

WILLITON PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of the Parish Council Meeting held on Monday 8th June 2020 at 7.00 pm.
Due to Covid-19 and following changes to the government rules during this period,
the meeting was held via Zoom video conferencing

Attendees:

Councillors	Payne (Chairman), Aldridge, Hooper, McDonald, White and Woods
SCC	None
SWAT	Cllr Aldridge
Avon and Somerset Constabulary	None
Press	None
Clerk	Mrs Michelle Francis
Public	Five members
Other	None

Apologies:

Councillors	Howes and Peeks
Other	District Councillors Davies and Whetlor. SCC Cllr Davies. PCSO Thompson

20/15 The Chairman advised that the meeting would be recorded

20/16 Apologies as noted above

20/17 Declarations of Interest

There were none

20/18 Approval of the Minutes of the Meeting held on 26th May 2020

It was **resolved** to approve the minutes of the meeting. Proposed Cllr Hooper; seconded Cllr McDonald

20/19 Matters from the Minutes – for the purpose of report only

20/19.1 (Item 19/285.1) It was resolved to note that the VE Day event had been cancelled and therefore the coach had been cancelled at no cost, due to Covid-19

20/19.2 (Item 19/287) It was noted the Annual Parish Assembly had been cancelled due to Covid-19

20/19.3 (Item 19/292) It was noted the Chairman's Award had been postponed due to Covid-19

20/20 Report from Avon and Somerset Constabulary

It was resolved to note the report that had been forwarded by PCSO Thompson.

20/21 Report from Somerset County Councillor

It was resolved to note the report from Cllr Davies that had been forwarded, which covered:

- There will be a survey from 6th June 2020, where residents and businesses will be asked their views regarding disbanding all five councils and setting up a Unitary Authority.
- On street parking patrols had resumed from 1st June 2020
- From 8th June all recycling sites will open for their usual summer hours until 30th September 2020. The odd and even plate access system was no longer in place. Restrictions remain maximum 2 people per household; gloves must be worn and there will be strict social distancing. Trailers and 3.5 tonne vans only allowed access 4pm - 6pm weekdays. Williton site is open Monday and Tuesday 9am – 6pm, Saturday and Sunday 9am – 4pm
- Temporary road closure, Doniford Road, 16th June for 4 days

20/22 Report from Somerset West and Taunton Councillors

Cllr Davies: Magna Housing services had restarted from 1st June 2020. Cllrs Whetlor, Aldridge and I were tasked with a gathering exercise to seek opinions how to improve our High Street (Fore Street) and main retail areas which could help the safe shopping for our local traders and public with the Government grant given to Somerset West and Taunton. Answers had been received and forwarded regarding the school admission policies, 106 funding and protection of public funds.

Cllr Aldridge: A verbal report was given on how the District Council had been responding to the Covid-19. Meetings were taking place via zoom. Credit was given to staff for being flexible and working from home. The Business Support Grant had benefitted 5,000 businesses; B&B's were not eligible, but a further grant is now available for these businesses. The answer received regarding the schools had raised further questions. Any parishioners were invited to make direct contact via

www.councillor4wwsb.com

A discussion took place regarding the High Street grant and how improvements could be made. Although suggestions had been made, it was felt it was a quick fix during the current times and not permanent. This had been a short notice request and comments had been submitted.

20/23 Clerk's/Chairman's Notices

20/23.1 Williton Window – Cllr Hooper had already submitted her report for July

20/24 Correspondence

20/24.1 It was resolved to note the correspondence log

20/24.2 An email had been received from a resident regarding the local environment. It was resolved that EPC would address the concerns. It was further **resolved** the Clerk would write to highways to request the repainting of white lines and speed limit markings on the roads that have faded, in particular, the road markings when exiting Station Road. Proposed Cllr McDonald, seconded Cllr Woods.

It had been reported that vegetation was being disposed of in the stream by Catwell. It was **resolved** a letter would be written to all residents and landlords to remind them of their riparian duties

20/25 Planning Applications for consideration - Cllr Aldridge left the meeting for this item

Application No	Location	Details	Comment
3/39/20/008	Land off Bank Street with link to Fore Street, Williton	Outline planning application with all matters reserved, except for access, for the redevelopment of the site to provide a food store (A1), retail shops (A1), professional and financial services (A2), food and drink uses (A3), health services (D1), residential dwellings (C3), vehicle and pedestrian accesses, associated car parking and landscaping	An extra ordinary Meeting would be held on Tuesday 16 th June at 7pm

The Clerk confirmed an extension had been agreed with the Planning Officer, until the 1st July 2020 for comments. Several concerns were raised, and it was resolved to hold an Extra Ordinary meeting to discuss the application and allow more time for members of the public to be notified they could make representations. An article would be submitted to West Somerset Free Press advising that the zoom meeting would take place on Tuesday 16th June at 7pm.

