

WILLITON PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of the Environment and Planning Committee Meeting
held on 7th September 2015 at 7.00pm at The Parish Office, Killick Way, Williton.

Attendees:

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

Apologies:

Councillors: None

Before the start of the meeting Debbie Dennis, Village Agent, addressed the committee and spoke about her role as a Village Agent.

15/33B Due to the resignation of Cllr Koch, Cllr Peeks was unanimously elected as Chairperson of the Environment and Planning Committee, after a proposal from Cllr Bigwood, seconded by Cllr Kirkham. Cllr Richards was unanimously elected as Vice-Chair after a proposal from Cllr Bigwood, seconded by Cllr Peeks.

15/34B **There were no apologies.**

15/35B **Declarations of Interest**

Name	Agenda Item	Interest	Action
Cllr Richards	15/37.4B, 15/37.8B, 15/39.5B, 15/37.7B, 15/38.1B, 15/40.1B	Pecuniary, WSC Employee	Informed
Cllr Richards	15/39.2B	Personal	Informed
Cllr Peeks	15/46B, 15/47B	DPI	
Cllr Peeks	15/44B	Personal	

15/36B **Minutes of the Environment and Planning Committee Meeting held on 13th July 2015**

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

15/37B **Matters to Report**

15/37.1B (Item 15/22.1B) Pedestrian Routes A reply had been received from Alex Johnston, Wyndham Estate, requesting a meeting to discuss the practical matters of installing a pedestrian route and the impact on field entrances. Cllr Peeks confirmed the path in question would be similar to that of the existing path along Doniford Road that had been installed by Western Power and also the path from Highbridge to Luckes Lane. It was **resolved** the Clerk would reply to arrange a meeting and suggest site visits to the above mentioned paths.

15/37.2B (Item 15/22.2B) State of Road at St Peter's Close It was **resolved** to note that at the August Parish Council meeting this item had been passed to the September FAC meeting for discussion. Cllr Peeks would investigate the ownership on the land in question.

15/37.3B (Item 15/22.3B) Village Information Cllr McDonald reported he had looked into the information boards, but felt it needed the full committee to discuss the options. A discussion took place regarding the possible positioning of the boards. It was **resolved** Cllr McDonald would bring details to the October meeting.

15/37.4B (Item 15/22.4B) Flooding Matters Cllr McDonald advised he would inspect all areas the following day and then contact the Flood Wardens to issue the waterproof clothing and equipment. The Clerk confirmed an inventory list had been created and was with the items waiting to be distributed. The items would also be added to the asset register. Cllr Richards confirmed he still wanted to volunteer as a Flood Warden. Cllr Kirkham reported Himalayan Balsam had become a problem on Doniford stream. It was **resolved** the Clerk would contact the landowners and try and get a working party together for the spring. It was **resolved** to add this item as an agenda item.

15/37.5B (Item 15/22.5) Owl Boxes in village The Clerk advised she had been unable to make contact with Lew regarding the boxes. It was **resolved** Cllr McDonald would contact and request an update.

15/37.6B (Item 15/22.6B) Doniford Footpath Sarah Littler had requested a meeting and after a discussion it was **resolved** to agree to the request of holding a further site meeting. It was **resolved** the Clerk would contact Sarah Littler and request that all parties attend, including Paul Conibeare from WSR and also suggest that representatives from Doniford Farm, Haven and adjoining businesses are invited, to enable the request of funding. Cllrs White and Kirkham would attend and report back to the EPC, whilst the Councillors could not make a decision, it was agreed to advise the Parish Council would support generally, but not financially.

15/37.7B (Item 15/22.7B) Clean-up Day (Fence at Union Lane) Despite the Clerks request to Wyndham Estate to clear the lane, it was reported it was still very overgrown and that the tyres had not been removed. It was **resolved** the Clerk would write to Alex Johnston again to request the area be cleared. The Clerk reported that Wyndham Estate, West Somerset Council and Magna had all denied owning the plot of land and the fence by the steps; however, WSC had been cutting the grass. Cllr Richards agreed to investigate the ownership further.

15/37.8B (Item 15/28B) Waste Bin at Doniford Bus Shelter The Clerk reported a reply had been received from Steve Clothier, Doniford Farm who had kindly agreed to install and empty a waste bin at Doniford bus shelter.

15/38B Correspondence

15/38.1B An email had been received from Jenny Gibson regarding recent incidents of dogs biting other dogs and in one case also biting an owner. After a discussion it was **resolved** to include in the next Williton Window article that unfortunately the Parish Council had no jurisdiction on the control of dogs and request that any future incidents are reported to the Police as well as the Parish Office.

15/38.2B A temporary road closure between St Audries and Doniford was noted.

15/38.3B It was **resolved** the Clerk would reply thanking Mr Barnett for his letter and advise that his details would be kept on file.

15/38.4B A letter had been received from Somerset Wildlife Trust regarding possible support for their application to the CIM fund. It was **resolved** the Clerk would reply asking what the intensions would be for Doniford Beach and what schools would be involved.

15/38.5B A questionnaire had been received regarding 'Building a Rural Community'. Answers were discussed and it was **resolved** the Clerk would complete and return.

