

WILLITON PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of the Environment and Planning Committee Meeting
held on 12th October 2015 at 7.00pm at The Parish Office, Killick Way, Williton.

Attendees:

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

Apologies:

Councillors: None

15/49B **There were no apologies.**

15/50B Declarations of Interest

Name	Agenda Item	Interest	Action
Cllr Richards	15/52.4B, 15/55.1B, 15/57B, 15/52.7B	Pecuniary, WSC Employee	Informed
Cllr Peeks	15/60B	Pecuniary, Case Officer	Left Room
Cllr Peeks	15/53.2B	Personal	

15/51B Minutes of the Environment and Planning Committee Meeting held on 7th September 2015

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

15/52B Matters to Report

- 15/52.1B (Item 15/37.1B) Pedestrian Routes It was reported the dates that had been suggested by Alex Johnston were unfortunately inconvenient for most Councillors. It was **resolved** that the Clerk would reply requesting a meeting on a Tuesday at approx. 2.30pm and that Cllrs Bigwood and Kirkham would attend.
- 15/52.2B (Item 15/37.2B) State of Road at St Peter's Close It was **resolved** to note that this item had been passed to the September FAC meeting for discussion and that further to that meeting the Clerk had sent details to SALC and NALC for their advice. Cllr Peeks reported ownership was unclear on the plans, however, it was noted that Magna had carried out the original work.
- 15/52.3B (Item 15/37.3B) Village Information Cllr McDonald distributed pictures and information of the boards he would suggest from Harry Stebbing. The Committee discussed possible areas where the boards could be placed and it was **resolved** an English Oak Lectern style at the Williton Railway Station, a second English Oak Lectern style on the Copse and a board with or without two leg posts, depending on position, in Killick Way, either on the toilet block or the grass area by the bench; subject to permission being granted. It was **resolved** that Cllr McDonald would contact Paul Conibeare from West Somerset Railway to discuss the siting at Williton Station and the Clerk would contact Wyndham Estate regarding the Copse and West Somerset Council regarding Killick Way. Cllrs were asked to consider what information should be on the boards and it was suggested to involve the local Historical Society and to include a request in Williton Window.
- 15/52.4B (Item 15/37.4B) Flooding Matters Cllr McDonald advised a brief meeting with the Flood Wardens had been arranged for Wednesday 14th October at 7pm in the Parish Office to distribute the equipment and protective clothing.
- 15/52.5B (Item 15/37.5) Owl Boxes in village Cllr McDonald had been unable to make contact with Lew, it was **resolved** the Clerk would call Lew and gain an update on progress.
- 15/52.6B (Item 15/37.6B) Doniford Footpath It was **resolved** to note the email that had been received from Sarah Littler confirming that she would proceed with West Somerset Railway, the landowners and the local businesses to fund and implement the path and that the Parish Council would be kept informed of developments. It was **resolved** to remove this item from the agenda.

15/52.7B (Item 15/37.7B) Clean-up Day (Fence at Union Lane) Cllr Richards confirmed the District Council's legal team were investigating ownership; however, it was noted that it may possibly be owned by Magna. It was **resolved** the Clerk would write to Magna again stating it is believed they are the owners and request the fence be re-erected due to the risk of injury because of the 2 metre drop and also the erosion caused from the horses. It was **resolved** the Clerk would contact Wyndham Estate to report a drain pipe had been installed by the farm going into the ditch, but due to the angles it was suggested this could cause flooding problems.

15/52.8B (Item 15/43B) Planters by Village Signs The Clerk reported a reply had been received from Peter Owen, Highways, to advise placing planters under the signs would require a one-off legal agreement, charged to the Parish Council, at a cost of between £500 and £550. However, if planting was carried out in the verge there would be no cost. It was **resolved** the Clerk would reply requesting permission to plant wild bulbs, Bluebells, Snowdrops and Daffodil, under the signs. Upon agreement, it was **resolved** the Clerk would source the bulbs and a working party would undertake the planting.

15/52.9B (Item 15/43B) Village Entrance Signs Due to the cost implications, it was **resolved** to remove this item from the agenda.

15/53B Correspondence

15/53.1B An email had been received from Cllr Kirkham reporting an iron bar sticking out of the hedge bank opposite Dovecotes on Doniford Road. It was reported recent fly-tipping had occurred in this area. It was **resolved** Cllr Richards would investigate and advise the Clerk to contact Highways if necessary.

15/53.2B An email had been received from West Coastal Access regarding proposed changes to coastal access. It was **resolved** the Clerk would reply giving the Parish Councils support in altering the footpath.

15/53.3B A letter had been received from Mrs Andrews regarding Union Lane. It was **resolved** to reply thanking Mrs Andrews for her comments. It was further **resolved** to note that any future complaints should be forwarded direct to Cllr Peeks as Parish Path Liaison Officer, who then reports directly to County Hall.

15/53.4B An email had been received from Eddie May regarding the access on the footpath from Raglands Cross to Catwell due to new stockproof fencing being erected and the style being broken. It was **resolved** the Clerk would write to Glen Martin, Somerset County Council to request that a Kissing Gate is installed.

