

Whitstone Parish Council

Minutes – Wednesday, September 16, 2026

1. **To note councillors present**
Cllrs G Martyn (chair); R Orchard (vice chair); S Walker and M Collins. Also in attendance: Cllr N Chopak; Suzanne Cleave, clerk and two members of the public. 1/9
2. **To receive apologies, with reasons for absence**
Cllr Chapman – away; Cllr Bailey – work. 2/9
3. **Declarations of interest**
No. 3/9
4. **To receive and approve minutes of the last meeting**
Councillors approved the minutes of the April 8 meeting.
Proposed: G Martyn Seconded: M Collins Votes: Unanimous 4/9

Councillors approved the minutes of the June 10 meeting.
Proposed: G Martyn Seconded: S Walker Votes: Unanimous 5/9
(The May meeting minutes will be placed on the October meeting).
5. **Public question time** (15 minutes allowed for this – on issues on this agenda only)
None. 6/9
6. **To receive county councillor Nicky Chopak's report on matters arising**
Cllr Chopak reminded councillors of a planning workshop on September 23, which she urged them to attend if they could. She spoke about North Devon District Hospital – the maternity unit closed in the summer and it was supposed to be re-opened at the end of September but now it isn't. Discussions are continuing about the hospital. Cllr Chopak has been elected chair of the Police and Crime Panel and hoped this would give the area more of a voice. The 20mph scheme has been rolled out in parishes. Extra funding is coming next year. 7/9
7. **To receive the clerk's report on matters arising**
The clerk's report was noted. She will speak with the hall committee to get updated information for the website. 8/9
8. **Consideration of planning applications**
PA26/05544 – Variation of Condition 1 in respect of Decision Notice E1/2007/02284 dated 08.01.2008. Bennetts Court Cottages, Whitstone.
Councillors proposed to make no comment.
Proposed: R Orchard Seconded: M Collins Votes: Unanimous 9/9

PA26/05543 – Variation of Condition 2 in respect of Decision Notice 6/87/0588/OOP dated 24.04.1987. 1 Bennetts Court Cottages, Whitstone. Councillors proposed to make no comment.

Proposed: R Orchard Seconded: M Collins Votes: Unanimous 10/9

b. To note any decisions or other consultations received.

The following decisions were noted:

PA26/02727 – Proposed extension and new access in place of lapsed planning application PA22/07641. 44 Paradise Park, Whitstone **APPROVED**

PA26/04522 – Agricultural prior notification for proposed feed, fodder and bedding storage building for agriculture. Higher Thorne, Whitstone.

PA25/06829 – Proposed retention of building and conversion to self build dwellinghouse. Land east of The Barn, Whitstone. **APPROVED**

PA26/04523 – Prior notification of agricultural or forestry development for a feed, fodder and bedding storage building (Section 2). Land north east of Higher Thorne, Whitstone. **PRIOR APPROVAL NOT REQUIRED**

PA26/05864 – Prior notification of agricultural or forestry development for steel framed, box profile steel sheet clad – typical agricultural storage building. Whitstone Head, Whitstone. **PRIOR APPROVAL NOT REQUIRED 11/9**

9. Portfolio reports:

- Footpaths
Councillors will check the status of the outstanding stile. **12/9**
- Cornwall CAP
Last week's meeting focussed on transport. Cllr Chopak said there were a couple of action points, including setting up a working group to look at current issues. The next meeting on December 7 will be with South West Water. Venue to be confirmed. **13/9**
- Parish Hall
Cllr Collins said bookings are slightly down, and expenses have increased. Hire of the hall will have to be increased. **14/9**
- Grants – Whitstone Parochial Church Council (grass cutting £750)
This will be deferred until the October, as the council cannot consider an application for retrospective funding. **15/9**

10. Correspondence

The following correspondence was noted: Cornwall Council Town and Parish Council newsletter; CALC extraordinary general meeting information; Cornwall Council affordable housing newsletter; Cornwall Together newsletter; Clean Cornwall newsletter; Building local benefit through community ownership – community benefit session information (August 5) and presentation slides; North Cornwall CAP September meeting information; CALC meeting with Cornwall Council Cabinet notes; Local council training –

housing viability update (September 16); Local council training – changes to planning committees and protocols, policy update (September 23); 16/9

11. Agenda items

1. Whitstone Whistler

The clerk will check with Isla Croissant, but it is believed she will do one more issue. Councillors felt it would be a good idea to put an advert in that issue appealing for a new editor. 17/9

2. Play area

This will be deferred until October. 18/9

3. Dowl Glan – vote of no confidence in South West Water

Councillors agreed to join the campaign voicing a vote of no confidence in South West Water.

