

WHITWICK ANNUAL PARISH MEETING

will be held

at **6.30pm** on **Thursday, 16th May 2024** at
Park Hall, Whitwick Park, North Street, Whitwick

AGENDA

1. Minutes of previous Annual Parish Meeting 2nd March 2023
APPENDIX A

2. Parish Council Annual Report APPENDIX B (to be added later)

3. Reports from Local Groups (may be taken as read)

(NB Please submit reports by Monday 13th May if you wish them to be placed on our website before the meeting.)

APPENDIX C – Woodstock in Whitwick from Sue Colledge

APPENDIX D – Whitwick Scout Group from Michael Reid

APPENDIX E – Leicestershire Bonsai Group from Carol Taylor

APPENDIX F – People Zones from James O'Connell

4. Issues from the floor

The Meeting is open to all Whitwick electors who are welcome to speak and/or vote on any matter concerning the Parish.



(Cllr S Colledge)

Chair of Whitwick Parish Council

3 May 2024

Please note- this meeting needs to conclude by 6.55 pm at the latest.

MINUTES of the WHITWICK ANNUAL PARISH MEETING held on Thursday, 2 March 2023 at 6.30 pm at Park Hall, Whitwick Park, off North Street, Whitwick

Present: Councillor Sue Colledge (Parish Council Chair)

5 Members of the Public plus 2 Council Officers

including Parish Councillors – A Barker, P Moulton, R Woodward, and

Mrs. T Barker, Mr T Gee

1. MINUTES

The minutes of the previous Annual Parish Meetings held on 4 May 2021 and 12 May 2022 were approved and signed .

2. PARISH COUNCIL ANNUAL REPORT

Councillor Sue Colledge, the Chair of the Council, submitted the Annual Report on the activities of the Parish Council in 2022/2023, which had also been published on the Parish Council's website.

Annual Parish Chair's report - The past parish council year had been a challenging one. We were still recovering from the chaos caused by the pandemic, and the world was in a place of great turmoil, sadness and worry. The parish had shown solidarity with the residents of Ukraine and we continued to fly the Ukraine flag. The parish council was proud to honour the death of our longest reigning monarch. We were proud to show respect and to be part of this memorable occasion. The example of duty set by a human being to devote 70 years of service to her country was remarkable and one we would not see again.

She was disappointed that we had lost the Hermitage Leisure Centre building as a community asset as she believed it could have provided much needed resources for our village youth in particular. Unfortunately, during the year we had seen the resignation of two councillors and the removal of a councillor due to non-attendance for six months. It was a matter of great sadness to her to lose any Councillor, as she believed we needed a diverse range of members who could work harmoniously together for the greater good of our village. However, we were pleased to welcome a newly-appointed councillor to fill one of our vacancies. The remaining two positions had to remain as unfilled seats until the forthcoming election in May. Finally, we would be saying farewell to our Parish Manager, Cathy. We wished her well in her retirement, and appreciated how hard it had been to continue working during recent difficulties.

She had been proud to chair the council during a particularly difficult phase. She looked forward to seeing Whitwick Parish Council go from strength to strength over the coming year. Yes, there had been challenges and setbacks but we should be proud of our fabulous history group, thriving Bowls club and other community organisations. The parish parks which had been refurbished and/or extended to be as inclusive as possible, leading the way in this area for integrating play between park users of all abilities.

Cllr Colledge firmly believed Whitwick Parish Council was stronger as a whole than its individual parts. She had seen the good that could come out of it by working productively together. Good news might not make the front pages all the time but we had done a great job with the Community Crisis Team – still active since 2020. We had been part of some fabulous community events, the Easter egg hunt, the Jubilee, the Summer Shindig in the park, the Christmas event based at the Black Horse. We had managed to restore the annual remembrance parade when we were approached by the Royal British Legion to help with this. We also succeeded in facilitating a public meeting with concerned residents, the Environment Agency and Severn Trent. Hopefully bringing some solution to the flooding and contamination problems our residents had been enduring for far too long.

