

# WILLITON PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of the Annual Parish Assembly held on 26<sup>th</sup> April 2011 at 7.00 pm  
at Danesfield School, Williton

---

## Attendees:

<b>Chairman</b>	Woods
<b>SCC Councillors</b>	Trollope-Bellew
<b>WSDC Councillors</b>	May
<b>Parish Councillors</b>	Vaughan, Bigwood, Hooper, Peeks
<b>Clerk</b>	Mrs J Johnson-Smith
<b>Public</b>	11 members
<b>Press</b>	Mrs C Webb
<b>Others</b>	David Eccles, EDF and Andrew Goodchild, WSC

## Apologies:

<b>Councillors</b>	James, Lapham, Davies
--------------------	-----------------------

---

11/01 **Apologies as noted above.**

11/02 **Approval of the Minutes of the Meeting held on 26<sup>th</sup> April 2010**

It was **resolved** to approve the minutes after a proposition by Cllr Peeks and seconded by Cllr Vaughan who were both present at the last meeting.

11/03 **Matters Arising**

These were dealt with below.

11/04 **Chairman's Report**

The Chairman advised the public of the following activities that had taken place during the past year:

- The Parish Council website was now up and running and had helped with publicity during the year.
- The Parish Council had been successful in putting forward changes to the original proposals of EDF for the siting of temporary accommodation and a park and ride after consulting with the parishioners at a public meeting. The Parish Council supported the new location of the park and ride at Smithyard and welcomed the promise of a roundabout at Washford Cross.
- The Steams Up and Street Art event had been successful and it was hoped to hold the event again this year but as two separate events.
- The Christmas Festival was bigger than the previous year and was a great success and it was hoped to continue this festival in the future with lighted Christmas trees outside the shops in the village.
- The Parish Council had successfully bid for tender for the old IT building which would become the new Parish Office later in the year. There would be further office space available to rent to provide an income to offset the loan and community space and a meeting room.

The Chairman advised of the following items of interest and events that would take place in the coming year:

- The move from the existing Parish office to new premises and the provision of a new community facility
- It was hoped to complete the ongoing Safer Routes to Schools project of a footpath from the Williton schools to Doniford
- The Website would be updated and be a source of parish news and events
- It was hoped to run the Steams Up event and the Street Art
- Christmas celebrations would take place again this year
- The Royal Wedding Picnic was due to take place on 29<sup>th</sup> April on the Recreation Ground.

**11/05 Financial Report**

The Chairman of the Finance and Administration Committee, Cllr Vaughan, gave the meeting a detailed breakdown of the accounts for last year and the budget for the forthcoming year. The budget for 2011-2012 had been set at £132,930, a 16.8% increase from last year. The reason for this increase was due to the purchase and refurbishment of the new office and the provision of additional staffing and resources in readiness for the devolution of some services from the District Council as a result of their budget cuts.

**11/06 Hinkley C Consultation Review**

David Eccles from EDF was present at the meeting to explain the latest position of the consultation. A formal application to the IPC would be made in the summer. A separate application had been submitted to the District Council for the preliminary work and it was hoped to receive details of the outcome of this application in June. The period of construction would take 6 years. The impact on Williton would be a Park and Ride at Smithyard but hostel accommodation had been ruled out. There would, however, be some housing in Williton but consultation would take place with developers to make a joint venture on any housing development. EDF was also working with West Somerset Community College on training programmes. The proposed new roundabout at Washford Cross would not be built until permission had been granted for the Park and Ride and all projects would run concurrently as soon as approval had been given by the IPC. The Secretary of State would make the final decision. A £20million community project had been proposed but the detail had not been decided.

**11/07 Williton Parish "MasterPlan"**

Andrew Goodchild from the District Council was present at the meeting to explain the detail of the Masterplan which was a technical document to help plan for the next few years. There was a need to find space for 200 houses within the next 15 years and some of these would be in Williton. The potential flooding risks needed to be investigated and they were working with the Environment Agency on a scheme to divert the river around the village. Areas of growth had been investigated in an attempt to strengthen the village centre and the Council had looked at the sustainable use of the village, the rural pride and affordable as well as mixed housing. There was a need to balance housing with work opportunities. The Inner Relief Road was also to be included in the future vision. The consultation period for the Masterplan would commence at the end of May and the results of this would act as a structure for future planning development within the village.

**11/08 Williton Twinning Association**

Graham Bigwood advised the meeting that the Twinning link with France was now in its 25<sup>th</sup> year and had been very successful in seeing how other villages work and whether the same problems were shared. They were looking at another village in Germany with a view to twinning. They had received many new members and now had a website. The AGM would be held on 8<sup>th</sup> May.

**11/09 Royal Wedding Picnic**

Cllr Wood reminded the meeting of the picnic on the Memorial Ground on 29<sup>th</sup> April and hoped many parishioners would come and take part in this community event.

**11/10 Parish Council Vacancies**

Cllr Woods pointed out to the meeting that there were four vacancies on the Parish Council and asked if for interested parishioner to contact the Clerk should they wish to be considered for co-option.

**11/11 Any Other Business**

There was no further business.

Meeting closed at 8.40 pm