

**NITON AND WHITWELL PARISH COUNCIL**  
**MINUTES OF THE ANNUAL MEETING OF NITON AND WHITWELL PARISH**  
**HELD AT THE VILLAGE HALL, WHITWELL 28<sup>TH</sup> APRIL 2025 AT 6.30PM**

**PRESENT:** Councillors T Addison (Chair),

**IN ATTENDANCE:** Councillors L Sheerin (Vice Chair), C Critchison, B Attrill, C Ould, R Willis, B Martin, S Biles, J Boileau Goad, A Logan  
S Burridge (Clerk to the Council), K Stay (Parish Warden) and 8 members of public

Meeting opened at 6.30pm

**1. APOLOGIES for absence - None.**

**2. WELCOME BY THE CHAIRMAN**

**3. MINUTES:**

**RESOLVED:** that the minutes of the meeting held on 28<sup>th</sup> May 2024 to be taken as read, confirmed and signed as being an accurate record of the proceedings.

**4. TO RECEIVE THE ANNUAL REPORT ON THE ACTIVITIES OF THE COUNCIL FOR 2024/2025: COPY ATTACHED**

**5. TO RECEIVE a financial report for 2024/2025.**

**Bank Balances as of year-end 31.3.25 as follows:**

Lloyds Community Account £88,703.43. Lloyds Community no2 Account £18.10. Lloyds Commercial Instant Access Account £184.26. CCLA Public Sector Account £28,677.42. Whitwell Bequest Account £6,379.61.

**RESOLVED:** that the financial statements as of the 31st March 2025 received and noted. Bank charges on small accounts to be investigated.

**6. TO RECEIVE ANY COMMENTS, REQUESTS OF RECOMMENDATIONS FROM THE ELECTORS.**

Concerns were raised about the Speeding vehicles along Chatfeild Road.

The meeting closed at 6.45pm

Signed.....Chair

Signed.....Clerk

## **Annual report to the electors 2024/25**

A broadly positive year for the Parish, with works undertaken across many areas that will directly benefit our residents:

### **Niton Recreation Ground**

A new shelter has been erected on the Rec, which is intended to provide a refuge for the many people who enjoy using the facility in all weathers. The basketball court has been improved with new white lining whilst the play equipment has been maintained in good order.

### **Niton public toilets**

The sanitary ware and plumbing in the public toilets were showing signs of needing improvement. This work has all been undertaken by a local contractor, during a brief closure period.

#### **Niton Exchange - Parish office.**

The Exchange took a big step forward this year with replacement guttering, loft insulation, new carpeting and a fresh paint job. Thanks to all who contributed and in particular to Phil Tarling for his valuable voluntary contribution. The telephone box tourist information point is also now fully operational, so thanks to Indra Riches and her team.

### **Village maps - Niton & Whitwell**

New maps were commissioned from Isle of Wight artist Alan Rowe. These were produced by AJ Wells and recently installed in Niton and Whitwell by Chris Ould. Feedback so far has been very favourable.

### **Castlehaven**

The parish council has developed a good working relationship with the Castlehaven Harbour Club. Thank you to the members of the Club for their efforts in maintaining the Village Green at Castlehaven.

### **Community grants**

During the past year, grants have been made to many local organisations, including the South Wight Area Youth Partnership (SWAY), Niton Lantern Parade, Niton War Memorial, Niton and Whitwell parish churches towards the cost of grounds maintenance. Others include the Friends of Ashknowle Cemetery and the Women's Institute in both villages for the maintenance of flower troughs.

### **Development planning**

In July 2024, the Parish Council met with Russell Chick, Planning Development Manager IW Council, to answer concerns about local planning, including the proposed large development at Chatfeid Road. Issues raised included the settlement boundary, rural housing, island planning strategy, S106 agreements, sewage concerns, and affordable housing. Why is the parish council not included in pre-planning advice given by the IW Council and why the development was being encouraged beyond the established settlement boundary? Lack of consultation over S106 local fund allocation was highlighted.

## **Traffic**

The parish continues to experience increased levels of traffic through both village centres. Frustratingly there has been no progress with local initiatives to compensate for this and in particular the proposed new crossing at Norris Stores in Niton.

The fragility of the Island road network in our parish continues to be of great concern to the Parish Council. Representatives met with Michelle Love, Service Director for Highways and Community in June 2024 to set out a series of concerns connected to the failure of roads around Ventnor. To date there has been no response to the Parish Council on any matter raised.

The offer of a TRO review was accepted by the Parish Council, but this has not been forthcoming.

## **Parishioners' minibus trip**

On 7th April a number of parishioners enjoyed a trip out of the parish to visit the Busy Bee shop in Bullen, Ryde.

## **Rights of Way**

The parish council continues to have a good working relationship with the IW Council Rights of Way team. It undertook a large clear-up on footpath NT29 earlier in 2024 and there is a good programme for improvements in 2025. This will include NT105/112 Stockbridge to Southford Lane which has been challenging for some time.

## **Parish Warden**

Thanks to our parish warden Keith Stay, who has continued to undertake valuable work around all parts of the parish. In particular The Exchange and the Recreation Ground.

## **Parish Clerk**

The Parish Council is grateful to Sherlie Burridge, who has undertaken the role of clerk in a voluntary capacity for the past year. Thank you.

## **Tim Addison**

Chairman, Niton & Whitwell Parish Council  
28th April 2025