

WILLITON PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of the Environment and Planning Committee Meeting held on
Monday 9th October 2023 at 7.00pm, in the Parish Office, 2 Killick Way, Williton.

Attendees:

Councillors	de Burgh-Thomas (Chairman), Nye, Payne
Public	None
Other	Mrs Michelle Francis (Clerk) Mrs Charlotte Hirst (Committee Clerk)

Apologies:

Councillors	Aldridge, Denton, Peeks, White
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23/87B It was advised the meeting would be recorded

23/88B Apologies as noted above and reasons for absence approved as indicated (LGA 1972 s85 (1))

23/89B Declarations of Interest

There were none

23/90B Approval of Minutes of the Environment and Planning Committee meeting held on 9th October 2023

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

23/91B Matters from the Minutes

23/91.1B It was noted that Cllr Peeks had visited the streams and Bridge Street and Catwell and that these areas were now clear of debris.

23/91.2B It was noted that the Community Pay Back Scheme had been asked to clean the bench that had been graffitied.

23/92B Correspondence

23/92.1B A letter of complaint had been received regarding the rough sleepers in Bellamy's Corner it had been noted that this is not the only complaint. The Committee Clerk was requested to reply to the letter to say it had been reported. The Committee Clerk was also asked to chase up the report to the landowner and report antisocial behaviour to the Police.

23/92.2B A Parishioner came into the Parish Office to complain about the look of the Wildflower area at North Croft, it was explained that this area was due to be mown and the Parishioner offered to scatter some Wildflower seeds they had, Cllr Payne confirmed that if the seeds were annual seeds this would be acceptable, Committee Clerk to contact the parishioner. Cllr Payne proposed seconded by Cllr Nye unanimously resolved.

23/93B It was noted that a joint Planning Meeting with Watchet Town Council is to be held on 18th October 2023

23/94B Planning Applications for Consideration

23/94.1B The following applications were considered.

Application No	Location	Details	Comment
3/37/23/001	Land to the south of Doniford Road and Normandy Avenue, Watchet	Application for the approval of reserved matters following outline application 3/37/17/019 for the access, appearance, landscaping, layout and scale for the erection of up to 139 No. dwellings and associated works	See below

3/37/23/001 – it was noted that an extension until 25th October had been granted, it was agreed to add floods frequently to the Parish Council Comments Form under section 9 and that the application will be discussed at the joint planning meeting with Watchet Town Council on the 18th October 2023 and any further comments were to be given to the Committee Clerk for including on the Parish Council Comments form.

3/37/23/020	6 Quantock Grove, Williton, TA4 4PD	Conversion of garage to ensuite and utility area including raising of roof	Object on grounds 1, 2 and 4 Concerns of loss of privacy due to the wall of the garage being single thickness the neighbours my experience more noise. Concern of the design and impact on the dividing party wall, we would expect this to be referred to Building Regulations. Proposed Cllr Payne, seconded Cllr Nye unanimously resolved.
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23/94.2B Notification of Planning Decisions – Noted

Application No	Location	Outcome
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23/95B Highways Matters

- 23/95.1B Tropiquaria Roundabout – It was noted that this had been reported and that it had been mown.
- 23/95.2B Robert Street, update on survey regarding signs and bollards – deferred
- 23/95.3B Strategic Traffic Review it was reported that the Williton and District Business Association would arrange a meeting and to which the Parish would be invited to attend.
- 23/95.4B It was noted that Somerset Council are to review the grit bins and Cllrs would check the levels, 5 Bells, Rydon Hill would be checked by Cllr Payne, Bridge Street and Half Acre would be checked by Cllr. Nye the Parish Office would be checked by the office.
- 23/95.5 A request had been made to the Highways Officer regarding parking around the Parish and were still awaiting a response.

23/96B Items to Report on Footpaths/Pavements

- 23/96.1B It was noted that the photos of the blocked footpath at Aller Mead were awaited from Cllr. Peeks by the Committee Clerk for reporting.

