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Whitwick Parish Council Meeting Minutes **Thursday 10th September 2026 7pm**

Meeting Date: Thursday 10th September 2026

Meeting Location: Whitwick Park Hall, Whitwick Park, North Street, Whitwick, Coalville, Leics LE67 5HB

Meeting Start Time: 7.01 pm

Meeting Chair: Cllr Sue Colledge

Councillors Present:

- Cllr Audrey Barker, Cllr Anthony Barker, Cllr Elijah Bennett, Cllr Sue Colledge (Chair), Cllr Tony Gillard (left at 8.00pm), Cllr Peter Moulton (Vice Chair) (left at 8.34pm).

Officers Present:

- Sharon Kaye, Parish Clerk

Public Attendees:

- 1 member of the public (left at 7.20pm)
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26-324 APOLOGIES

Cllr Amanda Briers – family commitments

Cllr Phil Casson – working commitments

Cllr Andy Roach – medical commitments

Cllr Michael Wyatt – District Council meeting

Cllr Ray Woodward - illness

On the motion of Cllr Audrey Barker, seconded by Cllr Elijah Bennett,

Council RESOLVED to accept the apologies.

26-325 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

Cllr Anthony Barker declared a **registerable interest** in

- all matters relating to North West Leicestershire District Council as a District Councillor

Cllr Audrey Barker declared a **registerable interest**

- Whitwick Historical Group as a member

Cllr E Bennet had nothing to declare.

Cllr S Colledge declared a **registerable interest** in

- Whitwick Action Group as a member, on any matters relating to planning

Cllr T Gillard declared a **registerable interest** in

- all matters relating to North West Leicestershire District Council
- agenda item 26-329 Legacy Grant as a cabinet member for North West Leicestershire District Council.

Cllr P Moul declared a **registerable interest** in

- all matters relating to North West Leicestershire District Council as a ward member for the Thornborough Ward
- agenda item 26-327 Local Plan as a member of the North West Leicestershire District Council Local Plan Committee

26-326 PUBLIC PARTICIPATION SESSION

A local resident from North Street raised concerns about the security lighting that had recently been installed as part of the CCTV project in Whitwick Park, with it being very bright and pointing towards the rear of his property. Members discussed the issue and requested that the Parish Clerk ask the contractor to return to the site to adjust the light head to a horizontal position.

26-327 LOCAL PLAN

Members discussed the Regulation 19 Local Plan regarding its legal compliance and soundness.

Cllr Tony Gillard requested it be minuted that he objected to all developments on green fields in Whitwick.

On the motion of Cllr Elijah Bennett, seconded by Cllr Anthony Barker,

Council RESOLVED to submit the following response to the Regulation 19 Local Plan consultation –

“As Whitwick Parish Council, we are concerned that the current emerging local plan puts the area of separation under threat, thus contravening policy H3C. This area has been defended by residents and the Planning Authority for many years, and this was upheld by the planning inspectorate. We also feel that west of Whitwick contravenes policy H3C as it is not a deliverable site. Our suggestion is that Meadow Lane should not have been removed from the plan as this has brought our area of separation into the plan, contravening H3C. The main viability report is not within the consultation's evidence base, thus questioning whether the plan is being assessed on accurate deliverability.”

26-328 COMMUNITY GOVERNANCE REVIEW

To discuss and approve Whitwick Parish Council's response to the public consultation event about the unparished area of Thringstone.

On the motion of Cllr Sue Colledge, seconded by Cllr Peter Moul,

Council RESOLVED to submit the following response to the Community Governance Review for Thringstone – “As Whitwick Parish Council we would welcome Thringstone if they wish to join us, but we feel it is a decision for Thringstone's residents alone.”

Cllr Tony Gillard left the meeting at 8.00pm.

26-329 LEGACY GRANT FUND

The Parish Clerk informed members that the two expression of interest applications had been approved on the 24th of August and the Parish Council had been invited to complete the full capital grant application for the Holly Hayes Wood Project and the Community Building Project.

The Clerk recommended that the application to be submitted was for the Holly Hayes Wood project, because there is a very significant workload required for the Community Building project which has not been completed within the short timeframe of only 17 days between acceptance and submission.

The clerk tabled the original grant expression of interest application form and also the response and feedback received from North West Leicestershire District Council for members to review.

She confirmed a signed agreement with Friends of Holly Hayes Wood Limited, confirming access, construction rights, and long-term maintenance responsibilities, plus evidence of any other permissions required had to be completed.

Members then reviewed the initial quotes received for the footpath and bridge and the clerk highlighted the additional work and costs in terms of the bridge, with regard to the Environment Agency and planning. Funding for the project was then discussed. The estimated cost for the project had been £80,000 and the quotes were indicating the project could be in the region of £165,000.

The Clerk confirmed that the responses from the consultation event and feedback form that we have had residents complete, 41% were in favour of the Holly Hayes Wood project, 37% the multi-purpose Community Building, 12% the Remembrance Garden and 2% other projects.

Cllr Moulton left the meeting 8.34pm.

On the motion of Cllr Sue College, seconded by Cllr Audrey Barker,

Council RESOLVED to approve the Legacy Grant Capital Application for the Holly Hayes Wood Footpath and Bridge Project, which will include £20,000 of match funding, to be funded from the EMR Capital Projects Reserves Fund.

Council RESOLVED to approve the terms of the agreement with Friends of Holly Hayes Wood Ltd, who will carry out tree maintenance along the route and keep the pathways clear for the footpath and bridge project. Whitwick Parish Council will fund, and only be responsible for, repairs of the path due to natural weather and footfall erosion.

The Chair thanked members for attending.

Meeting Closed: 8.36 pm.

Chairman's Signature:

Chairman Name:

Date Signed: