

WILLITON PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of the Full Council Meeting held on 5th March 2012 at 7.15 pm
at the Council Chambers, Williton

Attendees:

Councillors	Woods (Chairman), Koch, Bigwood, James, McDonald, Peeks, Wood (left early), Vaughan and Beaver
SCC Councillors	None
WSC Councillors	May
Avon and Somerset Constabulary	PC Chris Walsh and PCSO Rachel Cutler
Press	Mrs C Webb
Clerk	Mrs J Johnson-Smith
Public	
Other	Geoff Hackett, Somerset County Council

Apologies:

Councillors Trollope-Bellew, Davies, Hall and Gower, PCSO Dave Rowe

- 11/208 Apologies as noted above.** It was **resolved** to note the Cllr Hall's absence was due to ill health and that he would not be able to attend any meeting for at least one month.
- 11/209 Declarations of Interest**
There were none.
- 11/210 Approval of the Minutes of the Meeting held on 6th February 2012**
It was unanimously **resolved** to approve the minutes after an amendment in the second sentence of Item 11/205 as follows "... from Minehead turning right at Bellamy's Corner towards Taunton"
- 11/211 Matters Arising from the Minutes**
- 11/211.1 (Item 11/187.1) Hinkley C Consultation Cllr McDonald reported on the meeting of the Transport Forum, held on 29th February when it was advised that a proposal regarding the roundabout at Washford Cross had been submitted to the County Council for consideration but consultation with the landowners had not yet taken place and plans were still at an early stage. It was **resolved** to note the Notice of Appointment of the Examining Authority and Preliminary Meeting from the Infrastructure Planning Commission and the Notice of issue of permit for waste water discharges from the Environment Agency.
- 11/211.2 (Item 11/187.4) Emergency Planning The meeting was preceded by a presentation from Geoff Hackett, Senior Civil Contingencies Officer at Somerset County Council advising members of the role and plans in place for dealing with emergencies. The local point of contact was Jess Harrison, who worked one day a week at the District Council offices. The nearest rest centre was Danesfield School. He advised that the department were in the process of re-writing the County flood plan in the light of new improved flood warnings and commented that Williton was at a slightly higher risk than other areas. The preference was to relocate to family homes rather than remaining in halls in an evacuation situation. Questions were invited during the meeting and concerns were expressed regarding contingencies in place in case of fall-out from Hinkley C and he agreed to forward a copy of the plan that had been written for Hinkley Point. Members asked to be kept informed and be advised of any exercises taking place in the area and suggested working together to form a network of local people who would be able to support in an emergency.
- 11/211.3 (Item 11/192.2) Zebra Crossing at Long Street It was **resolved** to note the response from the Highways Department regarding the location of the crossing.
- 11/211.4 (Item 11/197) Youth Service It was **resolved** to note the response to the consultation. After a proposition from Cllr Wood it was **resolved** to support a mobile unit for art and music being organised by Somerset Youth Volunteer Network and a scheme for 16-26 year olds to be a radio presenter organised by 10 radio and to allow the Parish Office to be used for this purpose for one day free of charge provided it was a day when the office was open.
- 11/211.5 (11/202) West Somerset Voluntary Sector Forum Cllr Beaver reported on the recent meeting and commented that it was very interesting and that many volunteers were giving up their time on various projects. A request had been made for the West Somerset Advice Bureau to use the Parish Office to hold a free advice session on a Wednesday from 10am until 1pm. It was **resolved** to let the Bureau set up 2 events initially and to look at the response. It was further **resolved** to appoint Cllr Beaver as a Parish representative to this Forum.
- 11/211.6 (Item 11/205) Olympic Torch There was nothing to report as another meeting was scheduled for the following day.

