

WILLITON PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of the Parish Council Meeting held on Monday 6th July 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, Nye, White (joined after item 20/52) and Woods |
| SCC | None |
| SWAT | Cllr Aldridge |
| Avon and Somerset Constabulary | None |
| Press | West Somerset Free Press (left at 7.53pm) |
| Clerk | Mrs Michelle Francis |
| Public | None |
| Other | None |

Apologies:

| | |
|--------------------|-----------------|
| Councillors | Howes and Peeks |
| Other | None |

20/48 The Chairman advised that the meeting would be recorded

20/49 Apologies as noted above

20/50 Declarations of Interest

| Name | Agenda Item | Interest | Action |
|------------|-------------|----------|------------------|
| Cllr Payne | 20/73 | Personal | Informed meeting |

20/51 Approval of the Minutes of the Meeting held on 8th June 2020

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

20/52 Approval of the Minutes of the Extra Ordinary Meeting held on 16th June 2020

It was **resolved**, with one abstention, to approve the minutes of the meeting.
Proposed Cllr Hooper; seconded Cllr Nye

20/53 Matters from the Minutes – for the purpose of report only

20/53.1 (Item 19/283.4) Cllr Payne advised he had been requested to attend an on-line interview which would take approximately one hour. It was noted there would no be further action until the office re-opened due to information required.

20/54 Report from Avon and Somerset Constabulary

It was resolved to note the emails that had been forwarded by Neighbourhood Watch.

20/55 Report from Somerset County Councillor

It was resolved to note the press releases that had been forwarded from Cllr Davies.

20/56 Report from Somerset West and Taunton Councillors

Cllr Aldridge advised it continued to be quiet but was due to attend several planning meetings over the coming weeks. Cllr Aldridge advised he would follow up as to why the Police had not yet moved into West Somerset House as it was understood this would have taken place earlier in the year and before Covid-19 had occurred.

20/57 Clerk's/Chairman's Notices

20/57.1 Williton Window – Cllr Howes would be asked to submit the next report

20/57.2 It was noted the Chairman and Clerk had attended the virtual training 'The Council as an Employer'

20/58 Correspondence

20/58.1 It was resolved to note the correspondence log

20/58.2 It was **resolved** to formally receive and accept the resignation from Cllr Stanford

20/58.3 It was resolved to note the letter from Wiveliscombe Town Council regarding the survey for Unitary Council.

20/58.4 It was resolved to note the SLCC letter to Secretary of State regarding Financial Support for Local Councils due to the Coronavirus Pandemic and the encouragement for councils to write with a letter of support to their local MP. After a proposal from Cllr Aldridge, seconded by Cllr Hooper, it was **resolved**, with one abstention, to write to Ian Liddel-Grainger MP as it was felt the Parish Council needed to ensure it can maintain services.

20/58.5 News release – Council Leader’s position on local government debate - noted

After a proposal from Cllr Aldridge, seconded by Cllr McDonald, it was **resolved** with one abstention to write to the leaders of the District Council and Somerset County Council to ask if they would be prepared to attend a public meeting to explain their thoughts on Unitary and open this to all Parish Councils and their parishioners.

20/59 Recommendation on the Role of Parish Councils in the event of Local Government Reorganisation (LGR)

The Parish Council had been requested to respond to the question “If the LGR is to proceed, we support the seven recommendations in the LGR report commissioned by SALC and SLCC – yes/no”

After a proposal from Cllr McDonald, seconded by Cllr Aldridge, it was unanimously **resolved** to reply stating the Parish Council is unable to make a decision as it is felt they do not have sufficient information.

20/60 Letter from Somerset County Council leader regarding progress towards a single unitary authority for Somerset and the survey being undertaken for a unitary council

After a proposal from Cllr Payne, seconded by Cllr McDonald, it was unanimously **resolved** to respond this was being undertaken at the wrong time during the current Covid-19 pandemic.

20/61 Environment and Planning

It was noted the next meeting would be held on Monday 13th July via zoom

20/62 Finance and Administration

It was noted the next meeting would be held on Monday 20th July via zoom

20/63 Williton Youth Club

An invoice had been received regarding the funding of the Youth Club. Concern was raised as to how the provision had been provided during the last three months as the Youth Club had been unable to meet in a physical sense due to Covid-19. It was **resolved** to seek further clarification on whether staff had been furloughed, what had been provided and how many children from Williton had been supported. Plans for returning to physical meetings, when possible, would be requested.

