



Whixall Parish Council

Chairman: Med Evans

Minutes of the Parish Council Meeting held on 11th March 2026
at Whixall Social Centre starting at 7.30pm

Present

Councillors	Cllr M Evans (Chair), , C Weedall, C Schup, M Clorley, J Spenser, I Mercer, J Hawkes P Rodenhurst (joined at 7.31)	
Unitary Councillors	G Groves	
Clerk	A Roberts	
Other Organisations	Grocott Group Whixall Social Centre	Members of the Public: 0

28/26 Public Session

A representative of the Social Centre Committee stated that should the Council choose to move to another meeting venue they will be required to remove their property from the Social Centre site (ie the noticeboard and Chairman's board).

29/26 Speakers

Louise Allmark and Daniel McGowan (Grocott Group) provided an update covering the impact of the recent canal breach, events at the Marina, progress on potential development, acquisition of a Caravan Club Licence. It was noted that there are approximately 40 Whixall residents living on boats at the Marina.

30/26 Apologies

SJ Lamb

31/26 Declaration of Disclosable Pecuniary or any other interests or requests for dispensations

The following were declared in relation to agenda item 14 (Grants):
C Weedall – Member of Social Centre Committee

RESOLVED: Members who declared an interest in agenda item 13 (Grants) may take part in discussions but may not vote in relation to the organisation for which they declared their interest.

32/26 To approve the Minutes of the Parish Council Meeting held on 11th February 2026

Resolved: to approve as a correct record the minutes of the ordinary meeting of the Parish Council held on 11th February 2026. They were duly signed by the Chair.

33/26 Reports

- Shropshire Councillors - noted
- Parish Councillors - Cllr Mercer will not be standing as deputy chairman in May and other members are asked to consider putting themselves forward.
- Clerk's Progress Report – noted

34/26 The Marlot

- The monthly activity report was circulated in advance.

Resolved: to note the contents of the Marlot monthly report.

b. Natural England have stated that in principle they are interested in taking over management of the Marlot Local Nature Reserve and have asked to have an online meeting with representatives of the Council.

Resolved: Cllr Mercer, Cllr Spenser and the Clerk, with Cllr Schup in reserve, will represent the Council in an initial meeting with Natural England to discuss the future of the Marlot LNR.

The Clerk will contact NE to arrange a meeting date.

c. Squirrel Management

Resolved: to take no action in relation to squirrels on the LNR because the future management of the site is currently unknown.

35/26 Meeting Venue

Cllr Weedall reported that both Welshend Chapel and Whixall Marina would allow the Parish Council to use their venue for meetings and the hourly cost would be lower than that currently paid. Following a lengthy discussion it was:

Resolved: to hold three full council meetings at each local venue in 2025-26 as follows:

April, May and July: Welshend Chapel Meeting Room

September, October and November: Whixall Marina

January, February and March: Whixall Social Centre

The Annual Parish Meeting will be held in the Social Centre

36/26 Playground Project

The Clerk reported that, In line with financial regulations, two more competitive quotes will be required before a decision regarding the style and cost of the playground can be agreed. The question of planning requirements was also raised.

One quote has been received for works to trees on the Moss Cottages Field boundary. A plan provided by Shropshire Council shows these trees may be located on highways land.

The Clerk will order the football nets before the end of the financial year.

Resolved: to obtain clarification from Shropshire Council regarding the ownership of the trees before making any decision to maintain them.

37/26 Asset Register 2026

Resolved: To approve the updated Asset Register.

38/26 Planning

No applications or decisions received from Shropshire Council.

39/26 Planning

No planning decisions or applications were received from Shropshire Council

40/26 S137 Grant Funding

Following a discussion about the applications received, it was

Resolved: To award S137 Grant funding of £200 to 1st Wem Scouts as a contribution towards their project to purchase a solar powered generator.

Resolved: To reject the suggestion that the Parish Council is responsible for the ongoing running costs of the defibrillator located at the Social Centre but to make a one-off S137 contribution of £300 towards this year's costs only.

41/26 Finance

a. To receive Monthly Balance Record and reconciliation -

Resolved: to note that Cllr Hawkes has confirmed that the reconciliation agrees with the bank statements.

b. S 137 Payments, Q4 Spending Report and Internal Controls -

Resolved: to note that

1. The Council's S137 spending is within the maximum allowable level
2. The spending report for Quarter 4 has been received
3. Cllr Hawkes carried out internal control checks immediately prior to the meeting.

c. To resolve to approve outstanding invoices and payments

Resolved: The outstanding accounts should be paid, and the online payment transactions authorised by two approved signatories.

Recipient	Reason for Payment	Amount	Reference
Payments made before the meeting			
ICO	Data Protection Fee	47	82.25
Recipient	Reason for Payment	Amount	Reference
Payments to be Approved			
Shelley Signs	Noticeboard	1,404.00	85.25
Amanda Roberts	Salary (Feb Hours)	349.97	86.25
HMRC	PAYE/NI (Feb)	99.60	87.25
Amanda Roberts	Expenses	165.12	88.25
NEST	Pension Contributions	86.97	89.25 DD
Fields MAT	Christmas Meal Costs	69.61	90.25
SASTAK	First Aid Course (Marlot)	84.00	91.25
Unity Trust Bank	Monthly fee	6.00	92.25 DD
Jason Hawkes	Bin bags for litterpick	12.98	93.25
Per Pro	Interim internal audit	135.00	94.25
Chris Jones	Grass Cutting Contract	960.00	95.25

42/26 Items for Next Agenda

The meeting scheduled for 14th April 2026 was noted.

Meeting closed at 9.21 pm