

# WILLITON PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of the Full Council Meeting held on 3<sup>rd</sup> February 2014 at 7pm  
at the Parish Council Office, Williton

## Attendees:

<b>Councillors</b>	McDonald (Chairman), Bigwood, Beaver, Bennett, Vaughan, Peeks, Woods, Troman, Bruford, Denton (from item 13/181.7) and Koch
<b>SCC</b>	Cllr Davies
<b>WSC</b>	Cllr May
<b>Avon and Somerset Constabulary</b>	PC David Masters
<b>Press</b>	Mrs C Webb
<b>Clerk</b>	Mrs J Johnson-Smith
<b>Public</b>	15 members
<b>Other</b>	None

## Apologies:

**Councillors** James

**13/178** **Apologies as noted above.** The Chairman asked to move item 13/182 after 13/180

### **13/179** **Declarations of Interest**

Name	Agenda Item	Interest	Action
Cllr Peeks	13/181.2	Personal	No comment
Cllr Peeks	13/186.3 & 13/187.1	Personal	No comment
Cllr Peeks	13/192	Personal	No comment
Cllr Peeks	13/194	Pecuniary	Left room

### **13/180** **Approval of the Minutes of the Meeting held on 6<sup>th</sup> January 2014**

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

### **13/181** **Matters to Report from the Minutes**

13/181.1 (Item 13/159.1) Hinkley C Consultation There was nothing further to report.

13/181.2 (Item 13/159.2) Dumping of Nuclear Waste It was noted that no response had been received to the comments raised at the last meeting.

13/181.3 (Item 13/159.3) Purchase of Defibrillator It was **resolved** to note that the cost of the defibrillator had increased by £33 as it had taken so long to order due to applications being made for grant funding. It was **resolved** to pay the increase after a proposition by Cllr Vaughan seconded by Cllr Koch. Details of training had still not been received but would be circulated as soon as they were available.

13/181.4 (Item 13/159.4) Memorial Event to mark World War I Cllr Vaughan advised he had met with the British Legion who was happy to lead an event to mark this event on 3<sup>rd</sup> August on the Memorial Ground. They would also be holding an exhibition of memorabilia in the Parish Office. The Chairman had held a meeting with the clergy who were happy to include a multi-faith service starting with a march from the car park.

13/181.5 (Item 13/159.5) Christmas Festivities Mr Collard, winner of the 1<sup>st</sup> prize of the Christmas decoration competition was presented with his cheque. Prizes for the other winners would be delivered. Comment was made regarding sharing prizes and it was suggested including this when discussing the criteria for judging nearer this Christmas. It was **resolved** to note a letter from the library asking if they could be included in the judging for best decorated window this year.

13/181.6 (Item 13/172) Flood Plan The Chairman advised that the plan had been updated and he would be briefing the wardens shortly so that the plan could go into operation. He had identified locations for 3 huts to store equipment. He commented on how well the village had responded before Christmas and there would be a programme for the wardens and volunteers to implement throughout the summer.

13/181.7 (Item 13/174) Communication with Parishioners The Chairman advised that he had contacted Magna Housing who had agreed that Danesborough View's meeting room could be used to hold a public meeting to encourage parishioners to meet their Councillors and discuss issues concerning them. He suggested that if this was successful further venues would be found in other locations in the village to hold more public meetings. A request was made to look at ways to raise awareness so that parishioners were clearer who their Parish Councillors were.

**13/182 Report from Avon and Somerset Constabulary**

PC Masters gave details of the latest crime figures and commented that the numbers were down and Williton was still a safe place to live. He advised that PCSO Rowe would report back regarding the questions raised on the data collection for the SIDs. Some concern was expressed regarding the use of the 101 number and the time taken to be connected to the right station and he agreed to arrange a visit to a call centre so that members could see how it worked.

**13/183 Report from Somerset County Councillor**

Cllr Davies advised that debates were due to take place at County Hall on important topics including sheltered housing and selling of assets. He commented that dog litter had become more of a problem within the village which could be due to the flooding of some of the footpaths. He advised that applications to the Health and Wellbeing fund may not be successful as he had received too many requests. Thanks were given to the Highways Department for their work in keeping Doniford Road open during the recent floods.

**13/184 Report from West Somerset District Councillors**

Cllr May raised a number of highways issues and gave an update on progress of these and on various flooding matters. He also gave an update on the situation with some of the empty properties in the village as well as the potholes. It was pointed out that farmers had a problem preventing water seeping on the highways due to new regulations from DEFRA which prevented them from digging ditches.

**13/185 Clerk's/Chairman's Notices**

The Clerk advised that she had received details of temporary road closures of High Street in Dunster from 10<sup>th</sup> March for 12 days and B3188 Combe Sydenham to Elworthy Cross from 17 February for 12 days. The Chairman read out a letter he had received from Rona Troman who had written as a parishioner expressing concern at the electoral process and lack of details available regarding the members of the Council. The Chairman asked members to consider the contents of the letter and bring their comments to the next meeting.

