Winsley Parish Council

DRAFT Minutes of the Winsley Parish Council Meeting held on 2nd December 2025

8.00pm, St Nicholas Church Hall

Parish Councillors Present: Linda Ladner (Chair), Graham Bostock, Jim Bralsford, Mike Holgate, Richard Mann, Tony Puma, Caroline Roofe

Apologies: Ian Berry, Kerry Kemp, Ian Sparrowhawk, Ed Townsend

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

Members of the Public: Four

103. **Declaration of Interests**
None.

104. **Minutes of Meeting**
Resolved: to approve the minutes of the meeting held on 4 November 2025 as a true record.

105. **Public Participation**
A resident, who was a member of the Winsley Hill Traffic Action Group (WHTAG), read out a letter that she proposed sending to the Cabinet Member for Highways at Wiltshire Council. The letter outlined traffic concerns and a request to reduce the speed limit on Winsley Hill and along the road to the traffic lights at Limpley Stoke. She asked the Parish Council to support the letter.

A second member of the WHTAG spoke about undertaking a petition of people in the area who supported the reduction of the speed limit.

A resident asked whether the Parish Council's request to the Local Highways & Footpaths Improvement Group for a reduction in the speed limit would be accompanied be a topographical map; she felt that such a map would help illustrate the steep and bending nature of the road.

A resident supported the previous comments made by others. He thanked the Parish Council for supporting the 20's Plenty campaign. He asked for a 20mph speed limit along all of Bradford Road and also on the stretch of road from Turleigh towards Belcombe, where currently the national speed limit was in force.

106. **Planning Applications**
PL/2025/08704 Nicholson House, Dorothy House, Winsley, BA15 2LE: Double storey rear extension and internal alterations.

The Parish Council welcomed the proposal given the excellent work that Dorothy House undertakes. No concerns were raised with the proposed extension to the building. However, there were concerns about the potential impact on traffic to the site given the stated increase of 22 staff on site and the consequent additional visiting this would bring from patients and their families to this proposed family support work hub. The application did not include details of how this extra traffic and parking would be accommodated.
Councillors felt unable to support the application without understanding the potential impact on traffic and requested a dedicated impact assessment report.

Resolved: to object on the grounds set out above.

107. **Matters Arising**

Bestway Ltd had been contacted again about the state of the empty shop; concerns would be passed on to their property department. Bestway reported that an interested party was continuing with the legal process of taking on the lease.

The last debris from No Man's Land had been cleared by Wiltshire Council. Councillors agreed to look into possible ways of blocking the site to deter vehicle parking whilst maintaining general access to this common land.

The Manager of Avonpark Retirement Village had asked to meet with Parish Council representatives about the redevelopment works and a meeting of the Vice-Chair and Clerk was being arranged for next week. Vice-Chair / Clerk

108. **Police Report**

No report.

109. **Unitary Councillor Report**

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

- Finance & Wiltshire Council Budget
- Report from the Area Board on 19 November
- Transport & Infrastructure Updates
- Investment in flood defences
- Campaign for residents to have greater say in speed limit assessment

Cllr White had written to Wiltshire Council's Cabinet Member for Highways about the speed limit assessment review and had received an encouraging response.

110. **Highways Advisory Group**

110.1 B3108 Speed Limit Reduction

Cllrs Bralsford and Townsend would liaise with Unitary Cllr White, Limpley Stoke Parish Council, and Winsley Hill Traffic Action Group (WHTAG) about the details of submitting a case to the February 2026 meeting of Local Highways and Footpaths Improvement Group (LHFIG) for a reduction in the speed limit along the length of the B3108. Cllrs Bralsford /Townsend

The Parish Council supported WHTAG in undertaking a petition of residents who backed a reduction in the speed limit on the Winsley Hill section of the B3108.

110.2. 20mph Speed Limit

Wiltshire Council's Senior Highways Engineer had confirmed that to request a 20mph speed limit on residential roads in Winsley the Parish Council should apply to the Local Highways & Footpaths Improvement Group (LHFIG). A speed assessment would be required, at a cost of approximately £2500 and it was likely that costs would be equally split between LHFIG and Winsley Parish Council. Wiltshire Council was currently reviewing its Speed Limit Assessment Policy, with the possibility of giving more weight to residents' views on local speed limits. Implementation costs for a 20mph speed limit on residential roads in the village was estimated at between £5,000 to £10,000.
Wiltshire Council were compiling a feasibility report for Winsley Primary School in light of a speed assessment undertaken outside the School. The report should be available before Christmas and would be shared with the Parish Council.

111. **Climate and Nature Advisory Group**

Cllr Roofe had worked with volunteers to plant bulbs in areas around the village.

Sarah Kearney, a member of the Climate Advisory Group, had attended a Community Renewable Energy meeting to look at the possibility of solar or other

renewable energy options in the area. The next meeting would be held in early 2026.

Cllr Mann had attended a meeting in Bristol of river guardians and bioregional organisers, aiming to expand the movement that the Wild Waters Festival had been a part of.

Cllr Mann had met with Cate Watson, Climate & Nature lead for Chippenham Town Council, to outline the Wild Waters Festival. Cllr Mann would talk at the Chippenham Community Environmental Forum in early 2026.

112. **Finance**

112.1 Budget for 2026/27

Councillors reviewed the budget figures for 2026/27. It was noted that the Parish Council currently held £64,420 in accounts. Final budget figures would be agreed at the January Parish Council meeting, when the precept would also be agreed.

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

- £859.40 Administration
- £16.80 WALC for data protection training
- £72.00 Diane Malley for payroll (6 months)
- £620.20 Palladian Academy, agreed grant for stage lighting
- £250.00 Dorothy House for their Life Lines appeal

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

- £20.00 RBL for the poppy wreath
- £14.40 BWP Creative for the domain name renewal
- £45.00 OSS for annual membership

113. **IT Policy**

Councillors considered a draft IT policy, that was based on a template from the Practitioner's Guide.

Resolved: to approve the IT policy.

114. **Advisory Group Reports**

Nothing to report.

115. **Communications**

Cllr Holgate had contacted Winsley Primary School and some other groups in the village to increase communications with groups and organisations across the village.

Cllr Mann would provide update reports in the Weaver and on the website about the Wild Waters Festival 2026.

116. **Dates of Next Meetings** (all in St Nicholas Church Hall)

Tuesday 13 January 2026
Tuesday 3 February
Tuesday 3 March

Meeting ended 8.50pm