15/39B Highway Matters

15/39.1B (Item 15/24.2B) A reply from Magna Housing had been received confirming some clean-up work had taken place at Townsend Road and Limpetshell Lane. They acknowledged there is more work to do and that it would be done as resources allowed. Cllr McDonald reported a house in Townsend had rubble and other building materials in its front garden and a vermin concern was raised. It was **resolved** Cllr McDonald would advise the Clerk of the house number, who would then report it to the Environment Agency.

15/39.2B A reply had been received from Peter Owen confirming the signs at Haven and Doniford Farm were within the highway and that he would write to both parties requesting the removal of the signs. Cllr Kirkham reported the Haven sign was now in the layby by Seaview. It was **resolved** the Clerk would write to Mr Owen to thank him for his assistance and report the sign in the layby.

15/39.3B It was **resolved** to note the reply from Sarah Littler confirming she had spoken to Natural England regarding the signage on the section of the new England Coast Path that would run along Sea Lane and that "they do not feel there is a need for any signage on the short stretch of lane". It was agreed to monitor over the coming months. It was **resolved** to remove this item from the agenda.

15/39.4B Tower Hill - It had been reported that nettles and brambles were restricting the footpath and that the sandbags were beginning to disintegrate at 25 Tower Hill. It was **resolved** the Clerk would check with Eddie May who was involved previously and also write to the landowner and highways to ask for an update, stating it was an obstruction and eyesore.

15/39.5B It had been reported to the Parish Office that dead Elms were falling on the A39, opposite the Stream turning. It was **resolved** to forward this item to Cllr Keith Richards who would request the area be inspected by a tree expert.

15/40B Finance and Budget

15/40.1B Review of Contracts - It was **resolved** that Cllr Richards would produce a document to be used for contract tendering for grounds maintenance, which would then be discussed by the working group. After a proposal from Cllr White, seconded by Cllr Richards it was **resolved** the Clerk would write to Rachel Mulcaire to give 3 months' notice on the current contract and ask if WSC would like to re-tender for a new contract due to start in March 2016.

15/41B Items to Report from Grounds Maintenance Officers

- 15/41.1B Bridge Green (The Copse) It was reported that the grass on the Copse needed cutting.
- 15/41.2B Bellamy's Corner It was **resolved** the Clerk would contact Alan Stiven to ask if he would be willing to continue cleaning the area as he did when he was a councillor. It was **resolved** to include the weeding and flower beds on the new grounds maintenance contract.
- 15/41.3B Doniford Car Park It was reported that although new bins had not been installed, the tops on the existing ones had been replaced and sturdier bags were being used, which was an improvement.
- 15/41.4B Recreation ground and Play Area It was reported that the earth on top of the tunnel in the play area had disappeared and this had not been reported on the inspection sheets. It was **resolved** the Clerk would obtain three quotations to re-instate the topsoil to a compacted depth of 5" and have the area re-turfed. The hedgerow needed cutting and the grass in the MUGA area needed to be cut.
- 15/41.5B Street Furniture There was nothing to report.
- 15/41.6B Grass verges There was nothing to report.

15/42B Maize – Soil Erosion

Cllr Bigwood expressed concern of possible erosion of land where maize was currently planted and the impact the erosion would have in blocking the streams. It was **resolved** the issue would be discussed with Wyndham Estate during the proposed meeting of the pedestrian route.

15/43B Village Entrance Signs and Planters

It was suggested by Cllr McDonald that troughs were planted and situated by the village entrance signs, however concern was raised regarding the maintenance of any planters. It was resolved the Clerk would contact highways to seek permission for planters, or for planting bulbs under the current signs. Cllr White suggested the installation of "Welcome" signs, it was **resolved** the Clerk would enquire about these at the same time.

15/44B Adopt a Footpath

It was **resolved** to note this item.

15/45B Watchet, Williton and Quantock Vale Panel Consultation 2015

After a discussion it was **resolved** the Clerk would complete and return the questionnaire. It was noted that due to a Working Group meeting no Councillors present could attend the next meeting on 15th September. It was **resolved** the Clerk contact absent Councillors to enquire if anyone would be free to attend.

15/46B Planning Applications for consideration

Application No	Location	Details	Comment
3/39/15/011	18 Bridge Street, Williton	Removal of conditions 3 and 4 from planning permission 3/39/11/046 in order to create a single car parking space for Riverside	Recommend refusal. The original conditions should remain as they were put in place for highway safety. By adapting their request for single parking the Parish Council have concerns that cars will be reversing out onto a public highway.
3/39/15/012	Red Park Equestrian Centre, Egrove Way, Williton	Re-siting of caravan	No objection
3/28/15/005	Plot adjacent to 45 Tower Hill, Williton	Erection of a detached dwelling (amended scheme to 3/28/14/007)	No Comment

15/47B Notification of planning decisions - noted

Application No	Location	Outcome
3/39/15/003	Bridge Farm, Bridge Street, Williton	Granted
3/39/15/008	94 Long Street, Williton	Granted
3/39/15/010	Walton Cottage, 12 Bridge Street	Granted
3/39/14/037	Land and Buildings, Bank Street, Williton	Was Lawful
C/39/15/002	In relation to 3/39/14/031 Croft House, North Croft	Approval

15/48B Matters for the next meeting to be held on Monday 12th October 2015 at 7.00 pm in Parish Office
Parish Guide