

WILLITON PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of the Full Council Meeting held on 6th February 2012 at 7.50 pm
at the Council Chambers, Williton

Attendees:

Councillors	Woods (Chairman), Koch, Bigwood, James, McDonald, Peeks and Beaver
SCC Councillors	Trollope-Bellew
WSC Councillors	May, Davies
Avon and Somerset	None
Constabulary	
Press	None
Clerk	Mrs J Johnson-Smith
Public	Approximately 30 members
Other	Jan Hull, Judith Brown, Dr Andrew Dayani, Ann Henson (Matron) , Dr David Rooke and Dr Ed Ford

Apologies:

Councillors Wood, Hall, Vaughan and Gower, PCSOs Dave Rowe and Peter Bolton

11/184 **Apologies as noted above**

11/185 **Declarations of Interest**

Name	Agenda Item	Interest	Action
Cllr Peeks	11/193	Personal	None
Cllr Woods	11/187.3	Personal	Left room

11/186 **Approval of the Minutes of the Meeting held on 3rd January 2012**

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

11/187 **Matters Arising from the Minutes**

11/187.1 (Item 11/164.1) Hinkley C Consultation There was no further update but Cllr McDonald agreed to attend the next Transport Forum on 28th February when Washford Cross would be on the agenda.

11/187.2 (Item 11/164.2) Proposed bed closures at Williton Hospital The meeting was preceded by an extended public participation period when the Deputy Chief Executives from Somerset Partnership NHS Foundation Trust attended the meeting. Jan Hull, Director of Commissioning Development explained the rationale to the recent closure of the beds at the hospital. Judith Brown, Director of Community Health Services, explained the changes in the health policy where patients were being discharged directly into their homes rather than transferred for a recovery period at the Community Hospitals. These factors had led to the decision to close beds. Members of the public were invited to ask questions and some concerns were allayed as the representatives confirmed that there was no intention of further cuts and public concerns expressed over the bed closures had been taken into consideration and as a result a decision to close Grace's Room had been overturned. They also confirmed that 12 of the beds would be protected from closure and kept available for short notice. There was to be a restructuring of the services offered and it was planned to offer more outpatient services and ambulatory care as this was felt to be more beneficial to the community. Cllr James expressed concern at the projected figures due to increase in population and asked for reassurance that the implications of this would be kept under close review. It was also confirmed that the programme for introducing the new services would be implemented quickly and that any concerns regarding social and health care at home after discharge from hospital would be continually monitored. It was **resolved** to monitor the situation and review in 6 months. It was advised that individual concerns should be taken to the local GP and this would be fed back to the Federation. The West Somerset Health Forum had also been recently formed and details of this would be forwarded to the Clerk to pass on to the community.

11/187.3 (Item 11/177) Williton Free School It was **resolved** to note the response from the Quantock Federation and Cllr May agreed to keep the Council informed of any changes to the situation.

11/187.4 (Item 11/180) Emergency Planning It was **resolved** to note the response from the County Council which addressed emergencies resulting from flooding. It was further **resolved** to request a copy of the County Plan and the District Plan for dealing with major emergencies.

11/188 **Report from Avon and Somerset Constabulary**

It was **resolved** to note the written report detailing the crime figures for the previous month.

11/189 **Report from Somerset County Councillor**

Cllr Trollope-Bellew advised that the pedestrian crossing in Long Street would probably go ahead in the next financial year and added there was still a small pot of money available for minor road improvements. He advised that there should be no increase in Council tax in the next financial year and considerable savings had been made with the loss of the posts of 4 Directors. He agreed to look into the problem of poor visibility at the North Croft/Long Street junction after this was raised. He advised that £50 million was available to connect the whole county to faster broadband.

