Winsley Parish Council

Minutes of the Winsley Parish Council Meeting held on 31st March 2026

8.00pm, St Nicholas Church Hall

Parish Councillors Present: Linda Ladner (Chair), Ian Berry, Jim Bralsford, Kerry Kemp, Tony Puma, Caroline Roofe, Ian Sparrowhawk, Ed Townsend

Apologies: Graham Bostock, Mike Holgate, Richard Mann

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

Members of the Public: None

162. **Declaration of Interests**

Cllrs Bralsford & Sparrowhawk declared a non-pecuniary interest in the Cricket Club item.

Cllr Ladner declared a non-pecuniary interest in planning application PL/2026/00093.

163. **Minutes of Meeting**

Resolved: to approve the minutes of the meeting held on 3 March 2026 as a true record.

164. **Public Participation**

None.

165. **Planning Applications**

PL/2026/01328 9 Dane Rise, BA15 2NB: Proposed two storey side and single storey rear extensions; loft conversion.

Resolved: no objection.

PL/2026/01466 Hollybush, 173 Bradford Road, BA15 2HN: Single Storey extension and dormer to rear (garden) area of main dwelling.

Resolved: no objection.

PL/2026/01811 21 Late Broads, BA15 2NW: 2 Beech trees & 2 Ash trees - overall canopy reduction.

Resolved: no objection.

PL/2026/00093 - 5 Dane Close, BA15 2NA: single-storey garage extension and additional parking bay *(amendment to plans, received after the agenda was circulated).* Amended plans showed landscaping and a dwarf wall on the south-east boundary of the property. The applicant had stated in the original application 'that any 'hedging introduced or retained would match neighbouring properties' and would 'reinforce the existing character of the street scene'. It was noted that covenants sometimes restricted the building of walls to enclose front gardens.

Resolved: No further comment.

166. **Grant Request**

Representatives of the Cricket Club had been unable to make the meeting at short notice. It was agreed to defer this item to the May meeting.

167. **Matters Arising**

Residents were encouraged to complete Wiltshire Council's Waste Recycling Survey, running until 17 April.

A consultation about the possible closure of Bradford on Avon Fire Station was running until 15 May.

Further information about both matters was available at: winsley.org.uk.

168. **Police Report**

There was no Police report. Residents had raised concerns about a van being driven around Winsley, whose occupants who had been entering front gardens, sometimes during the night.

169. **Unitary Councillor Report**

A report from Unitary Councillor White had been circulated, this included updates on:

- Setbacks to the approval of Wiltshire Council's Local Plan;
- Wiltshire Council's Waste & Recycling Survey that residents were encouraged to complete;
- Improvements being made to the MyWilts app.

Unitary Cllr White also reported:

- That funds were still available from Wiltshire Council to support Ukrainians living in Wiltshire.
- That Wiltshire Council Enforcement Officer had looked into concerns raised by residents about Avonpark Retirement Village's use of their field for storing rubble and about drainage works being undertaken. The Officer had confirmed that Avonpark were adhering to planning regulations in both matters.

170. **Climate and Nature Advisory Group**

Cllr Roofe had attended the recent online meeting of Wiltshire Association of Local Council's Environment Network.

Spring bulbs that had been planted by the group were brightening up verges & the park.

171. **Highways Advisory Group**

171.1 Bridge strikes

There had been two strikes on the railway bridge in the past two of weeks. Unitary Cllr White was liaising with Wiltshire Highways and Network Rail about any additional measures that could be taken.

171.2 Other highways matters

There were concerns that Wiltshire Highway's contractors had left a section of Bradford Road in a poor state, following resurfacing work on Cottles Lane.
The Wiltshire Association of Local Councils was organising a Road Safety Seminar for town and parish councils on 15 May. Details had been circulated to councillors.

172. **Annual Parish Meeting, from 7pm Thursday 23 April**

Councillors discussed arrangements for the Annual Parish Meeting. Wessex Water would launch the Watermark Community project in Winsley. Representatives from Dorothy House, the Village Hall and the Cricket Club would all be invited to give short presentations. Those who had received grants recently from the Parish Council – Winsley Primary School and the Village Hall - would be asked to provide a short update. Representatives from Avonpark Retirement Village would be invited to attend to provide information about the redevelopment.
Refreshments would be arranged. Clerk

173. **Bin Emptying Contract**

Idverde had been repeatedly contacted about missing a bin collection and the resulting overflowing bins. Idverde had confirmed that they would undertake a final collection tomorrow. From 1 April 2026 Bradford on Avon Town Council would take over the emptying of the bins.

An increase in the occurrence of dog waste not being picked up across the village was reported. It was noted that those not picking up their dog waste could be fined.

174. **Finance**

174.1 Community Infrastructure Levy (CIL) Payments

The Parish Council had received £21,871.09 as the first of three CIL payments from the redevelopment of Avonpark Retirement Village. Two further payments, both of

£25,516.27, would be made in November 2026 and May 2027. The total amount of CIL to be paid to the Parish Council was £72,903.63. The Parish Council would consider possible uses of this money, and would consult with residents. The money had to be spent, or allocated for spending, within five years of receipt.
In the short-term, the Parish Council would look at moving this money to higher rate interest accounts.

174.2 **Resolved:** to approve the following payment:

- £859.40 Administration

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

- £6.00 Unity Bank charges
- £31.20 idverde for bin emptying
- £6.00 Richard Mann for Wild Waters meeting refreshments
- £88.31 Meluba badges for name badges

175. **Advisory Group Reports**

175.1 Maintenance

Cllr Sparrowhawk reported on a resident's request to replace the current stumps used as a goalmouth in the play park, with a proper goal post. There was a goal area at one end of the park. It was noted that there were goal posts in Northfield and in the field owned by Dorothy House. It was felt that adding goal posts could result in football dominating the play park, to the detriment of children using the play equipment.

The finger post sign at the Dane Rise junction with Turleigh had rotted and fallen over. The Highways Engineer had confirmed that Wiltshire Council would not replace this with a similar traditional style post, but with a white plastic finger post. The finger post sign at Conkwell was also in a poor state. It was felt that these traditional black & white signs were an important symbol of Winsley. Options for replacement or repair would be looked into.

The annual play park inspection had been booked for June.

Two councillors had helped with renovation of the planting on the roundabout.

175.2 Planning

Cllr Berry had attended Wiltshire Council's Planning Forum. Updates on difficulties with the Local Plan and with the significant changes to the National Planning Framework had been covered. Notes from the Forum would be circulated.

Cllr Berry had looked into a resident's suggestion that the Avoncliff Conservation Area be extended in light of the Government encouraging development close to well-connected stations. Having read a report by English Heritage, and taking into account current planning changes and that risks of development on Avoncliff's steep valley sides were minimal, it was not felt that extension of the Avoncliff Conservation Area should be looked into further.

176. **Communications**

Nothing to report.

177. **Dates of Next Meetings**

Thursday 23 April Annual Parish Meeting, 7.30pm, Winsley Primary School
Tuesday 5 May Annual Meeting of the Parish Council, 8pm Winsley Village Hall

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Meeting ended 8.55pm
