

WILLITON PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of the Full Council Meeting held on 3rd August 2015 at 6.45 pm
at the Council Chamber, Killick Way, Williton.

Attendees:

| | |
|---------------------------------------|---|
| Councillors | McDonald (Chair), Aldridge, Bennett, Denton, Kirkham, Koch, Perrett, Richards, Vaughan and White. |
| SCC | Davies |
| WSC | Davies, Aldridge |
| Avon and Somerset Constabulary | None |
| Press | None |
| Clerk | Mrs Michelle Francis |
| Public | Four members |
| Other | None |

Apologies:

Councillors Bigwood and Peeks

Before the start of the meeting Steve Mewes, Consultation Manager, from Tidal Lagoon Power Ltd addressed the council and spoke about tidal lagoon power. The Chair thanked Mr Mewes for his presentation and invited him to return when the Swansea Lagoon is under construction and to speak further about the proposed Bridgwater Bay Lagoon.

15/70 Apologies as noted above.

15/71 Declarations of Interest

| Name | Agenda Item | Interest | Action |
|---------------|---|-------------------------|-----------|
| Cllr Richards | 15/74.2, 15.74.3/ 15/74.5, 15/74.9, 15/77 | Pecuniary, WSC Employee | |
| Cllr Vaughan | 15/87 | Personal | Left Room |

15/72 Approval of the Minutes of the Meeting held on 6th July 2015

After a proposal from Cllr Vaughan, seconded by Cllr Kirkham, it was unanimously **resolved** to approve the minutes, after an amendment to item 15/53.

15/73 Approval of the Minutes of the closed Extra-ordinary meeting held on 27th July 2015

After a proposal from Cllr Koch, seconded by Cllr Vaughan, it was unanimously **resolved** to approve the minutes.

15/74 Matters to Report from the Minutes

- 15/74.1 (Item 15/50.1) Hinkley A Cllr Vaughan reported the sign at Washford Cross relating to Raleghs Cross had been spelt incorrectly. It was **resolved** the Clerk would ask for the sign to be corrected.
- 15/74.2 (Item 15/50.2) Flood Plan Cllr McDonald reported that Somerset Rivers Authority had held a meeting, to which he unfortunately was unable to attend due to personal circumstances; he confirmed he would forward a copy of the report. The waterproof clothing had been dispatched and was due to arrive at the Parish Office shortly.
- 15/74.3 (Item 15/50.3) Weekend Car Park Charges It was **resolved** to note there was no further report.
- 15/74.4 (Item 15/50.4) Regional Youth Council Cllr Denton reported he had not been able to gain any information. It was **resolved** Cllr Denton would contact Eddie May to request contact details, as Mr May had attended the last meeting and may have the information.
- 15/74.5 (Item 15/50.5) Public Toilets The Clerk reported she had spoken to Cllr Martin Dewdney, (who had taken over the portfolio from Cllr Karen Mills), and had been told the work was imminent. Cllr Richards advised the maintenance manager had recently retired and that his replacement would hopefully be in place within 14 days.
- 15/74.6 (Item 15/50.6) Mobile Youth Projects It was **resolved** to note that Cllr Denton had not managed to contact Naomi Griffiths from Minehead Eye and that Cllr Denton would try again to find out where the skate ramps were being stored.

- 15/74.7 (Item 15/50.7) Defibrillator The Clerk reported that the staff at the Spar were currently untrained in the use of the Defibrillator, the Manager would like to undertake the training but had been unable to attend the previous training session. It was **resolved** the Clerk would contact the Fire Station and request another training session, possibly for October. It was **resolved** when the date had been set to advertise again through the local businesses.
- 15/74.8 (Item 15/50.8) Street Art in the Tractor Shed Cllr Bennett reported Angie Wood had agreed to hold another Street Art, hopefully for later in the year. Cllr McDonald reminded those present that storage would still be needed for the boards.
- 15/74.9 (Item 15/50.10) Letter to West Somerset Council – Local Council Tax Support It was **resolved** to note the letter that had been sent to Ian Liddell-Grainger. It was **resolved** to note a reply had not yet been received.
- 15/74.10 (Item 15/50.11) High Speed Broadband It was **resolved** to note no reply had been received from Ian Liddell-Grainger and West Somerset Council regarding the Phase 2 Rural Superfast Broadband contract with BT.
- 15/74.11 (Item 15/50.12) Closure of Natwest Bank As reported last month, the Parish Council had a meeting, on 2nd July with Mr Steve Aldridge from Natwest. Further to that meeting questions remained unanswered, including, where the mobile unit would be situated. It was **resolved** to note a further meeting was due to be held with Michael Godman from Natwest, Cllr Karen Mills, Dulverton Town Council and Williton Parish Council, a date for which had not yet been confirmed.
- 15/74.12 (Item 15/57.2) A letter had been received from Tsunami Dojos thanking the Parish Council for their donation of £250.00 towards to cost of replacement mats, but that the Club had already managed to raise the full amount; they asked if the money could be spent on three training dummies instead. After a proposal from Cllr Aldridge, seconded by Cllr Perrett it was unanimously **resolved** that the money could be used for the purchase of the training dummies.

