

WILLITON PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of the Full Council Meeting held on 7th July 2014 at 7.20 pm
at the Council Chamber, Williton

Attendees:

Councillors	McDonald (Chairman), Koch, Vaughan, Bigwood, James, Bennett, Peeks, Denton, Woods (from Item 14/46.4), Stiven and Lyder
SCC	
WSC	May
Avon and Somerset Constabulary	PCSO Thomson
Press	Mrs C Webb
Clerk	Mrs J Johnson-Smith
Public	4 members
Other	Sue Norreys, Somerset Care and Madeleine Flanagan, Croft House

Apologies:

Councillors Bruford and Davies

14/42 **Apologies as noted above.**

14/43 **Declarations of Interest**

Name	Agenda Item	Interest	Action
Cllr Peeks	14/46.5; 14/52.1; 14/60	Pecuniary	No comment
Cllr Peeks	13/53.2	Personal	Participation
Cllr Vaughan	14/58	Pecuniary	No comment

14/44 **Co-option of Councillor**

An application had been received by Andy Lyder for the casual vacancy on the Council. After a proposition by Cllr Bennett seconded by Cllr Vaughan it was **resolved** unanimously to co-opt Mr Lyder to the Council who would join the Environment and Planning Committee.

14/45 **Approval of the Minutes of the Meeting held on 2nd June 2014**

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

14/46 **Matters Arising from the Minutes**

14/46.1 (Item 14/28.1) Hinkley C Consultation It was **resolved** to note the report from the Transport Forum held on 5th June and to respond to the Environment Agency's request to be kept informed of all information relating to the development.

14/46.2 (Item 14/28.2) Dumping of Nuclear Waste It was **resolved** to note the letter from the NDA explaining the current position.

14/46.3 (Item 14/28.3) Memorial Event to mark World War I The Chairman advised that he had met with the Royal British Legion and had been advised that they had been granted 98% of the funding requested and would be able to put on a special event on 20th September. There would be an exhibition in the Parish Office the preceding week. More details would be available at the next meeting.

14/46.4 (Item 14/28.4) Flood Plan The Chairman had circulated an update from the West Somerset Flood Group which was noted. The group had met with the County Council and this would be followed by another meeting shortly.

14/46.5 (Item 14/28.5) Weekend Car Park Charges It was **resolved** to note that the Chairman and the Clerk had met Chris Hall and Cllr Karen Mills to look at the possibility of dropping the car park charges on Sundays and behind the Council offices at the weekend and offset the income with a market and they agreed to look at the financial statistics and the feasibility of this proposal and report back.

14/46.6 (Item 14/28.6) Youth Council As Cllr Bruford was not present at the meeting this item was deferred.

14/47 **Report from Avon and Somerset Constabulary**

This item was brought forward before Item 14/46. It was **resolved** to note the report of the latest crime statistics. Concern was expressed at the number of incidents and the drop in number of officers who were expected to police a very large area.

14/48 **Report from Somerset County Councillor**

It was **resolved** to note the written report circulated before the meeting.

14/49 **Report from West Somerset District Councillors**

Cllr May advised that the installation of a kerbstone at Danesfield School was being investigated. He advised that the hedge cutting programme had been delayed due to problems with the appointed contractors who had now been replaced. Other highway issues that had been circulated in his written report were noted. He asked members to consider a request to relocate the Speed Indicator Device in Tower Hill to the top part of the hill and the Clerk was asked to write to Sampford Brett Parish Council with this request. He advised that some research work was being carried out on how to keep the A39 open during the construction of the proposed roundabout. Concern was expressed again at the lack of consultation over the closure of the Police Station which he believed was due to close the following year. He asked members to look at the possibility of a street light outside Danesfield and possible funding for this request and this would be passed to the Environment and Planning Committee.

14/50 **Clerk's/Chairman's Notices**

The Clerk reminded all members of the SALC training course for Councillors at Watchet on 24th July which was going ahead and Cllrs Bennett, Denton and Lyder agreed to attend but Cllr Stiven advised he would be on holiday. The Clerk asked if any new members would like to be included on the rota for the monthly article in Williton Window and Cllr Stiven agreed to replace Cllr Bigwood. A request had been received from West Somerset Advice Bureau for a regular hire of the Parish rooms for a drop in session from 6 to 9 hrs per week over 2 or 3 days and it was agreed to delegate authority to the Finance and Administration Committee to come to an agreement over the rental arrangements.

