Winsley Parish Council

DRAFT Minutes of the Winsley Parish Council Meeting held on 6th October 2026

8.00pm, Winsley Village Hall

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

Apologies: None

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

Members of the Public: Three

70. **Declaration of Interests**

The following non-pecuniary interests were declared:

Cllrs Holgate & Puma - PL/2026/04175, Hillview Farm.

Cllr Townsend - PL/2025/05347, Land at Winsley Road.

Cllrs Holgate & Ladner - PL/2026/05470, School House.

71. **Minutes of Meeting**

Resolved: to approve the minutes of the meeting held on 18 August 2026 as a true record.

72. **Public Participation**

A resident asked if there was a boundary line in Late Broads affecting works to trees. A Councillor confirmed that the Winsley Conservation Area boundary ran through the middle of Late Broads. Works to trees within a Conservation Area had to be notified to Wiltshire Council, otherwise works could be undertaken to trees without any notification.

A resident asked about when the white line painting on the road alongside the Active Travel Scheme between Winsley and Bradford on Avon would be undertaken. Unitary Cllr White noted that this work was overdue, because of delays with Wiltshire Council contractors and he continued to push Wiltshire Council to complete these agreed works.

A resident thanked the Parish Council and Unitary Cllr White for the planned reduction in the speed limit on the B3108. He also thanked Councillors for asking Wiltshire Council to introduce a 20mph speed limit on residential roads throughout Winsley.

The resident was frustrated at a lack of progress in reducing the speed limit on the A363 at Cumberwell, a request being considered by the Local Highways and Footpaths Improvement Group (LHFIG). It was reported that LHFIG had been waiting for Wiltshire Council's new Speed Limit Policy, which had now been issued. Cllr White reported that consideration was being given to moving the start of the 40 mph limit to include this stretch of road and an update would be provided at the next LHFIG meeting.

The resident raised concerns about the safety of pedestrians, cyclists, horse riders etc. in the lanes around Ashley & Haugh. He asked for consideration of a 20mph speed limit and making the lanes no vehicular access. Unitary Cllr White was in discussions with residents of the area to explore possible road safety measures.

73. **Planning**

PL/2026/04175 Hillview Farm, 2b Bradford Road, BA15 2HL: Revised application for rear extensions & replacement outbuilding altering previous permission PL/2025/07696.

The application had been considered at the previous Parish Council meeting. This revised applicated included a reduction in the size of the proposed balcony.

Resolved: to object for the same reasons as submitted previously.

PL/2025/05347 Land at Winsley Road, Bradford on Avon, BA15 2HL: Change of use to dog walking field and associated works.

The application had been considered by the Parish Council in July 2025, when issues had been raised with the number of vehicles accessing the site by crossing the Active Travel Scheme and potential noise. There were other dog walking sites available locally. This revised application included changes to the site access to increase the visibility splays.

Resolved: to object on the grounds of highways safety.

PL/2026/05577 Murhill House, Murhill, BA2 7FQ: Roofing works with internal & external repairs and refurbishment to the listed building.

Resolved: no objection.

PL/2026/06083 Turleigh Manor Stables, Turleigh, BA15 2HG: T1 Beech Tree – fell.

The Beech tree was covered by a Tree Preservation Order (TPO) and located on land opposite Turleigh Manor Stables. Councillors did not see any reason to fell the tree.

Resolved: objection.

PL/2026/05996 139 Winsley, BA15 2LB: T1 Yew Tree – trim tree as hard as possible, away from overhead lines.

Resolved: no objection.

PL/2026/05939 270 Turleigh, BA15 2HF: T1 T2 Hazel trees – fell; T3 Rowan tree (dead) – fell.

Resolved: no objection.

PL/2026/05470 School House, 125 Winsley, BA15 2LQ: T1 T2 & T3 - Beech trees - crown reduction and crown thinning by 25% and crown raise to 6ft.

The trees were covered by TPOs. There had been applications for works to these trees within the last 15 months and additional work was not felt necessary at this time. The Planning Officer had visited the site and had proposed a reduced plan of tree works to the applicants, but it was not clear if this had been accepted.

Resolved: objection to the works as set out in PL/2026/05470.

PL/2026/06145 Rose Cottage, 38 Winsley, BA15 2LT: Scots Pine & Silver Birch – fell.

Resolved: no objection.

PL/2026/05399 Avoncliff Railway: T3, T4 & T5 Ash trees – fell; SN 1 group of Ash trees – fell.

The deadline for commenting on this application had passed. Councillors had considered the application & had submitted the following comment:

That the application be submitted to Wiltshire Council's Ecologist, highlighting the proximity of these mature trees to the weir and asking for consideration of the impact on bat foraging at the weir at Avoncliff. Should the application be approved, the Parish Council asks that the companies (GWR / Network Rail) commit to either full Landscape and Visual Impact Assessment / Environmental Impact Assessment or commit to planting replacement trees that will grow to ultimately provide cover for bats and a vegetative screen from light from the station for those living in & around Avoncliff.

