

WILLITON PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of the Full Council Meeting held on 5th October 2015 at 7.00 pm
at the Council Chamber, Killick Way, Williton.

Attendees:

Councillors	McDonald (Chair), Aldridge, Bennett, Bigwood, Kirkham, Peeks, Perrett, Richards, Vaughan and White.
SCC	None
WSC	Aldridge
Avon and Somerset Constabulary	PC Andrew Ware
Press	Mrs C Webb
Clerk	Mrs Michelle Francis
Public	Two members
Other	None

Apologies:

Councillors Davies, Denton and Perrett

Debbie Dennis, Village Agent was scheduled to address the Parish Council, but had unfortunately sent her apologies.

15/98 Apologies as noted above.

15/99 Declarations of Interest

Name	Agenda Item	Interest	Action
Cllr Richards	15/102.2, 15/102.3, 15/102.5, 15/102.9, 15/107.3, 15/113, 15/105	Pecuniary, WSC Employee	
Cllr Peeks	15/102.3, 15/102.5, 15/102.9, 15/107.3	Pecuniary, WSC Employee	
Cllr Vaughan	15/108	Pecuniary, EPC minutes records planning decision	None required as not discussed.

15/100 Approval of the Minutes of the Meeting held on 3rd August 2015

It was unanimously **resolved** to approve the minutes, with the exception of Cllr Peeks due to being absent at the August meeting.

15/101 Approval of the Minutes of the Extra-ordinary meeting held on 21st September 2015

Cllr Peeks had given her apologies and after this amendment it was unanimously **resolved** to approve the minutes.

15/102 Matters to Report from the Minutes

- 15/102.1 (Item 15/74.1) Hinkley A The Clerk reported the sign to Raleghs Cross had been corrected. There had been no further update apart from what had been reported in the national news.
- 15/102.2 (Item 15/74.2) Flood Plan Cllr McDonald reported a briefing had been organised with the Flood Wardens for Wednesday 14th October when the flood management kit would be distributed. Checks would be made on the whole Parish to ensure the Parish is as prepared as possible before the winter rains. Cllr McDonald confirmed the Flood Plan could be found on the Parish Council website.
- 15/102.3 (Item 15/74.3) Weekend Car Park Charges It was **resolved** to note the email that had been received from West Somerset Council confirming parking permits could be purchased at the start of any month of the year at a cost of £35.00. The email also confirmed that seasonal free parking would be offered in Williton for the pre-Christmas festivities.
- 15/102.4 (Item 15/74.4) Regional Youth Council No report had been submitted by Cllr Denton. An update had been received from Youth Community Service. Cllr McDonald advised the Council that Cllr Denton had been booked on a training course on Sunday 11th October 2015.
- 15/102.5 (Item 15/74.5) Public Toilets Keith Richards confirmed he had been chasing the contractor and had now taken the issue up with the Director of West Somerset Council, but to date, the work had still not been carried out. It was **resolved** to note there were issues with the locks.

- 15/102.6 (Item 15/74.6) Mobile Youth Projects No report had been submitted by Cllr Denton. It was **resolved** the Clerk would contact Minehead Eye to request an update on the skate ramps. PC Andrew Ware would also make enquiries as to their whereabouts.
- 15/102.7 (Item 15/74.7) Defibrillator Training A reply had been received from Williton Fire Brigade advising they were in the process of discussions with their senior officers to overcome insurance hurdles, but they hoped another training session could be carried out in early December. It was **resolved** when a date had been set it would be advertised to local businesses.
- 15/102.8 (Item 15/74.8) Street Art in the Tractor Shed Cllr Bennett reported he had left a message for Angie Wood but was awaiting a reply. Storage would still be needed for the boards.
- 15/102.9 (Item 15/74.9) Letter to West Somerset Council – Local Council Tax It was **resolved** to note a reply had not yet been received from Ian Liddell-Grainger MP. It was **resolved** the Clerk would contact Cllr Anthony Trollope-Bellew to request a meeting to discuss the withholding of grant funding.
- 15/102.10 (Item 15/74.10) High Speed Broadband It was **resolved** to note there was no further update.
- 15/102.11 (Item 15/37A) Closure of NatWest Bank Cllr McDonald reported he had attended a further meeting on behalf of Williton Parish Council with Michael Godman from NatWest, Cllr Karen Mills and Dulverton Town Council. It was discussed whether to allow NatWest to use two car-parking spaces outside the Parish Office. It was felt this would be beneficial for everyone because of the easy access to the carparks and to enable shelter in inclement weather. After a proposal from Cllr Richards, seconded by Cllr Peeks, it was unanimously **resolved** to allow the use of two parking spaces for a fee of £50.00 per calendar month. It was queried as to whether VAT would have to be charged; it was **resolved** the Clerk would contact HM Revenue and Customs to clarify the VAT situation and then would contact NatWest with the proposal.
- 15/102.12 (Item 15/74.12) It was **resolved** to note that before the start of this meeting a cheque was presented to Tsunami Dojos from the Parish Council for the sum of £250.00 towards to purchase of training dummies.

