

NITON AND WHITWELL PARISH COUNCIL
MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF NITON & WHITWELL PARISH COUNCIL
HELD AT THE VILLAGE HALL, WHITWELL, ON 23rd February 2026 AT 19.15.

Present: Cllr L Sheerin (Chair), Cllr T Addison (Vice-Chair), Cllr C Critchison, Cllr B Attrill, Cllr B Martin, Cllr R Willis.

In Attendance: Sherlie Burridge (Parish Clerk), K Stay (Parish Warden), five members of the public.

An opportunity will be given, before the start of the meeting, at 7:00pm and for a period of up to 15 minutes, if necessary, for members of the public to make comments and ask questions.

Comments and questions may also be submitted in writing to the Clerk; a written response will be provided as soon as possible after the meeting.

Members of the public were able to speak with James Brewer, Planning Policy Manager, and Sam Eade, Surface Water and Flood Risk Officer, who had previously been consulting with Parish Council members before the start of the meeting.

A Presentation was then made to a retiring Councillor, Jon Boileu Goad who stepped aside last month. The Chair presented him with a gift and card to mark his many years as a Councillor with Niton and Whitwell and thanked him for his long service to our community. Jon then gave a short speech of thanks.

The meeting then opened at 19.15.

AGENDA

1. APOLOGIES:

To receive apologies for absence: Cllr A Logan, Cllr S Biles.

2. DECLARATIONS OF INTERESTS:

To receive any declarations of interests: **None received.**

3. MINUTES:

To take as read and confirm as accurate the minutes of the Meeting held on the 26th January 2026.

RESOLVED: To accept the minutes of 26th January 2026 as a true and accurate record.

4.0 FINANCE:

4.1 Financial Statement: To receive financial statements as of 19th February 2026

RESOLVED: To accept the financial statements as a true and accurate record.

4.2 Payment of Accounts: To confirm and approve the payment of accounts for February 2026.

RESOLVED: To accept payment of accounts as presented.

5.0 PLANNING APPLICATIONS:

- 5.1 Non-material amendment on 25/00732/FUL Fields Nursery, Town End, Niton PO38 2EA**
to alter the ground floor layout which necessitates a change in position of the utility room window; alter the first-floor layout to include an additional sun pipe. Ref 26/00193/NMA. Decision date 11/3/26
- 5.2 Proposed single storey rear extension 26/00181/HOU 1 St Catherines Villas, Institute Hill, Niton PO38 2BD.** Single storey rear extension; new dormer window on rear elevation. Last date for comments 13/3/26. Decision date 6/4/26.
- 5.3 Variation of condition no 2 on 25/01469/HOU 15 Verlands Close, Niton PO38 2BG.**
To allow for a revised design of porch. Last date for comments 6/3/26. Decision date 1/4/26.

Comment for planning applications attached in Appendix I

6.0 PLANNING DECISIONS:

- 6.1 25/01847/3RPA Dean Farm, Whitwell Road, Whitwell PO38 2AB.**
Prior approval for change of use from agricultural barn to a flexible commercial use. **GRANTED 10/2/26**
Parish Council comments on application were noted.
- 7.1 Any other decisions made up to week ending 20th February 2026: None.**

8.0 REPORT ON THE RECENT FLOODINGS IN NITON AND WHITWELL:

Chair expressed disappointment in the lack of response to her emails sent to IOW Council Officers concerning the current issues in the villages during and after the recent flash flooding. These included a report on the failure of the attenuation ponds around the villages.

However, our MP Richard Quigley did respond, and the Chair and Vice-Chair had a team's meeting with him. They are hopeful that a line of communication has now been opened.

Holding a supply of sandbags in the parish was discussed. A suitable locked storage facility is to be investigated.

Cllr Martin (Planning Chair) has voiced concerns about the culvert and ditch in Chatfield Road that has been recently excavated to Russel Chick (Planning Development Manager). This work included the removal of a line of vegetation. This has made a gap which indicates the possible creation of a vehicle access/entrance to this field for future use. The reply from Mr Chick concluded that there was not a breach of planning control as a result of the works conducted.

9. HOUSING SURVEY QUESTIONNAIRE:

To receive any updates on the questionnaire and discuss timing and methods of circulation.

The latest edition has been published and circulated. Q20 was questioned and will be amended. Delivery options were discussed. Cllr Critchison suggested, that the surveys could be incorporated into a mail-drop that she was organising for three weeks' time.

RESOLVED: The numbers have been confirmed, and one survey will be sent to each household. The collection boxes to be put in situ as agreed. Social media and posters to be used to convey the importance of completing the survey and returning it to us. An on-line response will also be available. Delivery allocations still to be finally decided.

10. NITON RECREATION GROUND:

To receive any updates on the progress of equipment installation.