20/64 To receive accounts for payment

It was **resolved** to pay the following invoices. Proposed Cllr Hooper, seconded Cllr McDonald, with 1 abstention – carried.

| Date | Details | Cheque No | Invoice No | Total Bank £ | Cash | VAT £ |
|------------|--|-----------|------------|--------------|------|-------|
| 06/07/220 | Cllr Howes – reimburse re masks 6625 Care in the Community | 3612 | Amazon | 58.96 | | 0.00 |
| 06/07/2020 | Somerset County Council Pension 4220 Pension Deficit | 3613 | 60880494 | 80.00 | | 0.00 |
| 06/07/2020 | SALC 4520 Training | 3614 | 20090 | 90.00 | | 0.00 |
| 06/07/2020 | Function 28 Ltd 4605 Website | 3615 | 7720 | 12.00 | | 2.00 |
| 06/07/2020 | Lyreco UK Ltd 4505 Printing, Stationery & Postage | 3616 | 6410266755 | 67.38 | | 11.23 |
| 06/07/2020 | SALC 4520 Training | 3617 | 19998 | 30.00 | | 0.00 |
| 06/07/2020 | Countrywide Grounds Maintenance 4560 SCC Ground Maintenance | 3618 | 123654 | 184.00 | | 30.67 |

| Date | Details | Cheque No | Invoice No | Total Bank £ | Cash | VAT £ |
|------------|---------------------------------|-----------|------------|--------------|------|--------|
| 06/07/2020 | Countrywide Grounds Maintenance | 3619 | 123655 | 842.33 | | |
| | 4555 WPC Ground Maintenance | | | | | 140.39 |
| 06/07/2020 | Zoom | 3620 | 29571366 | 14.39 | | |
| | 4610 Computer supplies | | | | | 2.40 |
| 06/07/2020 | Zurich Insurance | 3621 | 44836061 | 133.66 | | |
| | 6625 Care in the Community | | | | | 0.00 |

20/65 Health and Safety

It was confirmed the play area had been re-opened on the 4th July 2020 as per government guidelines. All equipment had been inspected, cleaned, risk assessed, and social distancing measures had been put in place, along with signage on its safe use.

20/66 Williton Helpline during Covid-19 pandemic

Requests for help were reported as slowing down, mainly due to the same volunteers helping the same households since the beginning. Cllr Nye reported on how volunteers had formed friendships with those they were helping and stated it was amazing what the group had achieved.

20/67 Defibrillator

Consideration had been asked regarding the installation of a defibrillator to be accessible 24/7 within the centre of the village. Further information regarding costs and possible locations would be investigated.

20/68 Scam Marshalls

Cllr Nye gave a verbal update regarding recent scams and how Trading Standards were tackling them. Information would be forwarded which would be displayed in the parish window.

20/69 Bellamys Corner

A response had been received from Somerset County Council advising that no progress had been made on the sale of the land to the Parish Council, due to Covid-19, but they were content that the Parish Council could continue to occupy as per the terms of the expired lease.

20/70 Matters for the next Parish Council meeting to be held on Monday 3rd August, via Zoom

HR Consultant

Public Conveniences – to be added to the September 2020 meeting

20/71 After a proposal from Cllr McDonald, seconded by Cllr Woods, it was **resolved**, with one abstention, to pass a resolution to exclude the Press and Public from the remainder of the meeting due to personnel items. The Chairman reminded members that the following items were confidential.

20/72 Future of Williton Window

Cllr Hooper requested the financial position of the Williton Window, which Cllr Payne advised. Due to new volunteers, it was hoped the publication would continue. After a proposal from Cllr Aldridge, seconded by Cllr Hooper, it was **resolved** to agree to the request for the use a room in the Parish Offices to aid delivery and distribution, provided it did not interfere with administration and to give reassurance the Parish Council were keen to support.

20/73 Car Park Provision at Doniford

The Parish Council were actively pursuing all possible options.

Meeting closed at 8.35 pm

Signed as a true and correct record ... Cllr Payne Dated3rd August 2020