15/103 **Report from Avon and Somerset Constabulary**

PC Andrew Ware, Beat Manager, apologised for a limited report due to a new crime recording management system that had recently been installed. Whilst training had been undertaken, the system was still being learnt; so please bear with them. It was **resolved** to note the latest crime statistics. Cllr Aldridge asked for any information that could be given regarding the recent road traffic incident at the Paddocks, to which PC Ware advised he would unfortunately be unable to disclose details without a freedom of information request, as it was an on-going investigation. Cllr McDonald expressed his concern that there had been three accidents over that one weekend and reported that he had written a letter to Highways regarding visibility concerns at the Paddocks; further concern was raised regarding the speed of some motorists and suggested a review of traffic warning was undertaken to slow the traffic down. It was **resolved** the Clerk would forward a copy of the letter to PC Ware who confirmed he was in favour of anything to make the roads safer. The Chair thanked PC Ware for attending the meeting.

15/104 **Report from Somerset County Councillor**

Cllr McDonald read out a written report that had been received from Cllr Davies.

An amendment was requested to the last minutes, under item 15/76 District should have read County. Contact details for Jeff Brown, Youth Development, Somerset County Council had been received; it was **resolved** the Clerk would pass these details onto Cllr Denton.

St Peters School crossing: Somerset County Council had advised that the scheme applications would close by 30th November 2015. Cllr Davies would make contact with the Clerk to arrange a time and date to talk through the process.

Cllr Davies had suggested that Town/Parish Councils adopt Fire Hydrants to complement their Community Emergency Plan. Cllr White advised the Fire Department have a requirement under the Fire Act that the hydrants are marked and checked every six months. It was **resolved** the Clerk would contact Garry Austin-Thompson to ask if they have a map of the positioning of the hydrants.

A press release for Get Online in Somerset Libraries courses was noted. It was **resolved** the Clerk would forward a scanned copy to all Councillors upon request.

15/105 Report from West Somerset District Councillors – Williton Ward

Cllr Aldridge advised he was not aware of any speeding in Watery Lane, between Williton and Doniford, but would like to take the issue up on behalf of the Parish Council. Cllr Aldridge spoke about the dire state of finances facing West Somerset Council; especially with their savings being wiped out by Hinkley Point winning their case regarding business rates. Due to this it is expected the District Council will only be able to carry out statutory obligations and to bear in mind they would probably ask the Parish Council to take on more responsibility. The Councillors asked why resources could not be shared with Taunton Deane? Cllr Vaughan expressed concern regarding the issue of taking on more duties and said the Parish Council needed time to look at anything District Council approach them with. As yet, the Parish Council do not know what the tax band will be, but Cllr Vaughan expected District to raise it by 1.99%.

Rate support grant; it was noted the formula to work out the grant was being changed to the number of new build houses. It was noted this would reduce income still further and it was felt this would be unfair and representations should be made to Central Government.

Somerset Rivers Authority was going to approach the relevant Government Minister regarding authorisation that SRA can raise a precept within the council tax regime. It was reported this would add to council tax by £12 per year. The question was asked how much would come to West Somerset?

Cllr Aldridge said he had been assured it would not be used for the Somerset Levels only.

It was reported the roundabout at Washford Cross was on schedule to be completed by Christmas 2015.

Cllr McDonald requested that if District Council were to approach the Parish Council regarding possibly working in partnership that everything is honest and upfront as it had been felt this had not always been the case in the past. It was **resolved** that Cllr Aldridge would represent the view of the Parish Council that they are happy to talk on how to proceed, but as previously stated the District Council need to be more open and honest; it was agreed that all have to work together to do the best for Parishioners.

15/106 Clerk's/Chairman's Notices

- The Chairman advised that Cllr Koch had resigned due to moving out of the area; the vacancy notices had been published and the Parish Council could now co-opt a new member.
- The Clerk advised that two cheques had been received from Love Williton; one for £50.00 towards Road Safety and one for £100.00 towards Christmas presents. It was **resolved** the Clerk would write and thank them for their kind donations.
- Leaflets on Fracking in Somerset had been received and were available in the office.
- Information from ATWEST was distributed to all Councillors present.
- An invitation to Engages AGM on the 13th October had previously been forwarded; the Clerk requested if Councillors wished to attend to advise her so that she could reply.
- A reminder that the Isolation and Loneliness conference would be held on Saturday 17th October.

