

## Whilton PC AGM - Chair Inputs – 13 May 2026

- **New PC Website.** Parish Council launched a new PC website ([www.whilton-pc.gov.uk](http://www.whilton-pc.gov.uk)) in line with Government directives. There is a link to the new site from the Whilton News website.
- **Brington Lane Water Leak.** Water leak across Brington Lane continued. Chairman worked with Anglian Water, the residents of Foxhill and local landowners to identify a workable resolution.
- **LED Street Lighting in the Village.** The PC initiated a rolling plan to replace all the street lights through the village with LED units. Four have been completed thus far.
- **Village Hall.**
  - **Land Registration.** The Trust Deed to the Village Hall has been lost and extensive work was carried out with the Whilton Village Hall Trust (WVHT) and Wilson Browne Solicitors to try to re-register land ownership of the Village Hall. The WVHT holds the hall in beneficial ownership and trust for the parish residents, with legal ownership held by the Parish Council. As the official Title Deed is lost, the Parish Council were only awarded Title Possessory of the Village Hall, with a possibility of gaining Title Absolute in 12 years time.
  - **Funding Stream.** The Parish Council continues to support the Village Hall by providing an annual funding stream of £2000 for the benefit of the Parish community.
- **A5 Speed Limits.** The Chairman approached National Highways to try to reduce the speed limit along the A5/Whilton Locks junction from 60 to 50 mph in line with the Long Buckby junction. Proposal was rejected because of lack of data of serious accidents at the junction.
- **New Defibrillators.** Installed in Whilton Village and Whilton Locks to replace the old out of date units.
- **Audits.** Internal and External Audits Carried Out on the Parish Council with no matters of concern to note.
- **The Spinney.**
  - **Working Parties.** Jim Thompson stood down from leading the Spinney Working Parties, a role which has now been taken up by Richard Bunce.
  - **Risk Assessments.** Updated the risk assessment forms and established new members to complete the monthly task.
  - **Tree Maintenance.** A lot of tree maintenance work has been carried out in the area to ensure the safety of all visitors.
- **Church Clock Repairs.** The PC identified that the quality of the repair service from Smiths of Derby was lacking, coupled with rising costs, with the clock breaking down again and again after repairs were carried out. The decision was taken to move away from using Smiths for future repairs and to locate another repair company.

- **Allotments.** Further Tree Surgeon work carried out to trim the hedges to the west side of the Allotments for the benefit of the allotment holders. This is now an annual requirement on the Parish Council as the hedges are owned by the Housing Association and will not be trimmed effectively by them.
- **Woodchip.** Around 12 metres cubed of free woodchip has been delivered to the village for everyone to use as a result of Parish Council activities in the Parish.
- **Whilton Village Flood Risk.** The Parish Council pushed back to question the WNC Community Resilience Project (Flood Risk) that stated that Whilton Village was in a flood risk area, as identified by the Environmental Agency and West Northants Council. Issue now confirmed as being incorrectly identified.
- **Traffic through Whilton Locks.**
  - **Volume and Speed.** October saw some 98,316 vehicle movements through Whilton Locks, reducing to 48,000 vehicles in December (reduction mainly due to closure of Roman Road), with the highest speed recorded incoming being 83mph, and outgoing being 61mph. The average speeds are 28/25mph, which shows the vehicle activated signs are working well to warn drivers to keep to the speed limits.
  - **Speed Camera Signage.** In a further attempt to reduce traffic speed, the Parish Council installed speed camera warning signs through the area.
- **Precept.** The Parish Council set this at 5% for 2025/26.
- **Planning Applications.** Many local and regional planning applications considered by the Parish Council.

Many thanks

Randal Smith  
Chair of the Whilton Parish Council