

WILLITON PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of the Parish Council Meeting held on 3rd October 2022 at 7.00 pm
In the Parish Office, 2 Killick Way, Williton.

Attendees:

Councillors	Payne (Chairman), Aldridge, Denton, Hooper, Howes, Nye and Peeks White
SCC	Davies (arrived 7.32pm during 22/145.3) and Woods (arrived 7.04pm, left 7.27pm after 22/144)
SWT	Aldridge, Davies and Whetlor
Avon and Somerset Constabulary	None
Press	None
Clerk	Mrs Michelle Francis
Public	None
Other	None

Apologies:

Councillors	Naylor
SWT Councillors	None
SCC Councillors	Davies and Woods for being late, due to attending another meeting before
Other	PCSO Thompson

Prior to the commencement of the meeting a one-minute silence was observed to pay respects to HM Queen Elizabeth II, following her death on the 8th of September 2022

22/136 The Chairman advised the meeting would be recorded

22/137 Apologies as noted above and reasons for absence approved

22/138 Co-option of Councillors

Cllr Peeks stated the co-option form the council use was incorrect, however, the Clerk confirmed this was not the case and that SALC and SLCC had both confirmed that there was no official form. If the Parish Council wished to amend the form, or indeed use no form at all, it could be directed to FAC to form a recommendation.

Three applications had been received for the three positions vacant. Cllr Payne proposed the applications were co-opted on block, seconded by Cllr White. An amendment was proposed by Cllr Aldridge to consider individual applications; this was seconded by Cllr Hooper. A vote was taken on the amendment, 3 in favour, 4 against and 1 abstention. The amendment vote was lost and with no other proposals, a vote was taken on the original motion to consider the applications on block, which was passed with 4 in favour, 2 against and 2 abstentions.

As Cllrs Angell, de Burgh-Thomas and Whetlor were in attendance, they duly signed the Declaration of Acceptance of Office, after which they were able to take part in the remainder of the meeting.

22/139 Declarations of Interest

Name	Agenda Item	Interest	Action
Cllr Whetlor	All	District Councillor	Advised meeting

22/140 Approval of the Minutes of the Meeting held on 1st August 2022

It was **resolved** to approve the minutes of the meeting. Proposed Cllr White, seconded Cllr Peeks.

22/141 Matters from the Minutes – for the purpose of report only

22/141.1 (Item 22/118.3) The Police had advised against forwarding copies of letters of apology regarding the graffiti. Cllrs Hooper and Peeks were not happy with this response and requested a copy of the police email. Cllr Payne stated that the advice of the police would not be gone against.

22/142 Report from Avon and Somerset Constabulary

It was **resolved** to note the report from PCSO Thompson, that had been forwarded.

22/143 Report from Somerset County Councillor / Unitary County Councillors

It was **resolved** to note the report from Cllr Woods, that had been forwarded. Cllr Woods advised the LCN's (Local Community Networks) was currently out for consultation

Cllr Davies apologised for being late, due to attending another Parish meeting prior to Williton. Press releases and a written report had been forwarded. A Tree Survey consultation had been launched, details had been forwarded earlier in the day. Members were reminded Alcombe Pharmacy were the nearest in Minehead and that they deliver. There would be a LCN consultation drop in event at West Somerset House on 10th October 10am – 4pm and the event at Yeovil, which Cllr Davies was attending, on the 4th October 2022. Over 300 responses had already been received and members were encouraged to respond.

22/144 Report from Somerset West and Taunton District Councillors – Watchet, Williton & Sampford Brett

Cllr Aldridge advised the District Council appeared to be tidying last loose ends before Unitary. The creation of Taunton Town Council was discussed at the last meeting and had received a large majority of votes in favour of its formation. The printing works planning permission had been passed. Cllr Peeks asked if 106 funding agreement had been set and what would have with the equipment. Cllr Whetlor advised there had been no mention of 106 during the planning meeting.

Cllr Whetlor advised she would attend the LCN Conference in Yeovil the following day as District and County Councillors had been invited. If parishes were interested in assets, requests should be submitted now, for consideration by Unitary after 1st April 2023

22/145 Clerk's/Chairman's Notices

22/145.1 Cllr White agreed to write the next article for Williton Window.

22/145.2 Avon and Somerset Police, Fraud and Cyber Protect Team and Litter Enforcement Team talks would take place on 21st October 2022, 2.30pm start.

22/145.3 Defibrillator Training would take place on 8th November 2022, at 6pm – spaces are limited and can be booked through the Parish Office

PCSO Marks was retiring – it was unanimously **resolved** a card would be sent, thanking her for her community service. Proposed Cllr Payne, seconded Cllr Hooper.

SCOP II Climate event being held in Somerton – Clerk had information for any member interested

A vote of thanks for Michelle Francis (Clerk) and Julie Coe (Assistant to Parish Clerk) was proposed and unanimously agreed by Cllr Payne, seconded by Cllr Hooper, for organising the Parish Office in memory of HM Queen Elizabeth II.

22/146 Correspondence

22/146.1 It was **resolved** to note the contents of the correspondence log

22/146.2 (Item 22/86.4) Lighthouse Development Consulting – advice had been received from the Monitoring Officer stating as long as no predetermination was made by Councillors, then a meeting could be held. A date and time would be arranged, for a Teams meeting in the Quantock Room, Williton Pavilion.

