WINSHILL PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of the Meeting of the Winshill Parish Council held at the Neighbourhood Resource Centre 6.30 pm on Wednesday 30th September 2026.

Present:

Councillors S Bullock, A Lawrence, J Muir, M Metcalfe, I North and K Smith (also a Borough Councillor).

Also present:

S Taylor (Clerk) and Mr and Mrs Pritchard (Residents of High Bank Road.

Apologies:

Apologies were received from Councillor Batten.

MATTERS RAISED IN PUBLIC PARTICIPATION

Mr and Mrs Pritchard were concerned about the length of the grass on the slope opposite their property on High Bank Road. As this was on Highway land it was agreed that the matter be referred to the County Councillor to deal with.

PART I

In the absence of Councillor Batten it was agreed that Councillor North should chair the meeting.

132/26 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

Councillors Lawrence and Smith declared an interest with regards to the Resource Centre Charity and Councillor Smith regarding the planning application at No 3 Durban Close taking no part in the proceedings.

133/26 MINUTES

The Minutes of the Meeting held on 12th August 2026 were signed as a correct record.

134/26 TO CONSIDER THE 3 CASUAL VACANCIES

No applications had been received in response to the advertisement for the casual vacancies. It was therefore agreed to keep the positions open in the hope that someone might come forward.

135/26 **CORRESPONDENCE**

There was a letter from residents of Bearwood Hill expressive their concerns regarding the bright exterior lighting from the Vape Shop being harmful to their living conditions. It was agreed that the Clerk write to the Planning Department at the Borough Council asking them to investigate whether the planning conditions were being adhered to and take appropriate action as necessary.

136/26 **PLANNING APPLICATIONS**

Members considered the following applications:

P/2026/00881 – Erection of a single storey front extension at 187 Ashby Road
P/2026/00899 – Outline application for a detached bungalow at 3 Durban Close
P/2026/00927 - Crown reduction of Cherry tree by 2 metres at 152 Newton Road

Resolved:

To object to P/2026/00889 at 3 Durban Close on the grounds that the bungalow would represent a cramped form of development out of context with the neighbouring two storey properties and as such be detrimental to the character and appearance of the street scene. It was also considered to be potentially harmful to the living conditions at the neighbouring properties.

137/26 **BOROUGH COUNCILLORS' REPORT**

The grounds maintenance contract had recommenced following the heat wave.
Changes had been made to the proposed development at the Bargates.

138/26 **COUNTY COUNCILLOR'S REPORT**

As County Councillor was not present members suggested that he could be a report in such circumstances in future. Concerns were raised regarding the proposed closure of the A38 for maintenance by the Highways Agency and the use of Newton Road as part of the diversion route.

139/26 **THE GOVERNMENT'S PROPOSALS TO REORGANISE LOCAL GOVERNMENT.**

There had been a recent announcement putting on hold the proposed reorganisation of Local Government in April 2028 with elections to go ahead for existing authorities in May 2027.

140/26 **QUARTERY UPDATES-THE NEIGHBOURHOOD RESOURCE CENTRE CHARITY**

The Members considered the report from the Centre Charity. The Charity was functioning well in supporting residents but had concerns regarding the need to find appropriate persons willing to take on the roles Treasurer and Secretary with the existing trustees having to step down after 9 years.
It was agreed that Councillor Lawrence could be the Parish Council representative on the trustees.
The solar panels were proving to be effective with the power sold back to the grid being significant.
Members were in favour of the suggestion of removal bollards (which had been donated) being placed at the entrance to the car park to help police the parking.
At the Charity's request Members agreed to review the Partnership Agreement in December as part of the budget setting process.
The Parish Fayre in August had proven to be a great success with all those who attended including some 360 children having thoroughly enjoyed the day.

Resolved:

To increase the funding of the Parish Fayre from £2500 to £2955 to cover the additional costs incurred and to approve the budgeted £1000 ring fenced grant to the Youth Club.

141/26 **THE ENVIRONMENT, PLANTING AND GROUNDS MAINTENANCE**

Councillor Bullock had arranged a meeting of Winshill Bloomers for the 9th of November.
The Parish Council was committed to debating all aspects of the procurement of plants, planting arrangements and the grounds maintenance contract at the October meeting lead by the Chairman, Councillor Batten.

142/26 **WEBSITE/FACEBOOK**

There was nothing new to report.

143/26 **APPLICATIONS FOR FUNDING**

An application for funding received from St Mark's Scouts Group will be considered at the next meeting.

144/26 **FINANCIAL REPORT**

Members reviewed and agreed the Final Accounts for the Period ending 29th September 2026.
The external audit had been completed with no major issues raised and has been published on the website.

145/26 **REPORT ON ACCOUNTS PAID**

		£	cheque no	minute no
ESBC	Salary Costs July 2026	1,262.87	1686	213/25

Resolved:
That payment of the above account is confirmed.

146/26 **CLERK AND MEMBERS' REPORTS**

It was agreed that a local funeral director could place a Christmas tree near the "Welcome to Winshill" sign on Burton Bridge subject to getting the necessary permission from the Borough/County Council.
Councillor Bullock agreed to lead on a short service of remembrance in the Peace Wood on November 11th at 11.00am. and contact the local vicar.
At the request of Councillor Muir, it was agreed to have a debate on the climate change emergency before the meeting on 18th November starting at 6.30pm.

PART II

There were no matters of a confidential nature.

147/26 **DATE OF THE NEXT MEETING**

Resolved:
That the next Parish Council Meeting be brought forward to Wednesday 21st October at 7.30 pm.

The meeting finished at 9.10 pm.

Chairman