

WILLITON PARISH COUNCIL

**Minutes of the Environment and Planning Committee Meeting
held on 8th June 2015 at 7.00pm at The Parish Office, Killick Way, Williton.**

Attendees:

Councillors: Koch (Chairperson) Bigwood, Kirkham, McDonald, Richards and White
Public: None
Other: Mrs Michelle Francis

Apologies:

Councillors: Peeks

15/01B Election of Chairman and Vice-Chairman

After a proposal from Cllr Bigwood, seconded by Cllr Kirkham, Cllr Koch was unanimously elected as Chairman and after a proposal by Cllr Bigwood, seconded by Cllr Richards, Cllr Peeks was unanimously elected as Vice Chairman.

15/02B Election of Grounds Maintenance Officers

The following officers were elected

Responsibility for Bellamy's Corner	Richards
Responsibility for Doniford Car Park	Bigwood
Responsibility for The Copse	Koch
Responsibility for Street Furniture	Peeks
Responsibility for Recreation Ground in relation to Contractors	McDonald
Responsibility for Sustainable Verges	Kirkham

15/03B Apologies as noted above.

15/04B Declarations of Interest

Name	Agenda Item	Interest	Action
Cllr Richards	15/06.4B, 15/08.1B, 15/10.3B, 15/10.4B, 15/10.5B, 15/10.6B	Pecuniary, WSC Employee	
Cllr Richards	15/14B	Personal	

15/05B Minutes of the Environment and Planning Committee Meeting held on 13th April 2015

It was unanimously **resolved** to approve the minutes.

15/06B Matters to Report

15/06.1B (Item 14/121.1B) Pedestrian Routes The Clerk reported an email had been received from Alex Johnston to advise that the Parish Councils proposal would be considered.

15/06.2B (Item 14/121.2B) State of Road at St Peter's Close The Clerk reported a reply had been received from the Diocese advising they were not the landowner; therefore it was **resolved** the Clerk would contact David Gliddon and Magna to ask if they could re-check if the land was in their ownership.

15/06.3B (Item 14/121.3B) Village Information Board It was **resolved** to note no further information was available and Cllr McDonald had left messages but had not had a reply. It was **resolved** the Clerk would contact Watchet Town Council to enquire which company they had used for the boards in Watchet.

15/06.4B (Item 14/121.4B) Flooding Matters It was **resolved** to note the full report taken to the June Full Council meeting. It was reported a further cheque had been received for £434.08 for the eight sets of waterproofs. Cllr Kirkham reported Doniford sluice had become blocked due to weeds. The Clerk reported Cllr Denton had also raised concern regarding the ditches at Highbridge. Cllr McDonald agreed to check and clear these areas, but would also check the entire Parish. It was **resolved** to note that Cllr Richards asked to join the Flood Wardens.

- 15/06.5B (Item 14/121.5) Owl Boxes in village It was **resolved** to note a meeting would be held on 16th June to discuss the positioning of Barn Owl Boxes on Wyndham Estate. It was reported that ideally four boxes would need to be available, two positioned at Wyndham Estate and two positioned at Highbridge, One box had been donated, therefore, a further three boxes would be needed at a cost of £70.00 per box. It was **resolved** to ask Cllr Bennett to include a request in the Williton Window. Cllr White suggested incorporating a fund-raising stand at the Fete; Cllr Koch agreed to contact Chris Spelling for display materials.
- 15/06.6B (Item 14/121.6B) Doniford Footpath It was **resolved** to note no further correspondence had been received.
- 15/06.7B (Item 14/121.7B) Clean-up Day The Clerk reported a reply had been received from West Somerset Council advising they were not the landowners, therefore, unable to erect a fence. After a proposal from Cllr Koch, seconded by Cllr Bigwood it was unanimously **resolved** to contact Magna again and ask they check again regarding the ownership. It was **resolved** all new Councillors would visit the area by the steps between Long Lakes and Union Lane before the next meeting.

15/07B Correspondence

- 15/07.1B It was **resolved** to note the Environmental Maintenance Information 2015.
- 15/07.2B An email had been received from Mr Evans-White requesting materials for litter-picking. After a discussion, concern was raised that if the Parish Council supplied materials they could become legally obligated and insurance issues would arise. After a proposal from Cllr McDonald, seconded by Cllr Richards it was unanimously **resolved** to reply thanking Mr Evans-White for his help in litter-picking but unfortunately the Parish Council were not in a position to supply materials, however, they were very grateful for all the parishioners who help keep the village tidy. It was further **resolved** to advise that clean-up days are held usually twice a year which are reported in the Williton Window and he would be advised when the next date is set.

