



WILLITON PARISH COUNCIL

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Minutes of the Extraordinary Meeting held on 15th September 2025 at 6.15 pm at The Parish Office, 2 Killick Way, Williton

Attendees:

Councillors

Payne (Chairman), Aldridge, Hooper and Schmieder

Public

None

Clerk

Michelle Francis

Apologies:

Councillors

Denton, Nye and Peeks

25/144 The Chairman advised the meeting would be recorded

25/145 Apologies as noted above and reasons for absence approved

25/146 Declarations of Interest

Name	Agenda Item	Interest	Action
Cllr Hooper	25/147	Pecuniary	Did not vote

25/147 **Request for Dispensation** - a request had been received from Cllr Hooper regarding the project, in its entirety, relating to the acquisition of the Old Library Building, Killick Way, Williton

- **Resolution** – to grant the requested dispensation to Cllr Hooper and allow full voting rights, regarding the above project. Proposed Cllr Payne, seconded Cllr Aldridge - **resolved**

25/148 **Sale of Somerset Council Buildings – Proposal to acquire the old Williton Library Building**

25/148.1 The Chairman gave a verbal report on the public meeting held on 26th August 2025. It was noted the meeting had been very well attended, with lots of questions and answers. There had been no negative comments, and the general consensus was favourable, noting that financial information was needed. Participants were told this had not been available at this point, but was hoped to be as soon as possible

25/148.2 Consideration was given to the cost plan that had been received and any alterations to the suggested design. Cllrs Aldridge, Hooper and Payne, together with members and staff had viewed the old library building earlier in the day. The following points would made for alternation to the design:

- The two public toilets would be unisex, disabled toilets, facing directly onto the pavement, with the tarmac slope removed to allow for level entrance
- The existing entrance lobby would be altered for staff toilet facilities, which would be locked or mag locked
- Chairs and coffee table would be in the lobby area
- Fixed wall to be installed between the lobby area and chamber, noting the skylight restrictions
- Door to be included from the lobby into the chamber
- The existing exit door would be the entrance door
- A serving hatch to be located to the right-hand side of the entrance door, into the offices
- Storage room currently marked in the old registrar room would be removed and replaced with shelving
- Fire escape and two extra windows to be installed on the outside wall, to the right of the building as front facing

Cllr Payne had produced a rough drawing incorporating the above alterations.

- **Resolution** – To accept the above as the final version. Proposed Cllr Hooper, seconded Cllr Schmider - unanimously **resolved**

- 25/148.3 Business Case – when finalised the new costings would be included within the business case, together with the proposed new layout. The new plan would be forwarded to JHC Surveying Ltd, for re-costing, with guidelines of £150,000.00 for construction would be the top limit, but would prefer it to be closer to £130,000.00
Proposed Cllr Aldridge, seconded Cllr Hooper, unanimously **resolved**
- 25/148.4 General Project Consultation – it was agreed to print and distribute the General Project Consultation & Precept Increase Survey, stating the potential tax precept increase of 2%, equivalent to £3.84 a year for loan repayments

It was noted when the official resolution to borrow from PWLB was made, all members would need to be present – this would be clarified with SALC.
- 25/148.5 Crowdfunding – consideration was given on whether to apply for crowdfunding
- 25/149 To consider request from Hayley’s CIC, to apply for SALC Community Health & Wellbeing Community Plan Grant**
- **Resolution** – For the Parish Council to apply for funding and the larger grant of £10,000
Proposed Cllr Hooper, seconded Cllr Aldridge - unanimously **resolved**
- 25/150 The Chairman declared the meeting closed at 7.27 pm**

Signed as a true and correct record Cllr Payne Dated 6th October 2025