

WILLITON PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of the Parish Council Meeting held on 4th October 2021 at 7.00 pm
in The Brendon Room, Williton Pavilion.

Attendees:

Councillors	Payne (Chairman), Aldridge, Cook, Hooper, Howes (left after 21/163 at 9.10pm), Naylor, Peeks (left during 21/162 at 9.07pm) and White
SCC	Cllr Davies (left at 8.33pm during item 21/151.9)
SWT District	Cllrs Aldridge and Davies
Avon and Somerset Constabulary	None
Press	None
Clerk	Mrs Michelle Francis
Public	Two members
Other	None

Apologies:

Councillors	Denton, Johnson and Nye; SWT Cllr Whetlor
Other	None

Before the start of the meeting two members of the public addressed the members and asked questions regarding the upcoming A39 road closure; Overgrown hedge by Aller Mead; Wildflower Verge, Doniford Road and a request for the Parish Council to pay for a room hire.

21/142 It was advised that the meeting would be recorded.

21/143 **Apologies as noted above**

21/144 **Declarations of Interest**

Name	Agenda Item	Interest	Action
Cllr Aldridge	21/151.5	Personal	Did not vote
Cllr Naylor	21/152	Personal	Advised meeting

21/145 **Approval of the Minutes of the Meeting held on 2nd August 2021**

It was **resolved** to approve the minutes of the meeting.
Proposed Cllr Naylor, seconded Cllr Howes

21/146 **Matters from the Minutes – for the purpose of report only**

There were none

21/147 **Report from Avon and Somerset Constabulary**

No report had been received

21/148 **Report from Somerset County Councillor**

It was **resolved** to note the report and press releases that had been forwarded.

Bus service during the road closure – between 9.30am and 3.30 pm, the number 28 bus would run from Watchet to Taunton on the normal timetable. There would be no through service whilst the road was closed. The Exmoor Coaster would operate between Butlins and Lynmouth only. The Hinkley free bus – understood to run between Watchet and Bridgwater, this had not been confirmed. Cllr Davies would ask the bus companies to display notices at the bus stops.

WHEELS car scheme was running a limited service until January 2022

SCC were replacing egress email system

Duke of Edinburgh had received £30,000.00 funding from Free Masons

Refugees from Afghanistan – accommodation for families could not proceed until suitable accommodation was found, but it would mainly be in town with appropriate facilities.

21/149 **Report from Somerset West and Taunton District Councillors**

Cllr Aldridge expressed his concern regarding the Bus Improvement Plan regarding who the email originated from and why only limited parishes were approached as consultees. Concern as bus transport is very important in this area.

Cllr Aldridge advised WHEELS was operating for medical appointments only
There were currently no SWT issues that would affect Williton.

21/150 Clerk's/Chairman's Notices

- 21/150.1 Cllr Aldridge would write the next article for Williton Window.
- 21/150.2 It was **resolved** to hold two Councillor Surgery / Meet your Councillors coffee mornings on a trial, on Monday 1st November 2021 and Monday 7th February 2021. A decision would then be taken whether to continue on a quarterly basis. Proposed Cllr Payne, seconded Cllr Hooper, unanimously **resolved**. Cllrs White and Naylor would attend the first event.
Cllr Cook volunteered to co-ordinate a volunteer register at the event, putting volunteers in touch with groups – the Village Agent would be contacted. Proposed Cllr Howes, seconded Cllr White, unanimously **resolved**
- 21/150.3 It was noted the Chairman and Clerk would attend a Town and Parish Conference regarding the new Unitary Council on 7th October 2021
Temporary Road Closure – A39 at Kilve on 5th October 2021 for 1 day

21/151 Correspondence

- 21/151.1 It was **resolved** to note the contents of the correspondence log
- 21/151.2 SALC – Invitation to attend Levels Climate Forum's SCOP26+ on Saturday 6th November, 1pm – 6pm at Somerton. It was **resolved** Cllrs Naylor and Nye would attend.
- 21/151.3 A39 Road Closure at Carhampton from 11th October for 19 days – noted.
- 21/151.4 (Item 21/122.3) A response had been received from SWT Council regarding the microphones advising if they were to be sold, they would be advertised on eBay. It was **resolved** to reply asking to be kept updated.
- 21/151.5 A request had been received from Patient Participation Group at the Robert Street Surgery for the Parish Council to fund the hire of the Quantock Room for their meeting on the 16th of November 2021. After a discussion, it was **resolved** to fund the request via the Help in the Community budget line, for the Quantock Room in the Pavilion, for up to 3 hours, as the doctor's surgery was not available due to Covid-19 restrictions. Proposed Cllr Payne, seconded Cllr Cook, **resolved** with 6 votes in favour and 1 against. Cllr Aldridge did not vote.
- 21/151.6 Concern had been raised regarding the recent closures at Lloyds Pharmacy and the impact being caused on the local community. It was **resolved** to write to Lloyds Pharmacy expressing concerns raised. **Action: Clerk**
- 21/151.7 A questionnaire had been received from Somerset Bus Partnership regarding the Taunton Bus Station. Cllr Aldridge had also received a copy of the questionnaire for which he had drafted a reply, but not submitted. It was **resolved** Cllr Aldridge's comments would be forwarded to members for comment, the Clerk would then submit answers received. **Action: Cllr Aldridge and Clerk**
- 21/151.8 A letter had been received from SWT council regarding potential costs for elections in 2022 and recommendations for consideration when Budget Setting.
- 21/151.9 SALC results of elections – 16 in favour of keeping elections in 2023; 97 in favour of moving to 2022 in line with unitary - noted
(Cllr Davies left at 8.33pm)
- 21/151.10 Flood Wessex agenda for the annual Somerset Prepared October Online Event, 4th to 23rd October 2021 – noted