15/08B Highway Matters

- 15/08.1B Concern was raised regarding the lack of grass cutting that had taken place around the Parish, in particular Bellamy's Corner and the Copse. It was also noted visibility was being restricted at Doniford. It was **resolved** the Clerk would contact Darren Hill to attend an EPC meeting to discuss the issue. The hedges by Croft House and 45 Tower Hill were impeding the accessibility of the footpaths, it was **resolved** the Clerk would contact Sampford Brett Parish Council and Croft House to request these areas are cleared.

15/09B Finance and Budget

There was nothing to report.

15/10B Items to Report from Grounds Maintenance Officers

- 15/10.1B Bridge Green (The Copse) It was **resolved** this had been covered during item 15/08.1B.
- 15/10.2B Bellamy's Corner The Clerk reported a reply had been received from Love Williton, who unfortunately, were unable to take on the weeding maintenance due to lack of members. Cllr McDonald reported Williton Gardening Club had also been unable to offer any help. It was noted that Rona Troman had carried out some gardening and it was **resolved** to write a Thank you note.
- 15/10.3B Doniford Car Park It was reported that more fly-tipping had occurred over the rocks and the erosion by the steps was discussed, however, it was noted these areas are the responsibility of West Somerset Council. It was noted the bins in the carpark were broken, it was **resolved** the Clerk would report to WSC. After a proposal from Cllr Bigwood, seconded by Cllr Richards it was unanimously **resolved** the Clerk would write to Steve Clothier, Doniford Farm, thanking him for cutting the verges last year and ask if he could possibly cut them again as visibility had been reduced.
- 15/10.4B Recreation ground and Play Area It was reported that the CCTV cable had been installed by Dougie Edwards and that the Councillors were extremely pleased with the workmanship. Cllr McDonald asked the Clerk to arrange for the hedge along the footpath to be trimmed before the Fete on the 11th July.
- 15/10.5B Street Furniture It was reported that Eddie May had cleared around the bench at Tower Hill, it was **resolved** the Clerk would thank him on behalf of the Parish Council. After a proposal from Cllr Bigwood, seconded by Cllr White it was unanimously **resolved** to add the bench to the contract specification.
- 15/10.6B Grass verges It was reported the number 13 bus had access difficulty because of the overhanging trees in North Croft. It was unanimously **resolved** the Clerk would contact West Somerset Council to request the matter be addressed.

15/11B A safe route to the shops

Concern was raised that the public were still trying to cross the road where the pavement had been closed between the junction of Long Street and North Street. It was **resolved** to note although a suitable crossing place had been installed; unfortunately, it was not being well used.

15/12B Allocation of Areas for Responsibility

Councillors were allocated various streets to monitor and report back if necessary.

15/13B Hanging Baskets

The Clerk reported Love Williton had erected the Hanging Basket, however, was having difficulty with watering. After a proposal from Cllr Richards, seconded by Cllr Kirkham, it was unanimously **resolved** the Clerk would purchase a sprayer with a maximum value of £30.00.

15/14B Street Lighting at Blacksmiths Close and The Paddocks

A concerned parishioner had raised an issue regarding the brightness of the lights to Cllr Denton. A discussion took place and it was **resolved** to advise any effected residents to contact the developer direct. It was **resolved** to note that some lights had already been turned off.

15/15B Union Lane

The Clerk reported a reply had been received from Alex Johnston confirming the branches and tyres would be looked into. Cllr Bigwood reported concern for flooding as the hedges from properties along Long Lakes that backed onto the lane had encroached over the ditch and were blocking it. It was **resolved** the Clerk would report the concern to Magna and asked if they could clear the area. A letter would be sent to any private properties asking the owners if they could clear their area. It was further **resolved** the area between Limpetshell Lane and Townsend had also become overgrown.

15/16B Planning Applications for consideration

Application No	Location	Details	Comment
3/39/15/007	7A Long Street	Proposed change of use from A1 (retail) and A3 (tearoom) as per 3/39/11/043 to a mixed use of A1 (retail) or A2 (financial and professional services) or B1a (offices not within A2)	No Objection

15/17B Notification of planning decisions - noted

Application No	Location	Outcome
3/39/15/002	The Vicarage, 16 Bridge Street	Granted
3/39/14/036	26 Long Street	Granted

15/18B Matters for the next meeting to be held on Monday 13th July 2015 at 7.00 pm in Parish Office

Flower Boxes under Village Signs
 Improvements to Bellamy's Corner
 Reviewing Contracts
 Dog Bins at Doniford Car park

Meeting closed at 9.40pm