Proposed: G Martyn Seconded: S Walker Votes: Unanimous 19/9

4. Carnival

Cllr Orchard said it was a very successful week. There were 26 cars in the car treasure hunt. He said they could do with some more support next year with floats, but generally the week's activities went well. The music afterwards was a hit. 20/9

5. Citizens Advice correspondence

Councillors received local figures and resolved to make a donation of £100 to Citizens Advice.

Proposed: R Orchard Seconded: S Walker Votes: Unanimous 21/9

6. Co-option

Councillors voted to co-opt Dave Kennedy onto the council to fill the vacancy.

Proposed: S Walker Seconded: R Orchard Votes: Unanimous 22/9

7. Noticeboard

The clerk will chase this for the October meeting. 23/9

8. IT Policy and Data Protection Policy

Councillors voted in favour of adopting the policies.

Proposed: G Martyn Seconded: R Orchard Votes: Unanimous 24/9

9. Clerk's work from home allowance

Councillors resolved to pay a WFH allowance to cover electricity, phone and storage of £18 a month.

Proposed: R Orchard Seconded: S Walker Votes: Unanimous 25/9

10. Community Benefit Fund interest

It was resolved to transfer interest from the Community Benefit Fund to the current account, twice a year.

Proposed: G Martyn Seconded: M Collins Votes: Unanimous 26/9

11. Connect NC Community Transport Poll

The clerk will circulate the poll to councillors for feedback before submitting. 27/9

12. Downrow update
An update from the Planning Inspectorate was noted. 28/9

13. Cornwall Air Ambulance funding request
Councillors noted correspondence and resolved to make a donation of £100.
Proposed: S Walker Seconded: M Collins Votes: Unanimous 29/9

14. AGAR
The AGAR report from BDO LLP was noted. The clerk will place on the noticeboard and website. 30/9

15. NALC 2026-27 National Salary Award.
This was noted by councillors. 31/9

12. Accounts

12a. Balances September 10, 2026

Current Account	£ 8,549.18
Reserve Account	£ 7,995.71
CIL money account	£ 6,407.77
Community Benefit account	£79,914.05
CCLA Property Fund	£45,000

12b. To approve accounts for payment

July

• Clerk – June wages inc HMRC	As per contract
• Clerk – mileage and printing (inc Increase in mileage from 45p to 52p)	£ 65.11
• Cornwall Pension Fund – June	As per contract
• Zurich – insurance	£ 304.00
• Linda Coles – internal audit	£125.00
• Westernweb – annual renewal of webspace and Cloud emails	£188.40

August

• Clerk – July wages inc HMRC	As per contract
• Clerk – mileage and printing	£ 16.93
• Cornwall Pension Fund – July	As per contract
• Parish Magazine Printing – Whistler	£172.04 (CB)

September

• Clerk – August wages inc HMRC	As per contract
• Clerk – mileage and printing	£ 16.93
• Cornwall Pension Fund – August	As per contract
• BDO LLP – audit	£252.00
• St Anne's Parish Hall – room hire	£40.00

12c. To note income

- Precept £3,000
- Reserve account interest (June) £ 5.95
- CIL money account interest (June) £ 4.76
- Community Benefit account interest (June) £ 58.74

- Reserve account interest (July) £ 5.76
- CIL money account interest (July) £ 4.62
- Community Benefit account interest (July) £ 56.94
- CCLA £464.08

- Reserve account interest (August) £ 5.21
- CIL money account interest (August) £ 4.18
- Community Benefit account interest (August) £ 51.63

Councillors approved the payments and accounts.

Proposed: R Orchard Seconded: G Martyn Votes: Unanimous 32/9

13. Items for the next agenda

As above.

The meeting closed at 9.10pm