We were so proud to have welcomed Fred, the lollipop lady as our third Honorary Freeman, and we looked forward to marking our local heritage and history with the commemoration of the 125th anniversary of Whitwick mining disaster. I would like to place on record my :

Thank you to every member of staff who had gone above and beyond throughout the year.

Thank you to every volunteer who had done anything to improve our village.

Thank you to every councillor for giving up their time and talents freely for the good of Whitwick.

Thank you to the residents of Hermitage Ward for electing her and trusting her.

Finally, thank you to every single resident of this village for being part of her home.

We did not know what the next year would hold but all we could do is face it head on, head held high and trust in the power of neighbourhood. .

3. Reports from Local Groups

Disappointingly only one report had been received from:

Woodstock in Whitwick

It had been wonderful to get back to staging our community events again.

Although things would never be the same as pre-pandemic, we were pleased to say we have had some great times over the last twelve months.

The Easter egg hunt last year saw 100 children enjoying a fun morning in our park. Thanks to our generous residents we had loads of Easter eggs and treats to share around.

We had a lovely community event to mark the platinum jubilee and our families came along and enjoyed a picnic and some musical entertainment.

The scouts topped the event off with an awesome torchlight parade. Our congratulations to them for such a fabulous event.

The Summer Shindig was another lovely community day. Hundreds of local residents came along to enjoy the entertainment and support us.

We are so grateful to Sarah at the Black Horse for hosting our Christmas event, 99 children got to visit Santa, receive a gift and enjoy the festive entertainment. Once more, our villagers supported us with gifts of mince pies, mulled wine and prizes.

Finally, we managed to hold our first donation presentation since 2019.

We donated an awesome £10,600 to various good causes and individuals.

Some travelling a journey with cancer, some battling other health problems and some fabulous charities who work to make this area a better place .

We set up a chain of warm bank places within the village to try to support those residents struggling with the cost of living crisis.

Thank you to the Parish council for the opportunity to work together on some of these events .

We are looking forward to the coming year and wish to thank every volunteer and supporter of Woodstock in Whitwick for making this possible.

4. ISSUES FROM THE FLOOR

None.

The Chairman thanked everyone for attending and closed the meeting at 6.42 pm.

CHAIRMAN SIGNATURE: DATE:

Woodstock in Whitwick report for the year 2023 – 2024

2023 was the first year for our Music Festival to be held at The Man Within Compass, it was a fabulous event, attended by hundreds of families and supported by local businesses, musicians, residents and the Parish Council. Our thanks go out to everyone who helped make the day such a success

Woodstock in Whitwick staged more fabulous community events over the last few months and we are very grateful for the support by WPC in helping us to deliver these.

The 10th December was the date we saw the Real Santa Claus visit our village.

Once more at The Black Horse on Church Lane, families came along to chat to Santa and receive a free gift.

This year there was free entertainment, free refreshments- soup, mince pies, mulled wine, soft drinks and tea and coffee. There was a postbox for children to write directly to Santa all free entry and free of charge so that every child has the opportunity to enjoy the magic of Christmas.

The following Saturday The Black Horse and Woodstock in Whitwick showed The Polar Express.

50 children in onesies and blankets had a fabulous afternoon with popcorn, sweets and fruit shoots (I believe a few parents tested the mulled wine)

Santa popped back to Whitwick to be part of this event also.

In January Woodstock held the annual presentation event. This year, it was held in Park Hall and £11,380 was donated to various individuals and good causes.

£1,000 was between Me and Dee and Rainbows for the help and support they gave to Olivia before we lost her

£500 to the Princess Trust who make wigs for children

£3,600 was divided between 8 families touched by cancer

£500 to Papyrus for their work to prevent young suicide

£500 to Search and Rescue

£1,000 to Shepshed Dolphins inclusive swimming club

£500 to Feed the Need food bank

£500 to Marlene Reid Transport

£500 to Coalville CAN

£1250 to support 2 young transplant patients

£1250 to support 3 youngsters with complex medical conditions

£250 to Whitwick Model Engineers to complete their accessible footpath

We also earmarked funding to continue our Bingo Buddies sessions.