23/97B Finance and Budget

- 23/97.1B The Ground Maintenance contract was reviewed and it was recommend that strimming at Bellamy's corner would be left until the end of June for the blubs flowering is finished. Cllr. Payne was to draw up a map for the Ground Maintenance Team to reference. It was proposed that the Memorial Ground Contract would be kept the same but to confirm works that are to be completed. It was proposed that this would be brought to the next meeting for ratification.
- 23/97.2B It was agreed that the Weed Spraying contact would be kept the same but to weed spray the south side of Robert Street if possible.
- 23/97.3B It was unanimously agreed that the contact for Somerset Council Grass Cutting Contract to remain the same as the previous year.
- 23/97.4B It was unanimously agreed to defer the Budget review until the next meeting.

23/98B Items of Report from Grounds Maintenance Officers

- 23/98.1B Bridge Green – it was noted that Cllr. Payne had removed the fallen tree limb.
- 23/98.2B Bellamy's Corner – Cllr Payne proposed a letter to Somerset Council be sent to attain correct support for the rough sleepers. It was noted that they had received assistance from the Rough Sleeper Team and they refused assistance. It was reported by Cllr Nye that the male rough sleeper had been seen urinating in public at Bellamy's Corner and that this should be reported to the Police. It was also proposed for the Committee Clerk to visit the Spar to request staff to report any Antisocial behaviour to the Police.
- 23/98.3B Street Furniture – Nothing to report
- 23/98.4B It was noted that the grass verges were sprayed on the 25th September 2023.

23/99B Flooding Matters

- 23/99.1B The Annual report from Somerset River Authorities was noted

- 23/99.2B Two draft letters were considered to be sent to the Riparian owners in Williton Parish it was **unanimously agreed** that the wording on the draft letters were too strong and these should be softened and EPC Councillors to ratify. The Committee Clerk was asked to contact Somerset Council for permission to use their leaflet if their contact information was removed. The Committee Clerk was also asked to contact the Environment Agency to request hard copies of their leaflet Living on the Edge for Parishioners.
- 23/99.3B It was resolved to take to full Council the relocation of the Flood Shed. It was also noted that the Flood Plan had been updated and would be taken to Full Council to ratify and readopt. **proposed by Cllr. Payne and seconded by Cllr. Nye** It was further noted that there was a meeting for the public to be held on 16th November at 7pm at the Parish Council Office.
- 23/99.4B A resident has asked when Doniford River would be cleared, it is putting Doniford Road at risk of flooding – deferred.
- 23/100B Disrepair of BT Phone Box, North Croft, Williton**
It was noted that this had be reported to BT again and it was confirmed there was an engineer booked to carry out the repair. Committee Clerk to report if this work had been carried out.
- 23/101B Wildflower Grass Areas**
It was resolved to leave the Wildflower Grass areas at the Fire Station and North Croft a chance to grow 2024/2025 however to mow a path through the centre of the green for residents to have access to put their bins out. It was suggested that a post be put on social media to ask parishioners to spread any annual wildflower seeds they may have on these areas. It was further resolved to reinstate the mowing at the Memorial Ground because the Wildflowers did not work there.
Standing orders suspended to go back to point 23/96 - **Proposed Cllr. Payne seconded Cllr. Nye**
- 23/96B A parent had made a complaint to Cllr Nye regarding the overgrown verges near the school and that her children had been stung by stinging nettles Cllr. Nye was unsure of what footpath the parent had referred to so would speak to the parent and provide an update at the next meeting.
- 23/102B Blue Light on old Police Station**
It was discussed that Cllr Nye would like Police to be reinstated on the blue light outside of the old Police Station. Cllr Payne requested the Committee Clerk to contact Somerset Council for clarification on the planning application.
- 23/103B Community Payback Scheme**
Nothing to report
- 23/104B Committee Terms of Reference**
- 23/104.1B It was **resolved** that site visits was not relevant to the Terms of Reference. To be taken to Full Council for adoption **proposed Cllr. Nye seconded Cllr. Payne.**
- 23/105B Play Equipment in Recreation Ground**
- 23/105.1B It was noted that the repairs to the play equipment had been booked. It was resolved to recommend to Full Council that there would be a budget set aside for new playground equipment so this situation arise again.

Meeting closed at 8.34pm

Signed as a true and correct record ...Cllr de Burgh-Thomas Dated ...13/11/23.....