- 11/211.7 (Item 11/206) **Street Art** Cllr Wood gave members a progress report and advised that Somerfields had agreed to put up the boards and Spar had offered to donate prizes of £50 – 1st, £30 – 2nd and £20 – 3rd. West Somerset Community College ex art teachers Andy and Toni Davey had agreed to judge the competition and the Manager of Spar would give out the prizes on Sunday 13th May at 4pm. Laura Johns from Somerset Rural Youth Service had agreed to bring some volunteers to help on the days. A risk assessment would need to be carried out and posters had been designed and would be printed in Williton. It was planned to promote first in Williton and then open up to a wider field if there were any boards remaining.
- 11/212 Report from Avon and Somerset Constabulary**
It was **resolved** to note the verbal report detailing all the crime figures for the last month and some concern was expressed at the number of violence related crimes.
- 11/213 Report from Somerset County Councillor**
As Cllr Trollope-Bellew was not present there was no verbal report, however the Clerk advised members of the copy correspondence that had been received between Cllr Dowding and himself regarding the request for yellow lines at Tower Hill.
- 11/214 Report from West Somerset District Councillors**
Cllr May commented on the amount of cars that had been recorded speeding at Tower Hill from the SID tests. He offered to contact Wyndham Estate regarding the problems at Union Lane which had now worsened as there was now a rat infestation. The Clerk agreed to give him contact details. He commented on the increased problem of dog fouling throughout the village. Some potholes had been repaired and there would be some resurfacing at the Wyndham Arms when all work on the housing estate was finished. He felt there could be problems crossing the river at the site of the proposed housing estate at Doniford Road. Members thanked him for his work regarding the resurfacing outside the National Westminster bank and for his donation to the Jubilee funds.
- 11/215 Clerk/Chairman's Notices**
The Clerk advised details of late correspondence which had been received.
SCC – Notice of road closure of A358 at Sampford Brett on 21st March for 3 evenings
Local Government Boundary Commission – Announcement of publication of Commissioner's report setting out its draft recommendations for electoral arrangements.
- 11/216 Correspondence**
- 11/216.1 It was **resolved** to note the contents of the correspondence log.
- 11/216.2 It was **resolved** to note the notice of road closure of the A39 at Billbrook for 6 days from 6th March and review the impact of the closure at the next meeting.
- 11/217 Report from the Environment and Planning Committee held on 9th January 2012**
It was resolved to note the report.
- 11/217.1 (Item 11/103.6B) After a short discussion it was **resolved** by 6 for and 1 abstention to go ahead with the Neighbourhood Plan and Cllr McDonald agreed to form a working party.
- 11/217.2 (Item 11/103.5B) A projected image of the village clock on the roof of the Parish Office had been received from the Clock company and it was **resolved** to write to the architect to ask if this location would be suitable and not cause any structural problems or affect insurance. It was further **resolved** to write to the Planning authority to check if planning permission was required.
- 11/218 Report from the Finance and Administration Committee held on 16th January 2012**
It was resolved to note the report.
- 11/218.1 It was **resolved** to note the Financial Reserve Estimated Provisions and Current Account Expenditure.
- 11/218.2 (Item 11/113.1A) It was **resolved** to offer a donation of 14 hours labour to help with the garden at Croft House rather than a sum of money after checking with the Groundsman and to suggest they contact the Community Services.
- 11/218.3 (Item 11/116A) It was unanimously **resolved** to donate £100 to the Quantock Federation towards the costs of mugs for the children for the Queen's Jubilee
- 11/218.4 (Item 11/109.3A) It was **resolved** to discuss waiving of charges for some lettings at the Parish Office at the next Finance and Administration Meeting and to make recommendations for all charges to Full Council.
- 11/219 To receive accounts for payment not covered by Finance and Admin Committee**
There were none.
- 11/220 Report from Meeting with Somerset County Council held on 9th February 2012**
Cllr McDonald advised that it was a very good meeting and mainly dealt with roadworks and devolution. He felt that the County Council had taken on board comments raised by Parish Councils and in future they would consult with Parishes before cuts were made.
- 11/221 Report of meeting to discuss celebrations of Queens Jubilee held on 27th February 2012**
The Chairman advised that the second meeting had also been very well attended and progress was being made with the planned activities and volunteers and ideas were coming forward. Further details would be available at the next meeting.

11/222 Devolvement of Grounds Maintenance

Cllr James advised that a meeting was held with the Groundsman who was agreeable to taking on additional work within the village and confirmation had been sent to the District Council regarding a proposed swap of 92 hours in labour to cover the additional work required to maintain County owned land.

11/223 Williton Community Hall

Cllr Vaughan advised that the transfer had now taken place and the old charity had been closed and arrangements were in place to transfer all assets and collect all documents. The Clerk had applied to Lloyds bank for a new bank account in the name of the new charity and as soon as this account was opened the accounts could be transferred. The Steering Group would settle all outstanding invoices and arrange for a final audit. The next meeting of the Trustees of the Community Hall would look at developing a new business plan and the way forward for the Fundraising Group. No decision had yet been made on the location and full consultation would take place. The Friends of the Memorial Ground had requested a meeting with the Chairman and other members of the Parish Council to discuss the position. Cllr Vaughan agreed to write an article in the Williton Window so that the position was clear to all interested parties.

11/224 Integration of Health and Community Services

Concern was raised at the drop in service and lack of communication from the doctors and members commented that they would like to see more integration between the Williton and Watchet surgeries. The Clerk was asked to write to the Doctors asking if they would consider contacting the Williton Window on a monthly basis detailing the opening hours of their surgeries as they had done in the past. It was also suggested writing to the League of Friends requesting feedback from their meeting with the NHS staff regarding Williton Hospital.

11/225 Reduction in the number of Committee meetings

Some members felt that due to the additional meetings that were now being held with various working groups consideration should be given to reduce the number of Committee meetings. After some discussion it was **resolved** to keep the same schedule of meetings for the Environment and Planning Committee and to hold Finance and Administration meetings as required as a lot of the work in this Committee was being duplicated at Full Council. All payments would be authorised at Full Council and signatories would remain behind to sign authorised cheques. The Committee would decide on the schedule of their meetings for the next year at their next meeting.

11/226 Items for Parish Assembly to be held on 30th April

It was suggested arranging presentations regarding the proposed new play equipment and inviting Barnados to the meeting if possible. Other topics for discussion would be the Community Hall.

11/227 Matters for the next meeting to be held on 2nd April 2012

Venue of meetings

Meeting closed at 9.50 pm