15/107 Correspondence

15/107.1 It was **resolved** to note the contents of the correspondence log.

15/107.2 It was **resolved** to note the Christmas crib festival at St Peter's Church, however, there was no volunteer to organise a crib.

15/107.3 It was **resolved** to note the submission of the Draft West Somerset Local Plan to 2032. Cllr Vaughan made an observation how the master plan had been ignored in the Local Plan and how it was an example of working in partnership; the Paddocks site was on a flood channel.

15/107.4 It was **resolved** to note the SLCC AGM would take place on 16th October in Leicestershire.

15/107.5 It was **resolved** to note this item.

15/108 Report from the Environment and Planning Committee held on 7th September 2015

It was resolved to note the report. It was reported the grass verges and the sign at Sampford Brett were not being cut; it was resolved to report the matter to the next EPC meeting.

15/109 Report from Finance & Admin Committee held on 14th September 2015

15/109.1 It was **resolved** to note the provisions as at 31st August 2015.

15/109.2 It was **resolved** Cllr Richards would become a bank signatory.

15/110 To receive accounts for payment not covered by Finance and Admin Committee

Date	Details	Chq Nos	Invoice No	Total Bank	Cash	VAT
05/10/2015	Tsunami Dojos 6810 S137 (Grants/Donations)	2809		£250.00		0.00
05/10/2015	Kier MG Recycling CIC 4580 Refuse Collection	2810	CIC023072	£99.46		£16.58
05/10/2015	Coomber Security Ltd 4105 Purchases of Goods/Equip (asset	2811	130688	£6213.60		£1035.60
05/10/2015	Broxap Ltd 4105 Purchases of Goods/Equip (asse	2812	175267	£886.80		£147.80
05/10/2015	West Somerset Council 4555 WPC Ground Maintenance	2813	19271	£2123.10		£353.85
05/10/2015	Somerset County Council Pension Fund 4220 Pensions	2814		£70.00		0.00
05/10/2015	H M Revue & Customs 4210 Staff PAYE & NIC	2815		£542.02		0.00

15/111 Report from Pavilion Working Group

Cllr Vaughan advised that Mitchell Architects had been appointed project manager. The application to EDF leisure fund for £75,000.00 had been submitted. The Lottery Fund had invited an application be submitted for stage 2. The next meeting would be held on Tuesday 6th October in the Parish Office.

15/112 Highways

A letter from Somerset County Council had been received offering Parish Councils 10 x 25kg bags of De-icing material, for collection on Saturday 21st November. It was **resolved** that Cllr Bigwood would collect the bags on behalf of the Parish Council.

15/113 Report from Watchet, Williton and Quantock Area Panel held on 15th September 2015

It was reported that a presentation from the Chairman of Martock Parish Council had been given at the above meeting, a copy of which had been forwarded to all Councillors. It was **resolved** to note the report.

15/114 Police and Emergency Services Liaison

Cllr White confirmed he had made contact with PC Ware and a meeting would be held on the 6th October.

15/115 Budget Considerations

It was **resolved** the Clerk would produce an analysis of spend for the October EPC and FAC meetings. It was **resolved** the budget would be considered at the November meeting for agreement in December, ready for precept to be forwarded to District Council in January 2016. All Councillors were invited to attend the October FAC meeting.

15/116 (Item 15.28.1A) Pedestrian Crossings

It was **resolved** to include this item in the October 2015, Finance and Administration agenda.

15/117 Health and Safety

Cllr Bennett informed the Council there were a few items that needed completion.

15/118 Somerset Town Forum Membership

It was **resolved** to not join the Somerset Town Forum as the Parish Council had already affiliated with CCS.

15/119 Christmas Festival

The report from the festival committee was noted. Cllr Bennett advised that he would be the responsible First Aider for the event and would write the Risk Assessments. Cllr Vaughan expressed his concern regarding the lack of costings and being unable to assess if the event was in budget. Cllr Vaughan requested details regarding who was on the committee and requested a budget statement. It was noted that 6 more shops needed Christmas tree brackets and electricity. The Parish Council would organise and decorate the tree for Bellamy's Corner. The Chair requested Councillors to actively encourage the committee by attending the next meeting to be held on Wednesday 7th October in the Parish Office. Councillors were also asked to attend as stewards during the procession which would take place on Wednesday 9th December 2015.

15/120 Matters for the next meeting to be held on Monday 2nd November 2015, Parish Office, Williton

Budget

Meeting closed at 9.25pm