20/26 Environment and Planning

26/26.1 (Item 19/240B) The recommendation from EPC to accept the quotation for the renovation of the Fingerposts in the Parish was considered. It had been confirmed the font would be an exact replica of the existing posts. After a proposal from Cllr Hooper seconded by Cllr Woods, it was unanimously **resolved** to accept the quotation from West Country Blacksmiths at a cost of £3,000.00 plus vat.

26/26.2 As time was limited in June due to current meetings already in place, it was resolved to recommence all meetings from the 1st July 2020, therefore, the next EPC meeting would be held on 13th July 2020.

20/27 Finance and Administration

20/27.1 It was resolved to note the provisions dated 29th February, 31st March and 30th April 2020

20/27.2 (Item 19/283.6) The recommendation from FAC to adopt the amended Grant Application document and the new guidance notes was considered. After a proposal from Cllr McDonald, seconded by Cllr Woods, it was unanimously **resolved** to adopt the documents.

20/27.3 As time was limited in June due to current meetings already in place, it was resolved to recommence all meetings from the 1st July 2020, therefore, the next FAC meeting would be held on 20th July 2020.

20/28 To receive accounts for payment

It was **resolved** to pay the following invoices. Proposed Cllr Hooper, seconded Cllr Aldridge with 2 abstentions – carried.

Date	Details	Cheque No	Invoice No	Total Bank £	Cash	VAT £
08/06/2020	Somerset CC Pension Deficit 4220 Pensions	3601	60876290	80.00		0.00
08/06/2020	Countrywide Grounds Maintenance 4560 SCC Ground Maintenance	3602	119158	184.00		30.67
08/06/2020	Countrywide Grounds Maintenance 4555 WPC Grounds Maintenance	3603	119159	842.33		140.39
08/06/2020	Dawn-Lesley Howes 6625 reimburse expenses (masks)	3604	Face Masks	137.06		0.00
08/06/2020	Zoom video conferencing 4610 computer supplies	3605	24479796	14.39		2.40

20/29 Health and Safety

Cllr Payne gave a verbal update regarding risk assessments for when the office and playground reopen

20/30 Williton Helpline during Covid-19 pandemic

A verbal report was given advising approximately 500 calls taken so far; 121 face mask packs had been made for vulnerable residents; there were 38 volunteers and 10 facilitators. The help provided covered shopping, collecting prescriptions, chats, village agent and food bank referrals. Cllr Payne thanked all the volunteers, in particular Wendy and Rebecca who had instigated the group. A report would be included in the next Williton Window.

20/31 Parish Online

Cllrs Payne, Peeks, and the Clerk had attended an on-line demonstration. The Clerk gave a verbal report on the benefits of the package. It was agreed this would be added to the EPC agenda and all Councillors would be shown a demonstration when meeting in person re-commenced.

20/32 Williton Twinning

Cllr Aldridge advised he was still loosely in touch with Neung sur Beuvron in France but had no contact with the German town, Wulften am Harz in Lower Saxony, over the last 12 months. EPC were asked to consider if the details should be left included on the gateway signs. Cllr Aldridge would like to see a new lease of life with the Twinning.

20/33 Scam Marshalls

Currently there were a lot of scams were taking place via email, especially in connection with Covid-19. Everyone was asked to be aware and cautious of any emails received.

20/34 Public Conveniences

There was currently no update. This item would be included on the September EPC agenda to consider a new approach.

20/35 HR Consultant

The current consultant had advised that he was retiring. It was agreed a replacement should be sought; the Clerk would obtain further information.

20/36 Matters for next meeting

Defibrillator

20/37

After a proposal from Cllr Aldridge, seconded by Cllr Woods, it was **resolved** to pass a resolution to exclude the Press and Public from the remainder of the meeting due to personnel items

20/38 (Item 19/257) To review Clerk's extended hours after 31st July 2020

It was reported the Clerk would return to contracted hours as of 1st August 2020

Meeting closed at 8.26 pm

Signed as a true and correct record Cllr Payne Dated 6th July 2020