14/51 **Correspondence**

1451.1 It was **resolved** to note the contents of the correspondence log.

14/51.2 A letter had been received from Patricia Holden regarding the Clerk to the Trustee's request that she refrain from spray painting and mowing the Memorial Ground and it was **resolved** to send out the reply drafted by the Clerk.

14/51.3 It was **resolved** to note the Joint Strategic Needs Assessment from Somerset County Council.

14/52 **Report from the Environment and Planning Committee held on 9th June 2014**

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

14/53 **Report from the Finance and Administration Committee held on 16th June 2014**

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

14/53.1 (Item 14/23.2A) It was **resolved** to note the provisions as at 31st May 2014.

14/53.2 (Item 14/26.1A) It was **resolved** to note the advice from the auditor regarding checking the signatories of the Parish Plan account and if they were not Parish Council it was suggested closing account and transferring funds into the current account into a ring-fenced provision. Members of the Parish Plan Group present were not happy with this proposal as the money had been given on the condition the accounts were held in a separate account. It was **resolved** to look at other ways on how to control these funds.

14/53.3 (Item 14/28) It was **resolved** after a proposition by Cllr Peeks, seconded by Cllr James not to allocate a budget of £2000 for Community Care and Support but to support the idea and look at specific projects before allocating the funds.

14/54 **To receive accounts for payment not covered by Finance and Admin Committee**

There were none.

14/55 **Report from Personnel Sub-Committee held on 17th June 2014**

It was **resolved** to note the report and the Clerk's intention to retire at the end of September and to allocate funds for advertising the post of the Clerk for one week in the Somerset County Gazette as a line advertisement at £160.90 plus VAT and for two weeks in the West Somerset Free Press as a box advertisement at a cost of £56 plus VAT per week. A free advertisement would be placed on the SALC website and circulated to the District Council and West Somerset Parish Councils. It was further **resolved** to delegate authority to the Personnel Sub-Committee to carry out the interviews and selection process.

14/56 **Report from the Pavilion Working Group**

Cllr Vaughan advised members that the planning application had been refused on the grounds of the hidden area behind the proposed location which could give rise to anti-social behaviour and that other areas of the application had not been considered a problem. He pointed out that there was a choice of either applying for an amended plan and asking the architects to look again at the location of the existing tractor shed, or to appeal against the decision. It was **resolved** after a proposition by Cllr James, seconded by Cllr Bennett that before any further financial commitment was made, the Working Group would carry out some research into the options available and report back to the next Full Council meeting with recommendations and financial details in order that a decision could be made on how to proceed with the project.

14/57 Report from Watchet, Williton and Quantock Area Panel held on 10th June 2014

There was no report as Cllr Koch was unable to attend due to her holiday.

14/58 Somerset Care – Report on Work with the Community by Sue Norreys, Development Co-ordinator

Sue Norreys of Somerset Care together with Madeleine Flanagan, Manager of Croft House addressed the members prior to the meeting and gave details of the work that was being carried out by Somerset Care who were a not-for-profit organisation. Mrs Norreys commented on the very high population of elderly residents within West Somerset which was one of the most densely populated in the country and explained how the cost of care was funded. She added that she would like the opportunity to work more closely with the Parish Council and help support events and asked that any vulnerable elderly people were directed to them for care.

14/59 Future of Williton Police Station

The Chairman expressed concern that the Parish Council had still not been consulted on the proposal to close the Williton Police Station and he had spoken to Cllr Stuart Dowding on the subject and it was suggested that a survey was carried out on what proportion of the Williton Council Tax was put towards the costs of the Police Service in relation to the officers who now covered a very large geographical area.

14/60 Review of Venue

After a proposition by Cllr Koch, seconded by Cllr McDonald, it was **resolved** by 7 votes for, 1 against with 1 abstention to continue to hold Full Council meetings in the Council Chamber if it was available and to look at alternative venues around the village if it was already booked.

14/61 It was resolved to exclude the press and public from the remainder of the meeting

14/62 Report of Meeting with Doctors held on 20th June 2014

Cllr Vaughan advised that the meeting was positive and the doctors were supportive of the proposals but any decisions would be subject to the project getting planning approval. A further meeting would be arranged when the Practice Manager returned from leave.

14/63 Matters for the next meeting to be held on 4th August 2014

Christmas Festivities

Meeting closed at 9.15pm