21/152 Report from the Environment and Planning Committee held on 13th September 2021

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

21/153 Report from the Finance and Administration Committee held on 20th September 2021

It was **resolved** to note the report

- 21/153.1 It was **resolved** to note the provisions as at 31st July and 31st August 2021.

21/154 Report from the Events Committee held on 16th September 2021

It was **resolved** to note the report. The feedback received from the Fete was very positive, many saying it had been the best Fete to date.

21/155 To receive accounts for payment not covered by Finance and Admin Committee

It was **resolved** to pay the following invoices. Proposed Cllr Peeks, seconded Cllr Howes, unanimously **resolved**.

Date	Details	Cheque	Invoice	Total Bank	Cash	VAT
04/10/2021	Countrywide Grounds Maintenance 4555 WPC Ground Maintenance	3819	196976	820.86		136.81
04/10/2021	Countrywide Grounds Maintenance 4560 SCC Ground Maintenance	3820	196975	189.00		31.50
04/10/2021	Function 28 Ltd 4605 Website	3821	10180	12.00		2.00
04/10/2021	Countrywide Grounds Maintenance 4561 Weed spraying	3822	196058	646.80		107.80
04/10/2021	N Ridge 4510 Office Cleaning	3823	16	98.00		0.00

21/156 Health and Safety

It was reported broken glass had been found in the Play Area, which had been cleared. There was increased anti-social behaviour on the ground, the police would be informed. Cllr Howes requested the removal of the beech hedge between the playing field and the play area. This would be added to the EPC agenda for discussion.

21/157 Welcome Back Fund – to be completed by 31st March 2022

A letter would be sent to local shops to ask if they would be prepared to have a hanging basket and maintain. Views would also be sought with suggestions for signage and where best to position.

21/158 Emergency High Street Fund – To be completed by 31st March 2022

21/158.1 It was reported three local businesses attended the meeting held on the 9th of August.

21/158.2 No update regarding the Public Conveniences

21/158.3 A Request from SWT Council for a contribution towards the cost of the electricity supply separation had been received. A breakdown of the costs had been requested, but not received. After a proposal from Cllr Naylor, seconded by Cllr Cook, it was unanimously agreed to reply stating that no contribution would be made as the separate supply was part of the agreement and no request had previously been received.

21/159 Climate Fund Grant Award – Wildflower Project

Cllr Johnson advised she had been in contact with the contractors and hoped to move the project along. It was noted, the grass verge opposite Casino Road would be included.

21/160 Youth Council

No update due to absence of Cllr Denton

21/161 Speed Watch and Speed Indicator Device

21/161.1 The quotation had been accepted, but on the advice of the supplier, the devices would not be purchased until the Parish Council was ready to receive them. Cllr Aldridge had an appointment scheduled with Highways to look at the poles to ensure suitability.

21/161.2 Training courses – Cllr Aldridge had found a company that could undertake the training, at an approximate cost of £200.00 per person. It was noted it was hoped the service would be offered to other parishes, so ideally a person/company under contract would be sought so the service could be offered. Holford PC would be approached to enquire who they use for their device.

21/161.3 Speed Watch – no update

21/162 Update on recruitment of new personnel

A verbal update was given stating the new member of staff was settling well. Interviews for the Memorial Ground and Pavilion Co-ordinator would be held the following Monday.

(Cllr Peeks left at 9.07pm)

21/163 Flagpole

Cllr Howes advised she had been approached from parishioners requesting that a flagpole be erected in a prominent position in the village, such as Bellamy's Corner. It was resolved to defer the item to EPC.

21/164 Defibrillator

21/164.1 This would be installed as soon as the cabinet was available.

21/164.2 It had been reported that the Defibrillator had been used by Croft House. Concern was raised as to why they did not have their own machine. After a proposal from Cllr Cook, seconded by Cllr Naylor, it was unanimously **resolved** to write to Croft House advising the cost to the Parish Council of £60.00 to replace the pads and request that they consider purchasing their own machine, as this machine was only available during SPAR opening times.

21/165 Parish and Town Councils – Opening Up Safely and Reconnecting Communities Fund

21/165.1 Submission of an application would be considered.

21/166 Matters for the next Parish Council meeting to be held on Monday 1st November 2021

Meeting closed at 9.19 pm

Signed as a true and correct record Cllr Payne Dated 18th November 2021.....