

WILLITON PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of the Full Council Meeting held on 2nd June 2014 at 7.15 pm
at the Council Chamber, Williton

Attendees:

Councillors	McDonald (Chairman), Koch, Bruford, Bigwood, James, Bennett, Peeks, Denton and Stiven
SCC	Davies
WSC	May
Avon and Somerset Constabulary	PCSO Bolton
Press	Danielle Morris
Clerk	Mrs J Johnson-Smith
Public	13 members
Other	None

Apologies:

Councillors Vaughan and Woods

14/25 **Apologies as noted above.**

14/26 **Declarations of Interest**

Name	Agenda Item	Interest	Action
Cllr Denton	14/35.3	Personal	No vote
Cllr Denton	14/39	Personal	No vote
Cllr Davies	14/39	Pecuniary	Left room
Cllr Stiven	14/39	Prejudicial	Left room
Cllr Peeks	14/39	Personal and Pecuniary	Left room
Cllr Peeks	14/33.4 & 14/34.1	Personal and Pecuniary	No comment

14/27 **Approval of the Minutes of the Meeting held on 6th May 2014**

It was unanimously **resolved** to approve the minutes after adding Cllr Denton to those present and deleting "this had not been forthcoming" to "had not received required information" in Item 14/09.6 and to delete "asking for weight restrictions" to "to express concern" in the last sentence of Item 14/12.

14/28 **Matters Arising from the Minutes**

14/28.1 (Item 14/09.1) Hinkley C Consultation The Clerk advised that she had received notification earlier in the day of the launch of the Hinkley Point C Community Impact Mitigation Funding. £3.5m had been received by West Somerset Council, £2m of which had been ring fenced for the West Somerset administrative area. The purpose of the fund was to mitigate the impacts of the project on the local communities and bids were invited provided they met the relevant criteria.

14/28.2 (Item 14/09.2) Dumping of Nuclear Waste There was no further update but further information was expected later in the month at the next meeting.

14/28.3 (Item 14/03.3) Memorial Event to mark World War I The Chairman advised that arrangements for the inter-dominational church service would take place on 3rd September but the date for the other activities would need to be changed to 20th September. More details would be available shortly.

14/28.4 (Item 14/09.4) Flood Plan The Parish Council would continue to work with landowners and other Parish Councils in the form of the West Somerset Flood Plan Group who would be meeting again in June.

14/28.5 (Item 14/09.5) Weekend Car Park Charges It was **resolved** to note that no response had been received regarding setting up a meeting with Chris Hall and the Clerk agreed to chase this up.

14/28.6 (Item 14/09.6) Youth Council Cllr Bruford advised that he was in the process of following up information and hoped to report back to the next meeting.

14/29 **Report from Avon and Somerset Constabulary**

This item was brought forward to before Item 14/28. It was **resolved** to note the report of the latest crime statistics which were mainly traffic related. Concern was expressed by members at the increase in criminal damage on the Recreation Ground.

14/30 **Report from Somerset County Councillor**

Cllr Davies expressed concern over some personal misinformation being placed on the internet and that it had been reported. He also expressed concern of the number of evictions to Crown Estate properties that were taking place and the County Council was challenging these decisions. The sale of the West Somerset Railway had been shelved and a new Chief Executive had been appointed with a reduced salary. Libraries would be refurbished with new computers and he advised that help was available for young people with their CVs and to do voluntary work. Webbers buses were no longer contracted to run the Park and Ride and this contract would be given to First Buses. Members asked how the Inner Relief Road could be included in the highway programme to which he replied that it would need to be included later in the year in order for it to be considered in next year's list

14/31 Report from West Somerset District Councillors

Cllr May advised that he would be happy to meet Councillors if he was unable to attend a monthly meeting. He also advised that he would be attending a meeting in Portishead with the Police to look at the issue on the closure of the police stations and was asked if he could draw their attention to the very poor communication with the Parish Council. He would be seeing the Highways Department regarding a new surface for Long Street. The hedge trimming programme was under way and side streets would be done later in the year. He asked if the Parish Council would allow him to plant a tree on the Copse and it was agreed to put this before the Environment and Planning Committee. He also agreed to sign a form regarding walking the path from Catwell to Townsend which Cllr Davies agreed to obtain and pass on.

14/32 Clerk's/Chairman's Notices

The Clerk advised she had received a late application for the vacancy on the Council which would be brought forward to the next meeting. She advised a request had been received from the Development Co-ordinator of Somerset Care to meet to see if there were ways to forge links with the community and the Clerk agreed to invite her to the next Council meeting. The Clerk reminded all members of the SALC training course for Councillors at Watchet on 24th July and Cllrs Bennett, Denton and Stiven agreed to attend if the course was going ahead. A letter had been received addressed to the Chairman from the Friends of the Williton War Memorial Recreation Ground and it was **resolved** that the Chairman and Cllr Vaughan would reply to the questions that had been raised regarding the pavilion project.

14/33 Correspondence

14/3.1 It was **resolved** to note the contents of the correspondence log.