15/54B Highway Matters

15/54.1B (Item 15/39.1B) Cllr McDonald reported the rubble and other building materials were by number 70 and 72 Townsend. It was further reported the amount of dog mess and weeds from Townsend and Limpetshell Lane were not improving and that Cllr McDonald was receiving on average 4/5 complaints a week. It was **resolved** the Clerk would contact Magna to request a site meeting with Cllrs McDonald, Peeks and Richards, on a Thursday or Friday afternoon.

15/54.2B (Item 15/39.4B) It was noted no reply had been received from the owners of 25 Tower Hill regarding the sandbags on the footpath and that the area had not improved. It was **resolved** the Clerk would write again, and to Highways to ask for an up-date.

15/54.3B (Item 15/39.5B) It was **resolved** the dead elms by the Stream turning were on Wyndham Estate land and they were therefore responsible for them. It was **resolved** the Clerk would contact them and request the removal of the dead trees.

15/54.4B It was noted that the recent Weed Spraying had taken effect.

15/5B Finance and Budget

15/55.1B (Item 15/40.1B) Review of Contracts - It was **resolved** to note that Cllr Richards was working on producing a document to be used for contract tendering for grounds maintenance and weed spraying. It was reported that Cllrs Bigwood, Peeks and Richards would form a working party as soon as possible.

15/55.2B It was **resolved** to reduce the budget for Tools and Equipment from £200.00 to £150.00; reduce the EPC Ground Maintenance (for the Copse, Bellamy's Corner, Doniford Car Park, Sustainable verges and Fuels/Chemicals) from £800.00 to £700.00. It was **resolved** to increase the Parish Signage from £1,000.00 to £1,500.00. It was **resolved** to recommend to Parish Council the Christmas light competition is stopped; but that the Business Window display competition is continued. It was **resolved** the remainder of the budget would remain the same.

15/56B Items to Report from Grounds Maintenance Officers

- 15/56.1B Bridge Green (The Copse) It was **resolved** Cllr Richards would check the contract regarding the regularity of the grass cutting.
- 15/56.2B Bellamy's Corner It was **resolved** that Alan Stiven had kindly agreed to continue cleaning the area. Mr Stiven had requested permission to plant more bulbs, this was unanimously **resolved**. Help was requested for a clearing day on Saturday 7th November, it was **resolved** to ask for volunteers at the next Parish Council meeting. The Clerk confirmed the hole had now been covered with a slab.
- 15/56.3B Doniford Car Park. It was **resolved** to note there were a few pot holes which could be easily rectified by raking over.
- 15/56.4B Recreation ground and Play Area It was reported the area was not very clean, but the contractors were due shortly. Dog mess was still a problem, the CCTV was being checked. Cllr White would advise the Clerk when the grass has been cut. The hedge along the playground needed cutting again. It was **resolved** the Clerk would arrange for this to be done at a cost of up to £100.00. It was **resolved** to chase Darren's Dens again regarding the slide; it was further **resolved** to consider response times when renewing contracts.
- 15/56.5B Street Furniture Discussed under item 15/59B.
- 15/56.6B Grass verges It was **resolved** the Clerk would contact Wyndham Estate regarding the path from Townsend to Catwell to request that the vegetation is cut back urgently as it was becoming difficult to access. It was further **resolved** the Clerk would contact Magna to request the river bank is cleared. It was **resolved** to include Riparian Responsibilities, which Cllr Richards agreed to forward, in the next Williton Window article.
- 15/57B Concern had been raised regarding the erosion at Doniford Slipway, however, it was **resolved** this was a County Council issue. Cllr Richards would report the concern to County.
- 15/58B Parish Guide. Councillors were asked to consider ideas and possibly establish a working group, however, it was **resolved** that it may not be able to be funded at the present time. It was **resolved** to include this item with the Village Information Boards on the next agenda.
- 15/59B A request had been received from Cllr Denton to move a bench to Bellamy's Corner; however, the committee felt there were enough benches there already.

15/60B Planning Applications for consideration

Application No	Location	Details	Comment
T/39/15/002	Land near Catwell House Barn, Catwell,	Works to 3 Lombardi Poplars – removal of existing dead wood and ivy, crowns to be reduced by 6.09 metres (20%) and removal of lower lateral limb over drive.	Objection of crown reduction due to the adverse effect on appearance of tree and how it looks on local environment. Approval for removal of lower lateral limb, dead wood and ivy.
3/39/15/016	Land adjacent to Doniford Road, Watchet	Creation of footpath to complete the path from Doniford to Doniford Halt.	Support the application.
3/39/15/014 and 3/39/15/015	Williton Police Station, 4 Priest Street, TA4 4NJ	Change of use of police station (sui generis) to two dwellings (Class C3); alterations to curtilage to provide garden areas and car parking, including car parking for two existing dwellings (8 and 10 Priest Street); Internal alteration to listed building.	No objection

15/61B Notification of planning decisions - noted

Application No	Location	Outcome
3/39/15/004	Bridge Farm, Bridge Street, Williton	Granted

15/62B Matters for the next meeting to be held on Monday 9th November 2015 at 7.00 pm in Parish Office

Meeting closed at 9.10pm