It was reported that Wiltshire Council had approved the works but had not included these requests.

74. **Matters Arising**

The new leaseholder of the Tyning Road shop was refitting the store ready for an opening event at 11am on 22 October, Cllr Ladner & Unitary Cllr White had been invited to attend.

A resident had offered the Parish Council a piece of land at Avoncliff. Councillors had considered this offer, but felt that it would be difficult for the Parish Council to manage the land, which was on a steep slope, and that it would be an additional liability.

Councillors had therefore not pursued the acquisition of this land but thanked the resident for bringing this proposal to the Parish Council.

75. **Police Report**

No Police report had been received. A resident had reported anti-social behaviour by an individual over two nights outside the shop on Tyning Road. This had been reported to the local PCSO.

76. **Unitary Councillor Report**

A report from Unitary Councillor White had been circulated, which highlighted the possible impact of an upcoming by-election in Salisbury on the balance of power at Wiltshire Council, and new opportunities for Area Board funding. The new funding opportunities would be explained at the Area Board meeting on 11 November and any groups interested in these were encouraged to attend. The Clerk would circulate briefing updates about the new funds. Clerk

77. **Highways Advisory Group**

77.1 B3108 Speed Limit Reduction

The next step in changing the B3108 speed limit from 50mph to 40mph is for Wiltshire Council to undertake a Traffic Regulation Order (TRO), the cost of which is £3,000. Up to 70% of the funding could be requested from the LHFIG.

Resolved: to fund £900 of the TRO costs, and to submit a request to the LHFIG for a contribution of £2,100.

The Highways Engineer had provided an outline estimate of costs of £11,800 for reducing the speed limit which covered replacing signs on the B3108 and adjoining roads, and to removing terminal signposts. Councillors felt the cost was significant given the works involved.

The Highways Engineer would be asked to produce final costings and to consider if terminal signposts needed to removed.

The Highways Engineer had suggested that village gates could be installed on Winsley Hill, where there was currently a change in speed limit. In discussion it was noted that:

- Such gates could have a 'gateway' effect, leading to a reduction in drivers speed.
- Whether it would cost more to install the gates at a later date, compared to installing them at the same time as replacing speed limit signs; Highways Adv Group
- Whether there was enough room to install village gates;
- Whether gates would make an unnecessary distinction between 'Winsley' and 'Winsley Hill'.

More details about possible village gates would be sought from the Highways Engineer. Clerk

77.2 Road safety measures in the lanes

Unitary Cllr White was talking to residents about requests for road safety measures in the lanes around Ashley, Haugh and Conkwell. This was a long term issue that the Parish Council had looked into previously. Unitary Cllr White outlined some measures that had been suggested and would continue discussions with residents and Wiltshire Highways.

77.3 Dropped kerb on Dane Rise

In light of a resident falling over, a resident had requested the creation of two dropped kerbs along the footway in Dane Rise, where an access driveway led to private garages. According to Wiltshire Council highways costs, each dropped kerb would cost £1500. A councillor felt this would help make the path more accessible for pushchairs, wheelchairs etc. Councillors agreed it was a potential improvement and although not a priority at this point it would be kept in mind.

77.4 Lane behind the War Memorial

Residents had reported repeated incidents of poor driving along the narrow lane behind the War Memorial. Their car and gates had been damaged by drivers manoeuvering around the sharp bend. In response to similar concerns two year

ago, the Parish Council had followed Wiltshire Council advice and installed two 'narrow lane' signs. The resident did not feel these signs were effective.
The majority of people using the lane as a through road were thought to be accessing the Village Hall, Cricket Club or Bowls Club. Handmade signs had been put up to direct people to these amenities. Councillors considered replacing these with formal signage.

Resolved: that once appropriate locations had been identified, to look into formal signage to local amenities. — Clerk / Highways Adv Group

There had been previous discussions about whether the road could be made access only or a bollard installed to prevent through traffic. This would be looked into with residents and Wiltshire Council's Highways Engineer.

77.5 Wheatsheaf bus shelter

A request for a bus shelter at the Wheatsheaf stop, by Dorothy House on Limpley Stoke Road, had been received. A shelter alongside the Dorothy House field would offer protection from the prevailing weather. The width of the footpath would need to be considered. Avonpark Retirement Village had recently installed two new bus shelters and they would be contacted about any possible help with this potential project. First Bus and Wiltshire Highways would also be contacted. — Clerk / Highways Adv Group

77.6 Other highways matters

Unitary Cllr White was thanked for his work in obtaining a temporary, illuminated sign warning of the height restriction at the railway bridge. There had not been reports of bridge strikes since the sign had been operating. Network rail continued to look into a permanent solution.

Details of the timeline for considering the Parish Council's request for 20mph speed limit on all residential roads in Winsley were being chased. — Clerk

The next Local Highways & Footpaths Improvement Group meeting would be on 26 October.