14/33.2 It was **resolved** to note the temporary road closures at Bicknoller on 26th June and Crowcombe on 25th June for one night.

14/33.3 It was **resolved** to note the request to arrange a visit to the Youth Club from the Youth and Community Project Officer and Cllr Bruford advised that he was waiting to hear back regarding a date.

14/33.4 It was **resolved** to note the request to update the Top 5 Parish Priorities for Williton and to put before the Environment and Planning Committee to make recommendations to the next meeting and it was suggested including the Inner Relief Road within these priorities.

14/34 Report from the Environment and Planning Committee held on 12th May 2014

It was **resolved** to note the report. Cllr James asked if the Committee would consider more frequent litter collections at Doniford Car Park during the holiday season.

14/34.1 (Item 14/11B) It was **resolved** to agree to the recommendations not to object to the late planning application 3/39/14/014 for an installation of a dormer window at 7 Rylands Close.

14/35 Report from the Finance and Administration Committee held on 19th May 2014

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

14/35.1 (Item 14/06.2A) It was **resolved** to agree to the recommendations of a budget of £500 for the memorial seat for Paul Foster after a proposal by Cllr Koch seconded by Cllr Peeks.

14/35.2 (Item 14/08.2A) It was **resolved** to note the provisions as at 30th April 2014.

14/35.3 (Item 14/11.1A) It was **resolved** to agree to the recommendations not to sponsor the request after a proposal by Cllr Peeks seconded by Cllr Koch.

14/36 To receive accounts for payment not covered by Finance and Admin Committee

There were none.

14/37 To approve and sign Annual Statement of Accounts and Annual Governance Statement 2013-2014

It was **resolved** to sign the Annual Statement of Accounts after the Clerk had advised she had added a paragraph to the notes regarding the termination of contract of the Groundsman at the request of the Auditor. It was further **resolved** to approve the Annual Governance Statement 2013-2014 and return to the External Auditor and the document was duly signed by the Chairman and Clerk.

14/38 Matters to Report from Parish Assembly

It was **resolved** to note that the actions from the Parish Assembly had been carried out.

14/39 Planning application 3/39/14/010 – land at Bank Street/Fore Street - Redevelopment of site to provide a food store (A1), retail shops (A1), professional and financial services (A2), food and drink uses (A3), health services (D1), residential dwellings (C3), vehicle and pedestrian access, associated car parking and landscaping (Re-submission of 3/39/11/002).

This item had been moved forward before item 14/28 to enable the public present to listen to the members' comments on the application. Members of public had addressed the meeting during the public participation period. A list of comments put forward by a working group was discussed in detail and as a result of a difference of opinion with some of the items Cllr James put forward a proposal to amend the list of comments by deleting those comments that not all members agreed. This was seconded by Cllr Koch and carried with 5 votes for, 1 against and 1 abstention. The agreed comments to put forward to the District Council were as follows:

"Whilst members welcome the fact that the applicant has addressed some comments raised at the previous submission, members would now like to make the following comments based on what was submitted last time.

- 1 The scheme prevents the building of the Inner Relief Road. This is a major development and an opportunity to contribute funding towards the road and the land at the back of Fore Street could help to accommodate this. The Parish Council is fully supportive of the relief road and in supporting this application puts the Council at odds with their long term plan for Williton. It would also mean that the supermarket and its related parking could be serviced by the relief road and not as proposed by the existing A39 along Banks Street.
- 2 Lloyds Bank High Street presence is a great asset to the village and attracts many outsiders. The loss of this bank or relocation is considered detrimental to the vitality of the village centre. The applicant states that Lloyds is likely to move to the new development but there is no proof of this at this time and relocation is very costly. Current Lloyds Bank is the only bank with disabled access in Williton. A letter to the Planning Authority from the Estate Manager of Lloyds Bank suggests that it would be unlikely for the bank to relocate due to heavy relocation costs and requests that the plans are altered in order to maintain the existing unit at 23 Fore Street.
- 3 Bridge Street/A39 junction/supermarket entrance – the new layout does not appear to improve the potential traffic flow which we still consider to be a problem. Williton is already a bottleneck and the new development is likely to increase the traffic problems due to anticipated additional traffic volume.
- 4 With the access to Fore Street, site barriers would have to be fitted along the pavement to stop children running into the road. This will mean that some or all of the parking in front of the shops will have to be removed. There will also be a loss of parking outside Gliddons.
- 5 It is felt that 2 roundabouts in Priest Street in close proximity would lead to a backup of traffic.

Members seek clarification and evidence regarding the following comment which causes concern.

"Members of the Environment and Planning Committee would like to bring to the planners' attention that it is believed that this land was historically used for burying waste material including old tractors, oil and waste agricultural equipment and would question the safety of the land for building."

14/40 Community Speedwatch

Cllr Koch gave an update of the latest statistics of the speedwatch figures.

14/41 Matters for the next meeting to be held on 7th July 2014

Review of Venue

Meeting closed at 9.00pm