- 11/190 Report from West Somerset District Councillors**
Cllr Davies advised that Magna Housing was likely to lose its board locally and local residents were not very happy as the decision would be made on the results of a survey on which they were not consulted. He advised that the Standards Board no longer existed but it was hoped to form a similar body. Higher penalties were in force for non-declaration of pecuniary interest which would be referred to the Magistrates Court.
- 11/191 Clerk/Chairman's Notices**
The Clerk advised details of late correspondence which had been received.
SALC – changes to the Standards Board Regime and Code of Conduct. The Clerk was asked to write to Bruce Lang requesting to be kept informed.
A petition had been circulated regarding the cuts to the bus services.
Notice of temporary road closure at Doniford Road from 5th March for 5 days
Invitation to Forum 21 Event on 13th March.
Launch of campaign for faster broadband in Somerset and request to complete questionnaire.
Councillors were urged to do this individually
Copy correspondence regarding requests for traffic calming at Tower Hill.
- 11/192 Correspondence**
- 11/192.1 It was **resolved** to note the contents of the correspondence log.
- 11/192.2 It was **resolved** to note the letter from Somerset County Council advising of their intention to construct the zebra crossing at Long Street. The Clerk was asked to check the reasons why they had chosen the location and whether it could have been nearer the Memorial Ground entrance.
- 11/192.3 It was **resolved** to note the various correspondence received regarding the Localism Bill and members were asked to respond individually.
- 11/192.4 It was **resolved** to note the Somerset Strategic Housing Partnership Interim Tenancy Strategy consultation and members were asked to respond individually.
- 11/193 Report from the Environment and Planning Committee held on 9th January 2012**
It was resolved to note the report.
- 11/193.1 (Item 11/88.5B) After a short discussion it was **resolved** that the village Jubilee Clock should be located at the Parish Office with a proviso to move it at a future date should a better location become available.
- 11/194 Report from the Finance and Administration Committee held on 16th January 2012**
It was resolved to note the report.
- 11/194.1 It was **resolved** to note the Financial Reserve Estimated Provisions and Current Account Expenditure.
- 11/195 To receive accounts for payment not covered by Finance and Admin Committee**
There were none.
- 11/196 Report from Personnel Committee held on 9th January 2012**
It was resolved to note the report and that the Clerk and Cllr James were to meet the Groundsman to discuss the detail of the proposals from the District Council regarding grounds maintenance.
- 11/197 Report from Meeting with the Youth Service to discuss their proposals and Youth Facilities**
Cllr Bigwood advised that he had attended the meeting and the Youth Service had requested financial support to keep the service going. The consultation period had been extended until the end of March. After some discussion it was **resolved** to write to the County Council advising them that the Parish Council would support all inclusive provision. It was **resolved** to defer the item on Youth Facilities as Cllr Wood was not at the meeting.
- 11/198 Report of Working Group to discuss plan for centre of Williton held on 16th January 2012**
Cllr Peeks advised that all landowners around the recreation ground and interested parties had been invited to the next meeting.
- 11/199 Report of Meeting to discuss Queen's Jubilee celebrations held on 23rd January 2012**
The meeting was well attended and minutes were available which would be circulated with the agenda for the next meeting on 27th February.
- 11/200 Report of Meeting with Twinning Association held on 12th January 2012**
Cllr Bigwood reported on the progress with the German Twinning and advised that they were looking for host families. After some discussion about Parish Council representation it was **resolved** unanimously that Cllr Bigwood would represent the Parish Council at future meetings and report back. He in turn would arrange with the Twinning Association to write to the Parish Council to formalise the situation.
- 11/201 Report of Meeting of Williton Children's Centre Advisory Centre held on 3rd February 2012**
There was no report as Cllr Wood was not present.
- 11/202 West Somerset Voluntary Sector Forum – representation from Parish Council**
Cllr Beaver advised she was attending the next meeting and would advise whether or not she felt that a Parish representative would be required for future meetings.
- 11/203 Devolvement of Services**

Talks were ongoing with the District Council to discuss an exchange of grounds maintenance work and it was advised there was a need for the Parish to supply 93.4 hours per year or pay for this service.

11/204 Williton Community Hall

There was nothing to report as the transfer documents had still not been received.

11/205 Olympic Torch

Cllrs McDonald and Beaver had attended a meeting with the District Council to discuss the arrangements but were sworn to secrecy. However they were able to advise that the torch would be coming through part of Williton for 12 minutes on 21st May from Taunton turning left at Bellamy's Corner towards Minehead. There were a lot of restrictions in place regarding dressing the village and advertising.

11/206 Street Art 2012

Some concern was expressed regarding support for this project and the Clerk was asked to check with Cllr Wood that she had received enough offers of help, and in particular erecting and taking down the boards where it was agreed to pay for this help if it was within budget. The Groundsman would be asked to paint the boards whilst he had capacity before the Spring. This matter was to be put on the Finance and Administration Committee.

11/207 Matters for the next meeting to be held on 5th March 2012

Integration of Health and Community Services

Meeting closed at 10.00 pm