15/75 Report from Avon and Somerset Constabulary

It was **resolved** to note the written report that had been received. It was **resolved** to note the crime statistics and that members of the Speed Watch had been thanked for all their time and effort. Cllr Denton asked why out of 260 calls only 21 were reported as crimes; it was **resolved** the Clerk would request further details.

- 15/75.1 It was **resolved** to note the letter sent to Sue Mountstevens, Avon and Somerset Police and Crime Commissioner regarding the requested information about Councillors concerns, and the subsequent reply to which had been received and forwarded. Cllr McDonald reported there was an alarming indication on future financing and that £40 million had to be saved by 2018/19 to balance the books.

15/76 Report from Somerset County Councillor

Cllr Davies advised that Williton was still on schedule to receive high speed broadband in October, as previously stated, as the work would be done under Phase One.

Further to Cllr Vaughan's request at the last Parish Council meeting, Cllr Davies had looked into funding support for Youth projects, it was **resolved** to note more details about the financial plan for 2016/17 would be available in the autumn, but in the meantime he had been advised the District Council would continue to support Youth Projects and further details could be found on their website. Cllr Davies would pass the contact information for the Service Manager to Cllr Denton.

The lack of visibility at the entrance to Roughmoor Industrial Estate had been addressed with Highways and the vegetation would be cut back by either Highways or the landowners.

Cllr Davies reported on the email received from Highways regarding the parking outside of Sir Gilbert Scott Court, on the A39, stating that double yellow lines would not be installed and that Cllr Davies thought this was very dangerous and would re-address in the future.

Cllr Davies had met the SIS officer regarding the proposed Pedestrian Crossings outside Danesfield School and it was suggested the Parish Council seek funding from the CIM fund as a need had already been noted by this fund. Cllr Davies confirmed he will address the crossing outside St Peter's School under the SIS fund and hoped for confirmation by October 2015.

At Dunster Show on Friday 21st August, West Somerset Council will be attending to chat to the public regarding balancing their budget.

An irregularity had been found on how the signs had been installed at Withycombe straight going down into Carhampton and because of this the speed limit had been upgraded from 30mph to 40mph, but caution was still advised as it was still 30mph at the bottom.

Traffic lights would be installed from the 7th – 21st August at Five Bells for telephone installations.

Cllr Vaughan asked if the main A39 at West Quantoxhead would be closed in September for the planned roadwork investigations. Cllr Davies advised no further details had been received as yet, except that the work was still planned for September.

15/77 Report from West Somerset District Councillors – Williton Ward

Cllr Aldridge spoke regarding the footpath between Townsend and Catwell. Cllr McDonald confirmed this had already been addressed with Wyndham Estate and it was on their schedule of work.

Cllr Aldridge expressed concern regarding the finances at West Somerset Council and reported if the council tax was increased by 1% WSC would only net an extra £19,000.00. With the loss of business rates from Hinkley Point, West Somerset Council were facing difficult times.

Cllr Vaughan expressed concern regarding the seagull problem on the trading estate at Somerset Waste Partnership. Cllr Koch suggested the company use netting. It was **resolved** the Clerk would contact Cllr Martin Dewdney regarding the concern.

Cllr Davies referred to a letter he had received from West Somerset Council apologising for the error regarding the money lost from Hinkley Point business rates, which amounted to a loss of income of £300,000.00.

A consultation would start on the 7th September regarding a Council Tax Rebate Scheme for working age council tax users. Information could be obtained from West Somerset Council website, under Revenues and Benefits.

A conference would be held at the Beach Hotel, Minehead, on Saturday 17th October 2015 regarding Isolation and Loneliness. Flyers regarding the event would be sent to the Clerk.

A presentation would be given regarding the phase 2 broadband at Upottery on 5th August 2015 which would challenge the monitory situation.

15/78 Clerk's/Chairman's Notices

The Clerk advised a reply had been received by Bruce Lang regarding the vacancy for a Parish/Town Council representative on the West Somerset Standards Advisory Committee with a list of expressions of interest. A nomination had to be returned by 30th September, due to the fact the Parish Council will not meet until 5th October, it was **resolved** to include this item at the Trustee meeting on 21st September 2015.

Councillors were reminded of the Training on the Code of Conduct to be held on Tuesday 8th September and Monday 14th September, and were asked to contact the Clerk if they wished to attend a session.

SLCC National Conference would be held on 15th-17th October 2015.

The Clerk reported information had been received on Somerset Choices and literature was available in the Parish Office.

15/79 Correspondence

15/79.1 It was **resolved** to note the contents of the correspondence log.

15/79.2 It was **resolved** to note the letter of thanks from Williton Window regarding their donation.

15/79.3 It was **resolved** to note the information regarding Joint Strategic Needs Assessment.

