

MINUTES FOR ETCHILHAMPTON ANNUAL PARISH COUNCIL MEETING HELD ON 24 SEPTEMBER 2025 AT 6.30pm IN THE VILLAGE HALL

Present Mr. P. Hanson (Chairman), Mrs. L. Clark (Vice-Chairman), Mr. M. Harris (RFO), and Mrs. C. Wimble (Clerk)

In attendance: Mr. P. Whitehead, Eric,

Mr. Hanson suggested that Mr. Whitehead talk about the traffic calming and speed limits that had been requested before the meeting reverted to the points on the agenda. Mr. Whitehead said that the problem was so few houses along the C60 were close to the road and it therefore does not look as if entering a village. When a strip was put across the road most vehicles were travelling at 45+ MPH. If Etchilhampton were to have a 40 MPH speed limit it would have to be self enforced. However it was possible to have planters and a white gate at the entrance. Some villages used second hand bikes painted in bright colours to put along the road to indicate children used the road. This can bring down speed limit. The bus shelters were not great and in some villages the children had painted murals. In Mr. Whitehead's opinion and as Chair of LHFIC the strategy of a 40 MPH speed limit and white gates would be obeyed by 85% of drivers. No pavements were an issue and especially round a bend. Mr. Whitehead stated that he had enforced the 7.5 ton limit for large vehicles over Spaniels Bridge in Little Horton. This in effect had forced drivers to use Etchilhampton and he stated he would like that enforced 7.5 ton limit to be enforced for Etchilhampton. However it would require 2 MPR cameras and volunteers to give speed points.

Mr. Whitehead feels gates should be placed at the Coate junction with Etchilhampton, at the bottom of the hill and road coming from Stert just before the bend by Etchilhampton House and leaving the village on the All Cannings Road just after the garage. He said that the council would require 25% of the costs to instal these gates. However, once the engineer had been called out and agreed to installation of gates we could go direct to a carpenter and get them made ourselves which would be considerably cheaper. Mr. Hanson asked if we needed Wilts Council permission. Mr. Whitehead confirmed that we needed an engineer on site with a What3Words for each location and that the gates need to be easily knocked over.

Mr. Whitehead confirmed he would send contacts regarding gate making. At the next LFHIG meeting in December he would go back to engineers and request Etchilhampton be part of the 40 MPH project. He stressed that drivers would need to see gate, MPH sign, village sign and houses at the same time. Leave original village signs. The engineer will give advice. Mr. Hanson suggested that Etchilhampton PC organise the gates and the engineer can instal. Signs to be put on the maintenance list. Mrs. Clark asked how long the cameras stayed in place and Mr. Whitehead confirmed they would stay for 3 weeks. He was confident that Wilts Council could do this. The precept for Etchilhampton was very small at £48 compared to £85/90 for neighbouring villages. Etchilhampton parish councillors thanked Mr. Whitehead and he left the meeting.

- 1 Declarations of Interests and Dispensations: there were none
- 2 Apologies for Absence: there were no apologies
- 3 The Minutes of the last meeting on 22 May, 2025 were approved.
- 4 Matters Arising
 - a Mixon Bus Shelter: Mr. Hanson reported he had cleared the bus shelter.

- b Gateway Station: Mr. Hanson reported the Corsham stations was going ahead but that the couldn't see any funding being available for Devizes Gateway.
 - c Playground Risk Assessment: ROSPA had done a very thorough examination of the equipment and had there was nothing causing concern.
 - d C60 Roadworks – white lines on C60 and east end of village
 - e Playing field boundary B104 Notice
 - f Repair to playing field fence and gate by village hall
- 5 Questions/Points from the Public
 - 6 Treasurer's Report
 - a – To ratify any payments made
 - 7 Correspondence and consultations
 - 8 Planning Applications
 - 9 Reports of Meetings
 - 10 Any Other Business
 - a Police Neighbourhood County Forum 20 November
 - b Monument damage
 - c Jon Nash gift

C Wimble, Clerk