.

94. **Unitary Councillor Report**

A report from Unitary Councillor White had been circulated, including details of:

- A summary of key points from Wiltshire Council's Full Council Meeting, including the formal adoption of the Council's 10-year plan, reinstatement of free parking for Blue Badge holders and an agreement to review Wiltshire Council's use of a green electricity tariff.
- Wiltshire Council's 2026/27 budget consultation.
- Wiltshire Council's Local Nature Recovery Strategy interactive map.
- The prosecution of a flytipper in Westwood.
- A Disability Equipment Fair on 5 November at County Hall, Trowbridge.

Cllr White reported that Wiltshire Council had published its quarterly budget report.

95. **Organisations Meeting, 16 October 2025**

Representatives from the Parish Council, local organisations, groups and businesses had attended the third annual organisations meeting on 16 October. It had been a successful event, with productive discussion and connections made between groups. Local organisations and groups were encouraged to consider if a grant from the Parish Council would help them continue or enhance their work.

96. **Community Governance Review**

Wiltshire Council had confirmed that Winsley Parish Council would be prioritised as part of its Community Governance Review. There was no date currently for the review. If any changes were agreed these would not come into effect until after the next local elections.

97. **Highways Advisory Group**

97.1 Outcomes of 20mph speed limit consultation

Councillors considered the results from its consultation on the following question:

"Do you want Winsley Parish Council to resolve to support the '20's plenty' campaign, which would include asking Wiltshire Council to implement 20mph speed limits on residential roads in Winsley?"

A total of 186 responses had been received, with the following results:

- 51% in favour
- 45% against
- 4% undecided

The Parish Council had just received results from traffic & speed counters installed on Tyning Road outside Winsley Primary School. Wiltshire Council had undertaken this week-long count in light of a request from the School for road safety measures outside the School. Average 'mean' speeds were under 20mph. The average 85th percentile speeds over the seven-day period were between 18.8mph and 22.8mph.

The following points were made in discussion:

- The questionnaire had achieved a reasonable response rate, although it was a relatively small sample of the total village population.
- Results indicated support for the 20's plenty campaign and the Parish Council needed to consider what action to take in response to this outcome.
- Whether Bradford Road should be considered separately to roads on the Tyning estate was questioned.
- It was suggested that speed counts could be undertaken on Bradford Road, especially at entrance/exit points to the village.
- Around 30 respondents had mentioned the need to reduce the speed limit on the B3108 and it was suggested that this should remain the Parish Council's priority in highways matters.
- Results from the speed counters outside the School showed that a relatively small percentage of drivers went above 20mph, reflecting the fact that parked cars often reduced possible speeds here.
- It was suggested that the impact of introducing a 20mph speed limit on Tyning Road was likely to be quite small and therefore the benefit of funding such a project was questioned.
- The process for reducing the speed limit to 20mph was likely to involve putting a case to the Local Highways and Footpaths Improvement Group (LHFIG). It was likely that the costs for any scheme would be funded by the Parish Council with a contribution from LHFIG.
- It was suggested that the Parish Council could look at other ways to promote safe driving in the village.

Resolved: to approve the proposal that Winsley Parish Council supports the 20's plenty campaign and request that Wiltshire Council implements a 20mph speed limit on residential roads in Winsley. Highways Adv Group

97.2 Request for a reduction in the B3108 speed limit

Having agreed to submit a request to the next LHFIG meeting on 2 February 2026 to reduce the speed limit on the B3108, councillors considered what information would be needed to support the request. Unitary Cllr White had asked Wiltshire Council to provide any evidence of a negative impact of the temporary reduction in the speed limit to 40mph that had been in place during the A36 road closure.

Winsley Hill Traffic Action Group were meeting to discuss the possibility of campaigning for a reduction in the speed limit on the B3108 at the bottom of Winsley Hill from 40mph to 30mph.

Residents' responses from the 20mph survey that mentioned support for a reduction in the B3108 speed limit would be submitted as part of the LHFIG request.

97.3 Pedestrian crossing on the B3108

The statutory consultation on the pedestrian crossing on the B3108 was running until 10 November.

97.4 Other highways matters

Resurfacing of the bottom of Winsley Hill would take place from 1-10 December during overnight road closures. Wiltshire Highways hoped to add the white line to the road alongside the Active Travel Scheme during this closure.

98. **Climate and Nature Advisory Group**

98.1 Wessex Water Watermark Scheme

Councillors considered a proposal for Winsley to become a Watermark Village. This proposal had arisen from discussions with Wessex Water after the Wild Waters Festival. Becoming a Watermark Village would involve working with Wessex Water to raise awareness about water use, water saving measures and taking care of sewage systems. Wessex Water would provide resources, hold some community meetings and would make funds available to support activities.

It was questioned whether there would be a conflict of interest should the Parish Council have concerns about Wessex Water discharging sewage into local rivers. It was noted that such concerns could still be raised and that working with Wessex Water was likely to be beneficial. There was no financial commitment from the Parish Council to participating in the Scheme.

Resolved: to support joining Wessex Water's Watermark Scheme as a Watermark Village.

98.2 Other updates

The Climate and Nature Advisory Group had met on 22 October 2025. The Group would be planting bulbs and sowing wildflowers in the village on 8 November.

Concerns were raised about the clearing of one of the little Ashley ponds which were conservation areas. The Nature Reserve volunteers were aware of this issue but did not know who had cleared the ditch.

99. **Communications**

The following items would be shared via the website, Facebook page and The Weaver as appropriate:

- The results of the 20mph consultation and the Parish Council's decision to support 20s plenty.
- Information about bulb planting.
- Information about the Watermark Scheme once this had been confirmed with Wessex Water.

- Information about staying safe from scams in the run up to Christmas; possibly in collaboration with the local Neighbourhood Watch.

100. **Finance**

100.1 Budget Update

Councillors reviewed spending against the budget, noting that £66,984 was held in accounts.

100.2 **Resolved:** to approve the following payments:

- £980.40 Administration
- £500.00 Wiltshire Council for election charges
- £250.98 Catamount Construction for hire of roller
- £111.19 Caroline Roofe for bulbs

100.3 **Resolved:** to approve the bank reconciliation, noting the following payments since the last meeting:

- £15.00 Dave Elstone for bulbs
- £19.20 WALC for training

101. **Advisory Group Reports**

101.1 Maintenance Advisory Group

Footpaths were being looked at by Cllr Bostock in conjunction with the West Wiltshire Ramblers. WINS23, a steep path down from Conkwell, needed improvement.

A dry stone wall alongside Northfield village green was being repaired by volunteers.

102. **Dates of Next Meetings**

Tuesday 2 December 2025
Tuesday 13 January 2026

Meeting ended 9.10pm
