

WILLITON PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of the Full Council Meeting held on 6th January 2014 at 7pm
at the Parish Council Office, Williton

Attendees:

Councillors	McDonald (Chairman), Bigwood, Beaver, Bennett, Vaughan, Peeks (left at Item 13/171), Woods, James and Koch
SCC	Cllr Davies
WSC	Cllr Davies
Avon and Somerset Constabulary	None
Press	Mrs C Webb
Clerk	Mrs J Johnson-Smith
Public	None
Other	None

Apologies:

Councillors Denton, Troman, May and PCSO Dave Rowe

13/156 Apologies as noted above. The Chairman requested to move item 13/176 on the agenda to item 13/174

13/157 Declarations of Interest

Name	Agenda Item	Interest	Action
Cllr Woods	13/161	Personal	Participation

13/158 Approval of the Minutes of the Meeting held on 2nd December 2013

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

13/159 Matters to Report from the Minutes

- 13/159.1 (Item 13/138.1) Hinkley C Consultation It was **resolved** to note the information that had been received from the Environment Agency regarding the assessment of Hitachi-GE Nuclear Energy's UK Advanced Boiling Water Reactor and the plan to use this type of reactor at Hinkley. Should this type of reactor be chosen it would have to undergo a 4 year assessment period. It was felt this could delay the start of work and clarification was requested on when work was estimated to begin at the site.
- 13/159.2 (Item 13/138.2) Dumping of Nuclear Waste It was noted from the report that the preferred option was to take the waste from Oldbury to Hinkley C by road as there were vast savings to be made by transferring the waste to this location. It was **resolved** to write requesting that should this go ahead and, as considerable savings would be made, in order to compensate the local residents, would they consider building a bridge over the River Parratt to take the additional heavy traffic away from the centre of Bridgwater. Alternatively could they investigate ways of relocating the waste by sea.
- 13/159.3 (Item 13/138.3) Purchase of Defibrillator It was **resolved** to purchase a defibrillator at a cost of £1166 including bracket, less donation of £250 from Cllr Davies, subject to receiving written agreement from Spar that it could be located in their premises. The maintenance implications would be agreed when it was known what was required. The Chairman advised that he was waiting to hear from the Fire Service regarding training and when this was known details would be advertised.
- 13/159.4 (Item 13/138.4) Memorial Event to mark World War I It was suggested that a church service on 3rd August including all nominations could mark the event. Alternatively a service on the Memorial Ground might attract more people. It was **resolved** to contact all churches, local groups and the British Legion to ask for their ideas and to invite them to a meeting on 27th January at either 10am or 2pm.
- 13/159.5 (Item 13/138.5) Christmas Festivities The organisers of the festival would be meeting to discuss feedback but it was felt to have been a successful event with any improvements taken forward to next year. It was hoped to plan next year's event sooner as this year was felt to be rushed. The best shop winner trophy had been awarded again to Williton Flooring, and the best decorated houses was awarded to 62 North Croft (1st prize); 26 Doniford Rd (2nd prize) and 7, 9, 2 and 4 St Peter's Close (joint 3rd). It was **resolved** to keep the prize money the same as last year ie £30 – 1st; £20 – 2nd and £10 – 3rd, although it was agreed to buy sweets to share with the children for the third prize winners. Comment was made regarding criteria for judging and it was **resolved** to look at this before next year's judging. The competition winners would be invited to receive their prizes at the next meeting.

13/160 Report from Avon and Somerset Constabulary

A written report had been received detailing the crime figures and asking if the Speedwatch co-ordinators would consider swapping with Old Cleeve co-ordinators from time to time. Comment was made regarding some fly tipping that took place during the Christmas Festival which the police dealt with. A vote of thanks was given to the Police in their efforts to close the village for the festival.

13/161 Report from Somerset County Councillor

Cllr Davies advised that there were free motorway driving lessons available for young drivers and that more funding was available for foster care to enable families to keep their foster children until 21 years. Cllr Davies noted receipt of the email response from the Highways Department regarding the Parish Council's request for a bypass and agreed to support this if he could. Some ideas were suggested for the health and wellbeing fund including improved roads in rural areas, dog warden, Steam Coast Trail, Compass Carers and a book for Parish Walks. Cllr Davies suggested that members brought their ideas to the Clerk and she would forward them to Angela Lamplough of the District Council for her advice.

13/162 Report from West Somerset District Councillors

A written report had been received from Cllr May which dealt mainly with various flooding issues. The sandbags were still a problem and Cllr Davies suggested erecting a shed beside the Parish Office.