22/146.3 Somerset Social Care and Support Guide for Adults – copies were available in the Parish Office

22/146.4 LCN Consultation - Town and Parish Briefing Sept 2022 – In-person engagement sessions 10th October 2022 – West Somerset House - noted

22/146.5 SCC news release: Council unveils new £1 fare and plans for more evening buses in Somerset. Cllr Aldridge had expressed concern to Bus Partnership that the cheaper fare was aimed at passengers in Taunton only and if successful could cause further problems on the number 28 bus being full. Cllr Aldridge would like to see a reduction in fare for passengers travelling along the whole route, not just within Taunton. Cllr Whetlor advised she was on the Bus Partnership committee and agreed that the reduction should be fair for all areas. After a proposal from Cllr Payne, seconded by Cllr Hooper, it was unanimously resolved to write to Cllr Rigby stating the above comments.

22/146.6 SAAA 2022 Opt-out Communication – recommendation not to opt-out and remain with nominated external auditors. After a proposal from Cllr Aldridge, seconded by Cllr Peeks it was unanimously **resolved** to follow recommendation to remain with nominated external auditors.

22/146.7 (Item 22/134) A response had been received from Lloyds Pharmacy regarding opening hours, with an invitation to speak with the regional manager. It was unanimously resolved to arrange a meeting, to include Ian Liddell-Grainger MP and Williton Surgery.

- 22/146.8 A letter of thanks had been received from Williton Window for the extra funding. Noted.
- 22/146.9 The Chair of Somerset County Council was setting up a Communities Group to plan for Somerset Day 2023 and was asking for a representative to join the group. After a proposal from Cllr Hooper, seconded by Cllr Howes, it was resolved Cllr Nye would join, with communication through the office.

Cllr Davies gave his report, which was noted under item 22/143

22/147 Report from the Environment and Planning Committee September 2022

It was noted that the meeting did not take place due to the period of mourning for HRH Queen Elizabeth II

22/148 Report from the Finance and Administration Committee September 2022

It was noted that the meeting did not take place due to the period of mourning for HRH Queen Elizabeth II

- 22/148.1 It was **resolved** to note the provisions as at 31st July and 31st August 2022.

22/149 Report from the Events Committee held on 28th September 2022

Cllr Howes gave a verbal report on the recent fete. The date for next years fete was set for Saturday 2nd September 2023, which was the favoured date from survey forms returned. Cllr Whetlor stated the day was thoroughly enjoyable. The Military Wives Choir was being held on Friday 11th November.

22/150 Report from West Somerset Together meeting held on 14th July 2022

The idea was to get local produce to local people at a price local people can afford, with the possibility for advice on grown your own and how to cook the produce. The next meeting was due this week.

22/151 Sovereign

A discussion took place regarding the outstanding problems with the wet pour. It was noted the spring riders had been installed correctly. After a proposal from Cllr Peeks, seconded by Cllr Nye, it was unanimously resolved to pay for the spring riders and their installation, but withhold the full amount of the wet pour, subject to being completed to the Councils satisfaction. Costs from other firms to repair and a health and safety inspection would be requested.

22/152 To receive accounts for payment not covered by Finance and Admin Committee

It was unanimously **resolved** to pay the invoices on the attached list. Proposed Cllr Peeks, seconded Cllr Hooper (Cllr Whetlor did not vote regarding the SALC invoice, due to declared interest).

22/153 Health and Safety

EPC would be asked to discuss the brambles in the play area hedge

- 22/154 Chair's Award for Service to the Community 2022/23 – 17th February 2023** – The previous nomination of Mr and Mrs Stanbridge would stand, as the last award service had been cancelled due to covid-19. Proposed Cllr Hooper, seconded by Cllr Howes with 3 abstentions.

22/155 Amenity Area

- 22/155.1 A date for a Monday morning would be set and forwarded, all Councillors were invited to attend

- 22/155.2 The Working Group would set dates for Open Days for Parishioners.

22/156 Community Speed Watch

Cllr Denton advised one speed watch had been carried out near Danesfield School and 15 vehicles had been speeding in a 30-minute timeframe. Confirmation for checks to be held on Long Street and Tower Hill were being sought. Cllr White would add this to the Williton Window report, stating it was running again and asking for volunteers. Sampford Brett Parish Council may help at the top of Tower Hill.

22/157 Speed Indicator Device

Awaiting response from Highways regarding the installation of the posts. It was noted that the pole near Mamsey House may only need a bracket. Highways would be chased again, with clarification of pole positions.

22/158 Youth Council

Cllr Angell expressed an interest in this project. The Chairman would discuss with Cllr Angell the current position, and this would be added to the next agenda.

22/159 Unitary Authority

LCN – Local Community Networks - It was noted the Chairman and Clerk would attend a conference on Tuesday 4th October 2022 in Yeovil

22/160 CCTV Coverage

There had been no further update – the Police funding would be chased again and if no response received, the Police Commissioner would be contacted

22/161 Volunteer Register

The past Councillor would be contacted for background information and a volunteer would be sought to take this forward.

22/162 Matters for the next Parish Council meeting to be held on Monday 7th November 2022

Allocation of new Councillors to committees

Meeting closed at 8.37 pm

Signed as a true and correct record Cllr Payne (Chairman) Dated 7th November 2022