We also had the Annual Easter Egg hunt here in Whitwick Park, a Woodstock event supported by a grant from Whitwick Parish Council.

Over 80 children had a lovely morning running around the park.

We had amazing donations of Easter Eggs and were able to take some for the residents and staff Silver Oaks Residential home as well as distributing them to several other local groups.

Can we take this opportunity to express our thanks to the members and staff of this council, who gave so generously with donations and time, we couldn't do this without you all.

We continue to hold our monthly Bingo Buddies sessions at the Methodist Church. We regularly have around 50 participants who thank us for providing a free social session. The benefits to their mental health are immense, we have allocated funding towards this for the rest of the year.

Preparations are now going ahead for Woodstock in Whitwick 2024, once more at the Man Within Compass to take place on Saturday August 17th.

Anyone interested in supporting this event, please get in touch, we always need volunteers.

Thank you Whitwick Parish Council, your support helps these events to happen.



14th May 2024

Parish Council – Report 2024

Whitwick Scout Group have had a busy 2024, this our 50th Anniversary year, which we celebrated with a large gathering of past leaders and supporters back in February.

We have over 110 children attending our weekly Squirrel, Beavers, Cub, Scout and Explorer Sessions at our Leicester Road HQ, supported by our Leaders and Active Support Sections, we are one of the biggest groups within the Ashby and Coalville Scouting District.

We opened our youngest (age 4-6 years) squirrel section this time last year and it's been a success with 12 members earning their Acorn award at St Georges Day this year.

All Sections are progressing well, with a high percentage of the children achieving their chief Scout Bronze, Silver and Gold awards prior to progressing to the next Scouting Section, demonstrating the work and dedication put in by our leaders and our active programs.

We are also incredibly proud to have one of our Leaders and Scout Network (18-25 Section) member Alexander Reid achieve his King Scout Award earlier this year. This is the highest award in Scouting. Alex attended the annual King Scout St Georges Day Parade at Windsor Castle in April, the first Scout from Whitwick to attend in over 20 years.

We have been active with the Thringstone and Whitwick People Zone and have received funding for several community focused projects and provision expansion. Including 2 new defibrillators for the village (located at the Hare and Hounds, City of three waters, and on the external gate of Whitwick Scout Hut Leicester Road). Following completion of installation and receipt of AED training equipment. We shall be looking to put the training equipment to good use by arranging drop-in public focused training and familiarisation sessions around the village later this year.

The People Zone also gave us a significant contribution towards our new heating system, ensuring the Hut can be used throughout the winter months.

We are Proud to be in the final planning stages of our D-Day 80th Beacon Commemorative event. Joining the National Beacons on the evening of Thursday 6th June 2024.

We are extremely grateful for the financial support of the Parish Council and NWLDC for this event, along with other benefactors. We sincerely hope it will be a fitting commemoration to those who stood together against tyranny and oppression and who's deeds facing incredible odds with unwavering resolve remain inspiring, to us all. We hope you will all join us on the night.

Yours In Scouting

Michael

Michael Reid
GSL Whitwick Scout Group

Group Email: WhitwickScoutGroup@Outlook.com
Registered Charity Number 1015419.
Whitwick Scout HQ - 109 Leicester Road Whitwick LE675GN
Correspondence address: 20 Mossdale Whitwick Leicestershire LE675BL





32 The Drive

Barwell, LE9 8LA

15 May 2024

To: Whitwick Parish Council

Thank you for the invitation but we are unable to be present at your Annual Meeting this evening due to our Club working on final preparations for our display at the Burbage Common event this weekend.