The works to paint the white line alongside the Active Travel Scheme between Winsley & Bradford on Avon were long overdue and Unitary Cllr White continued to push Wiltshire Council for their contractors to complete these promised works.

Unitary Cllr White reported that there should be an update about a possible reduction of the speed limit on the A363 by Conkwell at the next LHFIG meeting.

78. **Climate and Nature Advisory Group**

78.1 Watermark Community project

Winsley Parish Council & Bradford on Avon Town Council were part of Wessex Water's Watermark Community project to increase water saving & protect drains. Cllr Mann had submitted a request for £500 grant funding from the project. He proposed running a water themed competition for adults and children, with prizes of water butts and watering cans & seeds respectively. If the grant was successful the Parish Council could consider matching the funding to increase the prizes available. Watermark Community articles were being published in the Winsley Weaver.

Cllr Mann had attended a public event in Bath to formally sign and celebrate the Avon River Charter. Winsley had been the first council to adopt the Avon River Charter, which had since been adopted by B&NES, Bristol & Gloucester councils, as well as other groups.

78.2 Future Energy Landscapes project

Cllrs Mann and Bralsford had attended a Future Energy Landscapes meeting. This project was engaging with residents in Winsley, Holt, South Wraxall & Bradford on Avon about possible community energy projects. Community energy offered benefits such as increased local resilience to energy supply issues, the possibility of community funds for community projects and the potential for individuals to buy shares in local projects. A survey for the project had shown that 75% of respondents from Winsley & Bradford on Avon were in favour of a local community energy project. Bath and West Community Energy were now helping to identify possible sites.

This project focused on the supply of energy; Wiltshire Council had a separate project on reducing energy demand.

78.3 Farm Clusters

Cllrs Mann, Roofe and Townsend had attended a Farm Clusters meeting last week. There were plans to increase the number of farms in the cluster. A bid for DEFRA funding was being put together.

78.4 People's Emergency Briefing

A screening of the People's Emergency Briefing would be held on 29 October at St Nicholas Church.

79. **Maintenance and Local Environment**

79.1 Playpark Ideas

New cradle swing seats were needed. Consideration would be given to whether the whole piece of equipment needed replacing, or just the swing seats. Clerk

Replacement hinges on both play park entrance gates were needed and advice from a Frome park ranger was being looked into. Clerk

Consideration was being given to the location of a shade sail in the park and advice would be sought from companies. Consideration would be given to whether the shade was removed in the winter.

The Parish Council were looking to establish a group to oversee projects in the park, perhaps including residents whose children currently used the park. Clerk

79.2 Finger signposts

A quote had been received from a local carpentry firm for two new fingerpost signs. They proposed using a burnt wood technique to create a two tone effect on the central post, rather than painting the post black and white. Councillors asked to see an example of this effect before making a decision on the finish.

It was noted that other options, including using volunteers, had been explored but it had not been possible to obtain other quotes. Councillors felt the price quoted was competitive and that this project needed to be progressed.

Resolved: to approve a quote of £947.50+VAT from The Traditional Carpenters for two new fingers posts, to replace the one on Bradford Road and the one in Conkwell.

80. **Finance**

80.1 Received the external auditors report and noted that no matters had been raised.

80.2 Received an update on the budget, noting that the Parish Council held £93,361 in funds. £21,871 of this was Community Infrastructure Levy money. Highways projects and works in the park were likely to involve significant spending.

80.3 Resolved: to approve the following payment:

- £866.60 Administration
- £190.62 HMRC for PAYE / NI
- £49.50 Richard Mann travel expenses
- £14.40 BWP Creative for domain name renewal
- £378.00 PKF Littlejohn for external audit
- £80.00 Tony George for internal audit

80.4 Resolved: to note the following payments & receipts since the last meeting:

- £24.00 Village Hall for hall hire
- £866.60 Administration
- £7.00 Unity Bank service charge
- £573.00 James Lock grass maintenance (by Standing Order)
- £14,298.86 Wiltshire Council precept (receipt) (2 of 2)
- £100.00 Nature Chain refund of grant (receipt)
- £285.24 Unity Bank interest (receipt)

81. **Advisory Groups**

The Village Club and Bowls Club were preparing grant applications, for consideration at the November Parish Council meeting.

Swindon and Wiltshire Prepared had circulated information about emergency resilience measures, including the establishment of a community hub. Cllr Mann & the Clerk would look into this further. — Cllr Mann / Clerk

82. **Communications**

Cllr Holgate reported on a positive meeting with the new Head of Winsley Primary School.

83. **Dates of Next Meetings**

Tuesday 3 November, St Nicholas Church Hall

Tuesday 1 December, St Nicholas Church Hall

Tuesday 10 November, Organisations Meeting, at Winsley Primary School.

Meeting ended 9.15pm
