

WILLITON PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of the Full Council Meeting held on 2nd April 2013 at 7.00 pm
at the Parish Office, Killick Way, Williton

Attendees:

Councillors	McDonald (Chairman), Peeks, James, Vaughan, Bigwood, Woods and Bruford
SCC	Trollope-Bellew
WSC	May and Davies
Avon and Somerset Constabulary	None
Press	Mrs C Webb
Clerk	Ms J Johnson-Smith
Public	2 members
Other	

Apologies:

Councillors Koch, Bennett, Beaver, Wood, Troman and PCSO Rowe

12/225 **Apologies as noted above.**

12/226 **Declarations of Interest**

Name	Minute Item	Interest	Action
Cllr Peeks	12/229.1	Pecuniary	None
Cllr Peeks	12/241	Personal	None
Cllr Woods	12/234.5	Personal	No comment

12/227 **Co-option of new member**

An application had been received from Simon Bruford for the vacancy on the Council and after a proposition from Cllr James seconded by Cllr Woods it was **resolved** unanimously to co-opt Mr Bruford on to the Council and the Declaration of Office was duly signed.

12/228 **Approval of the Minutes of the Meeting held on 4th March 2013**

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

12/229 **Matters to Report**

12/229.1 (Item 12/207.1) Hinkley C Consultation It was **resolved** to note the granting of the Environmental permits from the Environment Agency and the Development Consent Order from the Planning Inspectorate.

12/230 **Report from Avon and Somerset Constabulary**

There was no written report but it was **resolved** to note the report given to the Clerk of the crime figures. It was further **resolved** to note the receipt of the crime log for the vandalism on the play equipment and that there was no money available to help with the cost of CCTV cameras. Three speedwatch sessions had taken place and further sessions were due to be held.

12/231 **Report from Somerset County Councillor**

Cllr Trollope-Bellew advised that there was little to report due to the forthcoming elections. It was noted that the work for the pedestrian crossing had not started and the Clerk was asked to chase this. As this was the last meeting that Cllr Trollope-Bellew would be reporting as County Councillor the Chairman thanked him on behalf of the members for all his work and support during his time on the Council.

12/232 **Report from West Somerset District Councillors**

It was **resolved** to note the updates on various highways issues by Cllr May and that meetings had taken place to look at the flooding issues. A meeting would be held with the Highways Department to look at the problems under the bridge at the entrance to the village. He further advised that the empty shop in Long Street had been passed to another member of the family and it was hoped that this situation would improve. He commented on the new owners of the pumping house and that it had now been tidied up.

Cllr Davies pointed out that there were limited funds available to help families who had been affected by the new government changes in discretionary housing payments.

12/233 Chairman's Notices

The Clerk advised that she had just been notified of the sudden death of Peter Lacey, Secretary of SALC and she advised that she would send a letter of condolence to his widow. She further advised that an invitation had been received for the Exmoor Society to attend the Spring Conference at Dulverton at a cost of £12 per person. As this conference was going to address the flooding issues it was **resolved** that the Chairman would attend. He also agreed to attend a free course on Influencing change in your Community being held on 10th June. Cllr Wood offered to attend the Somerset Play Forum Spring Celebration on behalf of the Council at a cost of £20 but as this was not considered to be of benefit to the Council it was **resolved** not to subsidise this. Late correspondence had been received from the Quantock Hills AONB Service requesting to take part in a survey and from the Highways Department regarding temporary road closures on A39 at Washford from 30th April for 2 evenings and at Townsend on 15th May for 2 days.

12/234 Correspondence

12/234.1 It was **resolved** to note the contents of the correspondence log.

12/234.2 It was **resolved** to note the details of the Remembrance Garden at Watchet Cemetery from Watchet Town Council.

12/234.3 It was **resolved** to note the request to comment on the consultation of the Devon and Somerset Fire and Rescue Draft Plan and Cllr Bruford agreed to look at this and send comments back to the Clerk for circulation before the deadline of 22nd April.

