



The Greenfield Centre, Park Avenue, Winterbourne, BS36 1NJ
Tel: 01454 776922 clerk@winterbournepc.co.uk

ANNUAL PARISH MEETING

26th April 2023

P Kembery in the Chair

P Kembery	(P)	T Jones	(P)	D Marriott	(P)	J Amos	(P)
T Bowles	(P)	M Newport	(P)	J Brain	(P)	C Watkins	(P)
A Collins	(P)	H Whatley	(P)	B Serjent	(A)	S Jenkins	(P)
M Goodman	(P)	N Labuschagne	(P)	R Climmer	(P)	P Dyer	(P)

Evacuation Procedure: Leave via the fire door and assemble outside in the car park – Noted

Apologies for absence were received from Cllr Serjent.

The minutes of the meeting held on 11th April 2022 have been published and circulated and were confirmed as a true record.

Winterbourne Charities: Diane Marriott

Winterbourne Charitable Trust is a registered charity formed by the amalgamation of historical legacies to the church. Consistent with the wishes of the original donors, the aims of the charity are to relieve poverty and help with education. The Trustees include church members and nominees of the Parish Council. They meet once a year to approve the accounts and to distribute typically a few hundred pounds to worthy individuals and organisations in the civil parish of Winterbourne (which includes Winterbourne Down, Hambrook and Frenchay). Clearly, it is not possible with this small amount of money to make a great material difference but the Trustees firmly believe that a small contribution can be a real morale booster for someone who is struggling. A payment to a local organisation can help to improve facilities it can offer to its members too.

In the past year, gifts totalling £1250 have been made to our local primary schools (St. Michael's, Elm Park, Hambrook and Frenchay) to enable disadvantaged children to attend summer camp or to provide basics such as clothing.

The income of the trust (£525 in the past year) comes from interest on the original legacies and from occasional donations: further contributions would be gratefully received.

Chairman's Report: Paul Kembery

Winterbourne Parish Council is the elected body that represents the interests of the parishioners who live in Winterbourne, Winterbourne Down, Hambrook and Frenchay.

We continue to operate two standing Committees. The Planning Committee meets on the first and third Monday of each month with occasional additional meetings being called should the need arise. The Finance and General Purposes meet on the third Monday of each month.

Agendas for all of our meetings are posted on public notice boards around the Parish and on the Council website. I would encourage all Parishioners' to engage with the website which is regularly updated and is an excellent source of information.

Winterbourne Parish Council has continued invested in our community. We have refurbished 2 new kitchens within the Greenfield centre and made other improvements to benefit the many residents who enjoy a variety of activities here.

We have also invested in a new play area at the Recreation field in Winterbourne and the Trim Trail on Hambrook/Whiteshill Common.

We have decided that the Recreation Pavilion needs major work to be done to upgrade and improve the building. We have always been very keen to promote sports for all ages within the parish and we continue to do this with all the sports associations we support.

The open spaces, woodlands and ponds are important parish assets that so many locals enjoy for moments of tranquillity, walking with family and friends and the odd hound or two getting exercise as well! During covid these have proved vital for our mental wellbeing and physical fitness and we are so fortunate to have many of these within our parish. We are nearing completion of the handover from North Bristol Trust an area of open space and woodland in Frenchay for future generations to enjoy under the ownership and management of Winterbourne Parish Council.

We have been successful with a substantial grant from WECA for the Frenchay Tuckett Field to enhance the biodiversity, nature and taking action to counter environmental effects within our parish. I would like to thank the councillor's involved in the application for the amount of work that has gone into securing the grant. Along with the solar panels we installed years ago on the roof of the Greenfield Centre which continue to provide an income for us as well as producing green energy I am proud as a Parish Council as I feel we have lead the way in embracing what we can do to help the environment.

We have sadly lost previous Parish Councillors that have served our community in the past year which I would like us all to remember.

I would also like to take this opportunity to thank all the current members who are standing again for election and especially those who are hanging up their boots so to speak for the many years of service they have given to Winterbourne Parish Council and the wider work they have done within our community. I know that many will continue to be active within the area for which we are all grateful.

I would also like to thank Sally and Sarah in the office, the other members of staff they manage and all the many volunteers within our community that make it the special place we all know it to be.

Planning Report: by Jon Amos

Cllr Amos gave a summary of the planning figures: see appendix A. He thanked Cllrs Collins, Whatley and Dyer for standing in for him while work commitments meant he couldn't attend meetings. He also thanked Cllr Jones for his extensive planning knowledge.

Finance & General-Purposes Committee Report - Including Grants: Tim Bowles

The Finance and General Purposes Committee continue to meet on the third working Monday of each month at the Greenfield Centre.

The Committee consists of eight Councillors – two from the Frenchay ward and six from the Winterbourne, Winterbourne Down & Hambrook ward.

Agendas for each meeting are published on the Parish noticeboards and the Parish Council website. Members of the public are welcome to attend the meetings to observe.