15/80 Report from the Environment and Planning Committee held on 13th July 2015

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

15/80.1 (Item 15/22.2B) 'Recommendation to erect a notice stating intention to claim land between St Peters Close and High Street'. It was **resolved** to send this item to the Finance and Administration Committee to consider cost implications, then to refer back to Parish Council with a recommendation. Cllrs Vaughan and Davies reported that Magna had installed both the bollards and archway, it was **resolved** the Clerk would write to Magna again stating this fact and asking again if they are the landowners.

15/80.2 (Item 15/27B) After a proposal from Cllr Koch, seconded by Cllr Richards, it was **resolved** to agree the recommendations made from the Committee regarding Williton's Top 5 Parish Priorities. It was unanimously **resolved** the Clerk would reply.

15/81 Report from Finance & Admin Committee held on 20th July 2015

15/81.1 It was **resolved** to note the provisions as at 30th June 2015.

15/81.2 A proposal was received from Cllr Vaughan to transfer the Community Hall aspect on the provisions sheet and replace it with the Pavilion Project, which was seconded by Cllr Aldridge. After a vote, with 7 in favour and 2 against, it was **resolved** to agree the proposal

15/81.3 (Item 15/18.1A) After a proposal from Cllr Denton, seconded by Cllr Vaughan, it was **resolved** to agree the recommended letter was sent to local businesses regarding the proposed pedestrian improvements. It was **resolved** that Cllr Denton and Cllr Bennett would personally visit the local businesses with the letter.

15/82 To receive accounts for payment not covered by Finance and Admin Committee

| Date | Details | Cheque No. | Invoice No. | Total Bank £ | Cash £ | VA £ |
|----------------|--|------------|-------------|--------------|--------|------|
| 03 August 2015 | Exmoor Cleaning Services 4510 Office Cleaning | 2791 | 1886 | 12.00 | | |
| 03 August 2015 | Active Signs 6640 Pavilion Project | 2792 | 20.10993 | 11.47 | | |
| 03 August 2015 | SALC 4520 Training | 2793 | 830 | 100.00 | | |
| 03 August 2015 | SLCC 2794 Affiliation Fees | 2794 | | 149.00 | | |

15/83 Report from Pavilion Working Group

Cllr Vaughan reported the recent decision by West Somerset District Council to award the project a further £149,000.00. This together with the amount raised at the Fete, being £2,500.00, brought the total funding for the project to almost £500,000.00. Other potential funding opportunities were still being explored. It was intended to appoint a Project Manager in the near future. It was reported the Trustees would only continue with the contractor to finalise the design and agree a schedule of work, when all the funding had been secured.

15/84 Highways

There was nothing to report.

15/85 Report from Watchet, Williton and Quantock Area Panel held on 9th June 2015

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

15/86 Police and Emergency Services Liaison

A reply had been received from Sargent Nigel Downey who confirmed the option of a liaison officer would be a good idea. It was **resolved** to note a meeting would be arranged between Sg Downey, Cllr White and Cllr McDonald.

15/87 Planning Applications for Consideration

| Application No | Location | Details | Comment |
|----------------|------------------------------------|---|---------------|
| 3/39/15/008 | 94 Long Street | Erection of a rear kitchen extension and conversion of the existing loft into accommodation | No objections |
| 3/39/15/010 | Walton Cottage 12 Bridge Street | Extend the existing central chimney with new chimney pot and fit air bricks for ventilation. This is to accommodate installation of a new wood burner | No objections |

15/88 Williton Fete Report

Cllr Bennett reported the Fete had been a great success and thanks were given to Sarah Towells for being the driving force. The next planned event would be a Halloween Hog-roast on Saturday 31st October 2015.

15/89 Nominations for Chairman's Awards for Service to the Community

After a proposal from Cllr Aldridge, seconded by Cllr Koch, it was unanimously **resolved** to propose Eddie May. Cllrs Aldridge and Koch would supply the relevant information to enable the Clerk to submit the form.

15/90 SALC AGM – Saturday 26th September 2015

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

15/91 It was resolved to exclude the press and public from the remainder of the meeting

Cllr Kirkham expressed his concern regarding the disruption caused from members of the public during the meeting. It was **resolved** that at the beginning of future meetings, the Chair would request members of the public to remain quiet.

15/92 Office Computers

The Clerk had previously presented Councillors with three quotations. After a proposal from Cllr Denton, seconded by Cllr Aldridge, it was **resolved** to agree the quotation from Edward Martin Computers at a cost of £495 + vat for the purchase and installation of a new computer. It was **resolved** not to enter into a maintenance contract.

15/93 Parish Office Window

The Clerk had previously presented Councillors with three quotations. After a proposal from Cllr Vaughan, seconded by Cllr Koch, it was unanimously **resolved** to agree the quotation from B Walsh & Sons at a cost of £417.00 plus vat

15/94 Matters for the next Parish Council meeting to be held on Monday 5th October 2015, Parish Office

Budget Considerations

Pedestrian Crossings

Health and Safety

Meeting closed at 9.10 pm