12/234.4 It was **resolved** to note the document on Openness and Transparency on Personal Interests sent by the District Council

12/234.5 It was **resolved** to note the response from Reminiscence Learning that the £200 grant awarded by the Parish Council would be spend on a double sided sign to go on the fence of the garden at Croft House. It was **resolved** to grant this payment provided that relevant permission had been obtained.

12/235 Report from the Environment and Planning Committee held on 11th March 2013

It was **resolved** to note the report

12/235.1 (Item 12/109.3B) Sustainable Verges It was **resolved** to note the report of the working group and that a request would be made for volunteers to help plant seeds on 16th April. It was **resolved** to note that the public liability had been checked with the insurance company and it was agreed to submit a press release to request volunteers to help.

12/235.2 (Item 12/117B) Review of Parish Boundaries It was **resolved** to invite members of Sampford Brett Parish Council to a Committee meeting to discuss the boundary at Tower Hill before sending a letter to the Boundary Commission.

12/236 Report from the Finance and Administration Committee held on 18th March 2013

It was **resolved** to note the report.

12/236.1 It was **resolved** to note the Financial Reserve Estimated Provisions as at 28th February 2013.

12/236.2 (Item 12/82.3A) Website It was **resolved** to accept Edward Martin's offer of converting the existing website to a content managed site at no additional costs to the Parish Council (carried by 6 votes with 1 abstention). The Clerk advised that he and his trainee had agreed to meet her to work on the detail.

12/236.3 (Item 12/84.1A) Councillors' Allowances It was **resolved** to grant one ream of paper per Councillor at the beginning of each financial year to help with the increased printing costs.

12/236.4 (Item 12/88A) Freedom of Information After some discussion it was **resolved** to seek professional advice on how to respond to requests for information as there were strict legal guidelines.

12/237 To approve accounts for payment

It was **resolved** to approve the accounts on the attached list.

12/238 Report of meeting to discuss Parish Plan held on 20th March 2013

It was **resolved** to note the report and that a further meeting had been scheduled for 10th April at 7pm.

12/239 Report of Watchet, Williton and Quantocks Area Panel Meeting held on 19th March 2013

It was **resolved** to note the report.

12/240 Report of Community Youth Club Handbook Launch Event held on 18th March 2013

It was **resolved** to note the handbook had been received and was available in the Parish Office.

12/241 Report of Meeting with West Somerset Council to discuss public conveniences in Williton

It was **resolved** to note that there would be a reduction to two unisex toilets, one of which would be for disabled use. These would be refurbished shortly and would be trialled throughout the summer when the rest of the building would be closed. These would be managed by the District Council for the next financial year.

12/242 Report of Chairmen's Meeting held on 27th March 2013

The Chairman advised that this meeting had enabled a good opportunity of an exchange of ideas between neighbouring Councils.

12/243 Flooding Issues

The Chairman advised that he had held meetings with Wyndham Estate and Magna Housing and plans were being put together for the next phase which was to bring together those with riparian issues and invite the Environment Agency back for further advice. Cllr Bruford pointed out that there was a lot of debris in the river behind Danesfield School. A vote of thanks was recorded to the Chairman and Cllr May for all their work on this matter.

12/244 Royal British Legion Poppy Wreath

After some discussion it was **resolved** that the Chairman in future would choose the wreath with the Royal British Legion and the Parish Council would pay.

12/245 It was **resolved** to exclude the press and public from the remainder of the meeting.

12/246 Report from Meeting with Wyndham Estate held on 8th March 2013

It was **resolved** to note the report of the meeting which was to discuss flooding issues and the future development of Williton. It was **resolved** to write to West Somerset Council, David Gliddon, Wyndham Estate and the Co-op to arrange a meeting to discuss some of the options.

12/247 Matters for the Annual Parish meeting to be held on 6th May 2013

Election of Officers, Committees and Representatives

Meeting closed at 9.15pm