RESOLVED: The only reply to the tender for all building works that was received to be accepted and signed off. The acceptance of the quote for the rubber matting to be included. In view of the time that has elapsed since the date of the quote, the Clerk will approach the company for a revised quote. Cllr Attrill to consult with the company concerned.

11. CALENDAR OF MEETINGS FOR 2026/2026.

To approve suggested dates for Monthly Parish Council Meetings and confirm the dates for the Annual Meeting of the Parish Council and the Annual Parish Meeting. (27/4/26 immediately before the usual monthly Parish Council Meeting).

RESOLVED: To agree dates as presented with the amendment of the Annual Meeting of the Parish Council, which is to be changed to Tuesday 26th May, immediately before the usual monthly Parish Council Meeting.

12. CILCA TRAINING COURSE FOR PARISH CLERK:

To discuss the proposed change in the current clerk's contract to include a clause for the re-payment of training fees paid for by Niton and Whitwell Parish Council. This will come into effect if the contract is terminated after a period of time which is to be decided.

If supported, this clause will come into effect immediately and become the standard contract for future clerks. A new contract will be issued to the current clerk. The current clerk, however, will not be undertaking this part of the CILCA training.

RESOLVED: This was agreed and a clause is to be added to the Parish Clerks Contract. Chair to deal.

The clerk is to be re-imbursed the payment made by her for the pre-cilca course.

11. ISLE OF WIGHT COUNCILLOR'S REPORT: for information only. See Appendix II attached.

12. COUNCILLORS REPORTS: for information only.

Allotment Road parking is still proving a problem for service vehicles to access/turn around.

Wightfibre are using overhead lines in Church Lane Whitwell instead of the previously installed underground conduits. Conversations are ongoing.

13. CLERKS REPORT: for information only. To include an update on the ACV application for White Lion Pub.

The IOW Council has received the ACV. The replacement electricity supplier for the public toilets has been completed. Small price increase for Niton Recreation Ground maintenance has been received. An FOI has been received for our budget and precept papers starting from 2015. Today was the last date for applications for our Councillor vacancy. If none received, then the co-option procedure will be activated.

14. PARISH WARDENS REPORT: for information only. Nothing that has not been covered elsewhere.

MEETING CLOSED AT 20.10.

APPENDIX I

Non-material amendment on 25/00732/FUL Fields Nursery, Town End, Niton PO38 2EA

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APPENDIX II

Cllr Claire Critchison,

IW Councillor for Chale, Niton, Shorwell, Whitwell

Email: Claire.critchison@iow.gov.uk Tel: 07855022429

For road closure updates and general information please visit:

www.facebook.com/clairechalenitonshorwell

Please get in touch if you have any questions or concerns.

Policing Contact Details:

Justin Keefe | PCSO 13341 Mob: 07901102302 Email: justin.keefe@hampshire.police.uk

Cllr community catch up/surgery sessions.

Niton: Wednesday 4th March 10.30 – 11.30am, Exchange

Wednesday 1st April 10.30 – 11.30am, Exchange

Chale Pantry:

Every 2nd Friday, Village Hall 11-12 and every 4th Thursday, Chale Green Hub 11-12

Flooding

The recent heavy rain and flooding took us all by surprise. I have supported affected homeowners with sandbags, advice, and reports to the flood authorities.

If your property has been affected by the flooding in any way, please let me know.

Any breaches of water into homes really needs to be reported. For further advice on dealing with any flood issues please visit the council website or get in touch with me.

www.iow.gov.uk/keep-the-island-safe/severe-weather/flooding/

Drainage

I have continually requested drain clearance in both villages throughout the year.

Following the latest heavy rain, I requested that the district steward attend and raise jobs to sweep the carriageways and clean, flush out and empty gully catch pits.

Please let me know if any drains appear blocked.

Pedestrian crossing

Dropped kerbs and crossing points are due to be installed at the Norris crossroads and in Church Street this year.

Increased traffic through Niton village centre and the lack of dropped kerbs makes walking around the village difficult for those less able. Children and elderly have requested better accessibility. The installation dates are still to be confirmed and will depend on the Island roads schedule.

Please note that due to the location and nature of the works there will be a need for periodic closure of Church Street, Newport Road and Rectory Road as different elements of the scheme are delivered.

Military Road

Letter has been sent to Government from the leader of the IW Council.

It is requesting urgent support for monitoring, geotechnical assessments, diversion management and resilience planning.

The scale and complexity of the challenges facing both Ventnor and the Military Road exceed local capacity and the availability of capital resources

Rights of Way

Many paths in the area have been damaged by the wet weather. They will be reviewed and repaired in the Spring? Conditions out there are exceptional at the moment. ROW await the budget position for next year and beyond.