However, on behalf of the Club members, would like to say a sincere 'Thank You' to the Parish staff in the office and caretakers who have been really helpful in enabling our monthly meetings to run smoothly at the Park Hall. Members travel from all over the county to attend and we appreciate the good facilities provided. The premises are ideal for our purposes and we enjoy the surrounding environment of the parkland being horticulturally minded as well.

We wish you a good meeting tonight.

With best regards,

David Thrower – Leader

Carol Smith Taylor - Secretary

Ross James – Treasurer

Leicestershire Bonsai Club

Burbage Common Open Day

At Burbage Common, Leicester Road, Hinckley LE10 3DD



Sunday 19 May 2024 10:30am to 4:30pm

Free admission Fun day for all the family



Fun Dog Show • Donkey rides



Bird box & Bug box making • Countryside crafts



Farmers' Market • Maypole Dancing

Refreshments • Have a go archery



Tai Chi demonstration • Local wildlife conservation groups



TKT cheerleaders • Falconry display

Hinckley & Bosworth
Borough Council



Leicestershire Bonsai Club

Monthly Meetings • Workshops

Professional Guest Speakers • Event Visits

18:30-21:15, first Tuesday every month

Whitwick Park Hall, North St., Whitwick, LE67 5HB



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leicbonsaiclub.wordpress.com

leicestershirebonsaiclub

Leicestershire Bonsai Club (Group)



Thringstone & Whitwick People Zone

People Zones is an initiative that is designed to create safer communities by building on their strengths, creating connections, and empowering everyone to play a role.

Community research in 2022 identified the following key themes that have helped give us direction, especially when it comes to People Zone Grant Funded projects:

- Lack of Youth Provision
- Community Safety
- Community Cohesion
- Access to Services
- Pride of Place

Since then the People Zone Grant Fund has awarded money to 13 successful bids from local organisations for projects across Thringstone & Whitwick that support these key themes, including:

- A community defibrillator at The Hare & Hounds in Whitwick
- A free monthly Sunday Cinema Club for families to attend at the Charles Booth Centre
- Free Community Transport with the Marlene-Reid-Centre, linking Coalville, Whitwick and Thringstone.
- Community Sports Leader Training with Everyone Active to upskill the community
- Multiple projects with the Whitwick Scout Group to increase provision for children and young people, as well as supporting the development of the hut for the wider community through internet & heating
- Enabling a Community Choir to grow at the Thringstone Members Club
- A youth club at the Thringstone Members Club
- A sensory garden at Thringstone Primary School
- Growth of a wellbeing sanctuary at the St. Joseph's Rural Centre
- Crimestoppers Zones to support anonymous reporting where people have previously had fears of reprisal. Keep an eye out for your leaflet or signs up around the key hotspots

We will have further grant rounds later in this financial year, so if there are any community groups or organisations working in or for Thringstone & Whitwick, please keep an eye out on our social media for further details.

The Community Payback team from Leicestershire Probation have been active in the area & have supported the People Zone Grant Funded project at Thringstone Primary School. There are also plans for them to support the Community Orchard project at the Charles Booth Centre, something that the People Zones team have been jointly working on with the RCC, National Forest Charity, and the Charles Booth Centre. The Community Payback team are always looking for new opportunities to support local

communities & would be particularly interested in supporting a similar project in Whitwick if the opportunity arose.

A further Crimestoppers campaign is in the pipeline that will raise awareness of Domestic Abuse, and Violence against Women & Girls, with another campaign set to focus on Anti-Social Behaviour (ASB) & nuisance motorbikes.

We are awaiting the results of a recent evaluation into the progress of People Zones. A report will be available from July.

Everyone can play a part in the People Zone. We have a steering group that meets regularly and consists of residents and organisations that support people in the area.

To stay up to date, access a project in your area, or if you have a passion to get involved, you can do so in the following ways:

- Visiting our website: <https://www.peoplezones.co.uk/>
- Emailing: people.zones@leics.police.uk,
- Facebook: <https://www.facebook.com/leicpeoplezones>