The Terms of Reference for the Finance and General Purposes Committee are to be responsible on behalf of the Council for a wide range of the council's activities including:

- Producing an annual Budget that sets the Parish Precept
- Management of the finances of the Council
- Ensuring compliance with our financial regulations
- Monitoring income and expenditure
- Managing The Greenfield Centre and all other Parish Council assets including recreation, leisure, and sports facilities

- Managing and improving the Parish Council's environmental and countryside assets and
- Staffing matters

I recognise that in his report, Paul has covered much of the work of the Finance & General Purposes Committee so recognise I may also cover some of these points in my report, however I do think this reinforces the importance of the work we all do across the Parish.

I believe Councillors are all mindful that as an organisation that manages tax payers' money, we should always strike a balance between supporting residents by continuing to invest in our community facilities whilst avoiding imposing unacceptable increases in the parish precept (tax).

To this end, Winterbourne Parish Council is widely recognised as providing excellent value compared to other Councils that charge their residents much higher precepts; this has only been possible due to careful management of our finances.

Thanks to years of prudent management, we have been able save money, as earmarked reserves, so we can invest in our Community without imposing significant tax rises.

This careful financial management means that during the last year we have continued to invest in our great sports and leisure facilities on Hambrook Common and at the Winterbourne Rec (including planned improvements to the tennis courts and lighting and the much needed update to the Pavilion which serves hundreds and hundreds of residents of all ages); we have delivered new play areas in Winterbourne and Hambrook; invested in our open spaces in Frenchay; supported Community Bus Services; helped local community groups; provided sports coaching for hundreds of young people; improved The Greenfield Centre; maintained our superb Nature Reserves at Newleaze, Bradley Brook, Monks Pool and Huckford Quarry, managed the wonderful Flaxpits Lane Duck Pond and Jubilee Allotments and created a leading Local Nature Action Plan winning significant grants to deliver these ambitious plans.

I hope this gives Parishioners a taste of just some of the work we do, as many residents may not fully appreciate the hard work of Councillors and our dedicated staff.

Councillors have continued to work closely with the North Bristol NHS Trust to see the transfer the ownership of the public open spaces within the old Frenchay Hospital site to the Parish Council.

We all hope that the culmination of many years of work by past and present Councillors will soon see the transfer of some wonderful new facilities to enhance the Parish Council's outstanding open spaces in Frenchay.

In addition to this work at the old Frenchay Hospital site, the Parish Council have agreed to take direct responsibility for the Tuckett Field which will see this becoming a lead project in the Parish Council's Local Nature Action Plan – something that has been recognised by South Gloucestershire Council as a leading example of this area wide initiative designed to continue to enhance and protect and increase nature and biodiversity.

Our agenda also refers including reference to the grants that the Parish Council make as part of this report.

Winterbourne Parish Council is empowered to award grants to groups running projects which benefit to local residents. To provide parishioners with clarity about this, we have an agreed Grants Policy which outlines how we focus our resources on delivering benefits to our Parishioners.

As part of our annual budget process, we agree a sum for Grant Applications that Councillors feel provide benefits to residents across the Parish – this year Councillors agreed a significant grant budget that would be available to local organisations; to help local halls and to support local burial grounds.

In line with the *Local Government Act*, we have provided support to help manage burial grounds at Salem; St Michael's and St John the Baptist churches.

We have supported local organisations who deliver sports coaching to hundreds of young people; who manage our wonderful Whiteshill Common and Winterbourne Recreation Field; the local Brownies; Perrys Almshouses; the popular Frenchay Flower show and we have been keen to support local Community Bus operators given the recent cuts to our local bus services whilst All Saints Hall and St Michael's Rooms have benefited from our commitment to supporting local halls.

I would like to place on record my thanks to Richard Climmer and John Brain who are retiring after collectively serving 44 years as Parish Councillors – they have both worked tirelessly as members of the Finance & General Purposes Committee to carefully manage our finances and to deliver the excellent facilities which make our Parish such a great place to live.

To close, may I add my thanks to our excellent hard-working staff and to my fellow councillors who as volunteers work so selflessly during the last four years

AOB

None

The Chair summarised by thanking Cllr Bowles for all his assistance and the office staff for their hard work. He extended thanks to all the Councillors who give up their time voluntarily and help to keep the Council running as efficiently as possible.

The meeting concluded at 7.18pm.

APPENDIX A

2023 APM Planning Figures

- WPC Consulted on 193 Applications
 - 31 are still awaiting a decision
 - 73.5 % SGC agreed with WPC
 - 26.5% SGC did not agree with SGC
 - 34 Applications WPC objected to but SGC approved – however these were APPROVE WITH CONDITIONS. Some conditions applied due to WPC comments
 - 9 Applications WPC did not object to but SGC refused

	Awaiting Decision	Withdrawn	Split Decision	Refuse Certificate of Lawfulness	Refuse Prior Approval	Refusal	No Objection	Approve with Conditions	Approve	Approve Certificate of Lawfulness
Winterbourne	25	5	2	2	2	8	3	73		4
Frenchay	4	2				5	15	34		3
Adjoining Parish	2							3	1	
	31	7	2	2	2	13	18	110	1	7