13/163 Clerk's/Chairman's Notices

The Clerk advised that she had received details of dates for the installation of Speed Indicator Detectors and she was asked to write back asking what happens to the data that was collected and what were the benefits to the community. The Chairman raised the same comment regarding the speed detectors and agreed to ask the Police and check if it was feasible to put speed repeater markers on the road. He gave thanks to Ross James for all his help in putting up and taking down the Christmas trees around the village. He also thanked all those who worked hard in the summer clearing rivers and ditches which helped to keep the water down during the recent storms.

13/164 Correspondence

13/164.1 It was **resolved** to note the contents of the correspondence log.

13/164.2 It was **resolved** to note the consultation on the change of admission policy at Kingsmead School from the County Council in order to accommodate the Dulverton pupils. The Clerk was asked to thank them for keeping the Council informed but was unable to comment as this did not affect Williton. Members would comment as individuals if they wished.

13/164.3 It was **resolved** to note the proforma for applying for funding from the Safer Somerset Partnership and it was proposed to bid for signs for the Community Speedwatch and a CCTV camera.

13/164.4 It was **resolved** to note the consultation on the proposed changes to parking policies from the County Council and that this would not affect the parish.

13/165 Report from the Environment and Planning Committee

There was no report this month.

13/165.1 It was **resolved** to note the reply from the Highways Department regarding arrangements for road closures and the Clerk was asked to thank them for their comments but asked that consideration be given to temporary traffic signals and clearer instructions to drivers and bus companies.

13/166 Report from the Finance and Administration Committee

There was no report this month.

13/166.1 It was **resolved** to note the provisions as at 30th November 2013.

13/167 To receive accounts for payment not covered by Finance and Admin Committee

It was **resolved** to make the payments on the attached list.

13/168 Final Budget and Precept 2014-2015

It was **resolved** unanimously to make no changes to the budget and to set the precept as the previous year at £90,000 to include the government grant of £12,899.99.

13/169 Report of Watchet, Williton and Quantocks Area Panel held on 3rd December 2013

Cllr Koch advised that disabled parking outside the Co-op was discussed which Cllr May agreed to take forward. She also advised that 2 free parking spaces were being considered for 15 minutes in the car park and that the planning had been passed for the Unisex toilets as agreed.

13/170 Report of Williton Regeneration Forum held on 9th December 2013

It was **resolved** to note the written report that had been circulated from Gordon Dwyer.

13/171 Report from Pavilion Working Group

Cllr Vaughan gave a verbal update of progress and circulated an outline plan for the building with footpath. There was a slate roof on the building of the new plan as a green roof was not practical and the footpath would be fenced off from the track. The football pitch would need to move nearer the river and there was a different entrance with a visibility splay. He was still waiting for consent to the scheme from the Doctors Surgery. A letter of support had been received from Minehead Eye and he was in communication with Reminiscence Learning and Parkinson Support regarding the disabled facilities. The architect would be ready with drawings by the end of January for a public presentation. There was a need to put a questionnaire together and advertise the dates for the presentation when members of the Working Group would be present to answer questions. The details would be discussed and finalised at the next Working Group meeting on 15th January. Letters would also be written to neighbouring residents in Long Street and Robert Street and the British Legion would be contacted regarding any concerns.

13/172 Draft Flood Plan

The Draft Plan had been circulated and the Chairman advised that a request had been made to the Emergency Planning Group for 3 sheds to keep sandbags and tools at strategic locations in the village. He had received more offers from volunteers to act as wardens and he would arrange a meeting with them to register their details with the flood alert team. He agreed to appoint a Deputy to manage the plan should he be unavailable and all wardens would have copies of the plan and their own specific area. He added there were still problems at Doniford Road and he was working with the authorities. After agreeing to some amendments to the wording in the plan it was **resolved** unanimously to adopt the plan as a working document.

13/173 Joint approach of Parish Councils working with District Council

A proposal had been received from Dulverton Parish Council via the Chairmen's group to consider working with other town/parish councils when the District Council are outsourcing assets and in the devolvement of services to see if savings could be made. It was **resolved** to agree in principle to this proposal.

13/174 Suggestions of ways forward to communicate with Parishioners

The Chairman asked members to consider venues that could be used in order to meet with the parishioners to receive community ideas from them and give them the opportunity to ask the Parish Council what they would like them to do for them. It was suggested piloting the idea with the youth of the village initially and some suggestions given were school Parents' Evenings or the Youth Club. Members were asked to come forward with some ideas of possible locations at the next meeting.

13/175 It was **resolved** to exclude the press and public from the remainder of the meeting

13/176 Amendment to quote for weedspraying

After a proposition by Cllr Vaughan, seconded by Cllr Denton, it was **resolved** unanimously to agree to the additional cost of £40 to take into account areas that were not clearly defined on the map. The Clerk had produced a list of all the roads that needed to be included and Cllr Vaughan agreed to check that there were no omissions.

13/177 Matters for the next meeting to be held on 3rd February 2014
Twinning Association

Meeting closed at 10.00pm