**13/186 Correspondence**

- 13/186.1 It was **resolved** to note the contents of the correspondence log. Cllr Beaver added she had completed an application form for a Youth and Community Grant to support the service until May 2015.
- 13/186.2 It was **resolved** to note the consultation regarding the proposals to the change of the admission policy at West Somerset College and to write back expressing concerns and seeking clarification regarding free transport for under 13s.
- 13/186.3 It was **resolved** to note the Somerset Transport survey that had been forwarded from the District Council and members were asked to complete their responses as individuals.
- 13/186.4 It was **resolved** to note the correspondence received from Mr Pennington regarding speeding in Long Street and the position of the new pedestrian crossing and the Clerk was asked to write back explaining why the Highways had to change the location and that the Parish Council was working to tackle the speeding issues and the improved entrance to the Recreation Ground.
- 13/186.5 It was **resolved** to note the correspondence from Mr Martin who also expressed concern at speeding in Long Street and empty buildings and the Clerk was asked to reply assuring him that the Parish Council was aware of these issues and were working with the authorities to try and tackle them.

**13/187 Report from the Environment and Planning Committee held on 13<sup>th</sup> January 2014**

It was **resolved** to note the report

- 13/187.1 (Item 13/101B) It was **resolved** to agree the recommendations put forward from the Committee regarding planning application 3/39/14/001 for change of use of public toilets.

**13/188 Report from the Finance and Administration Committee held on 20<sup>th</sup> January 2014**

It was **resolved** to note the report

- 13/188.1 (Item 13/94.2A) It was **resolved** to note the provisions as at 31<sup>st</sup> December 2013.
- 13/188.2 (Item 13/94.4A) This item would be dealt with at 13/194 below.
- 13/188.3 (Item 13/99A) It was **resolved** to give a copy of the proposed assets for sale or disposal to the Environment and Planning Committee so that they could make comment to the recommendations.
- 13/188.4 (Item 13/101A) This item would be dealt with at 13/194 below.

**13/189 To receive accounts for payment not covered by Finance and Admin Committee**

It was **resolved** to make the following payments.

Date	Details	Cheque No.	Invoice No.	Total Bank £	Cash £
03-Feb-14	Cotswold Hardy Plants 6215 Copse	2580	130	82.87	
03-Feb-14	Mr Collard 6720 Xmas lighting, festival and competition	2581		30	
03-Feb-14	Mr and Mrs Gould 6720 Xmas lighting, festival and competition	2582		20.00	
03-Feb-14	Heartstart Somerset 4105 Purchases of goods/equipment(assets)	2583	2	33.00	
21-Feb-14	***** 4205 Staff wages and salaries paid (net)	2584		1115.70	
21-Feb-14	***** 4205 Staff wages and salaries paid (net)	2585		491.82	

**13/190 Report of West Somerset Voluntary Sector Forum held on 3<sup>rd</sup> December 2013**

The Chairman attended the meeting and advised that the Parish Council had been invited to join the Forum. He felt it had been very constructive as it gave organisations a place to bring all their issues.

**13/191 Report from Pavilion Working Group**

Cllr Vaughan gave a verbal update of progress and advised that presentations had been advertised and arranged later during the week when members of the public could come in and look at the drawings and discuss details with a member of the Council. Feedback was being sought which would need to be analysed before proceeding to the next stage in April when the planning application would be submitted. Funding research continued but costs needed to be clearer before applications could be made in detail.

**13/192 Twinning Association**

Cllr Bigwood gave an update on the association and advised that a Bavarian night was being arranged on 15<sup>th</sup> February at Crowcombe Village Hall as they were working with establishing a 3 way twinning link with German as well as France. The group was due to visit Neung sur Beuvron shortly and the return visit would be next year. He commented that numbers of families had dropped since French had been taken out of the curriculum at Danesfield School.

**13/193** It was **resolved** unanimously to exclude the press and public from the remainder of the meeting

**13/194 Contractors for grass cutting County Council owned land and contractor for PATS testing**

After a proposition by Cllr Peeks, seconded by Cllr Koch, it was **resolved** unanimously to agree to the recommendation of the Finance and Administration Committee and continue with the present contractor for PATS testing and it was further **resolved** by 10 votes with 1 abstention, after a proposition by Cllr Koch seconded by Cllr Beaver to continue with West Somerset Council to cut the grass on County Council owned land on the grounds of price and satisfactory work during the past year.

**13/195 Matters for the next meeting to be held on 3<sup>rd</sup> March 2014**

Speedwatch

Meeting closed at 8.57pm