



WILLITON PARISH COUNCIL

PARISH NEWSLETTER - NOVEMBER 2025

Proposal to Acquire the Former Williton Library Building

Thank you to all parishioners who attended either of the public meetings held in the Pavilion and to everyone who took the time to respond to the paper survey: 1388 copies were distributed, of which we had 163 responses, 91 in favour, 62 against and 10 spoilt. This result, in conjunction with the feedback from the public meetings allowed councillors to be confident that the proposal was supported by the community.

Therefore, the decision has been taken to apply for funding through the Public Works Loans Board and a tender has been submitted to Somerset Council. We will keep everyone updated.

Other Parish Council news: as you will be aware, there are currently a lot of road works being undertaken, the current closure on **North** Road to replace the gas line, will finish its first phase on 8th December; then from 8th December – 13th February 2026, road closure on Doniford Road. Dates for the next stage in the new year are awaited.

The bench has been replaced on Killick Way, next to the car parks and already is being well used. Thank you to Phil Blackmore and Peter Payne for reinstalling the bench.

Very pleased to announce we have two new councillors, Dave Shattock and Sol Gatti – this leaves one space remaining, so if you are interested in being a parish councillor, please contact Michelle on the contact details below.

Riparian Duties

We are getting to the time of year again that we need to be mindful of potential flooding issues in the village. Please may we remind any owners of property next to a waterway that you have riparian duties to ensure that the waterway bordering your property is clear of debris etc.

Williton Chemist

It is with much regret that the chemist has closed. The Parish Council have written to Rachel Gilmour MP to request that she contacts the Health Secretary to see what could be done to ensure a pharmacy provision was available in Williton; in addition, the same question would be sent directly to the Secretary of State

Upcoming Dates for your Diary

3 rd Nov	Parish Council Meeting
11 th Nov	Remembrance Service, 10.45am on the Memorial Ground
11 th Nov	Prize Bingo, Pavilion 7pm
13 th Nov	Events Meeting, Pavilion 7pm
22 nd Nov	Williton Young Farmers Autumn bingo, Pavilion, doors open 6.30pm
25 th Nov	Prize Bingo, Pavilion 7pm
29 th Nov	Quiz Night in aid of Williton Guide Hut, at Pavilion
5 th Dec	Rachel Gilmour MP: Williton Constituency Surgery
6 th Dec	1 st Watchet Guides Christmas Bingo, Pavilion 6pm
9 th Dec	Prize Bingo, Pavilion 7pm
10 th Dec	Santa's Grotto, Parish Office, 5-7pm
16 th Dec	Christmas Bingo, Pavilion 7pm

Community Speed Watch

Thank you to the volunteers that have come forward to volunteer with this very worthwhile scheme – as soon as training has been completed the team will be out and about, trying to keep our roads as safe as possible

DOG MESS AROUND THE VILLAGE

We are receiving numerous complaints about dog mess on the pavements around the village and on the Memorial Ground. Whilst the majority of dog owners are respectful and responsible, there still remains some that are not clearing up after their dogs. Please can we ask that this culture changes – dog mess can cause blindness and it is horrible if you misplace your footing! Please remember your bags and keep our area clean!

SANTA'S GROTTO & COLOURING COMPETITION

Santa's Grotto will be in the Parish Office on Wednesday 10th December, 5pm – 7pm, for children of the parish, under the age of 12. Please come along for a festive treat – refreshments will be available for a small donation. Children will also be invited to enter a colouring competition – this will be through the schools or please pop into the office for an entry – the entries will be on display in the parish office

CHRISTMAS TREES

If you would like to contribute towards the cost of Christmas trees around the centre of Williton, this would be very welcome

REPORTING PROBLEMS

If you have issues, such as fly tipping, broken paving slabs, street lighting or potholes, these can be reported directly to Somerset Council either on their own website or via Fix My Street

VANDALISM ON MEMORIAL GROUND

It is with a heavy heart that I must report several acts of vandalism on the Memorial Ground. The light bollards around the path were vandalised. The cost to replace them is over £1,500 + vat, which is unaffordable – the perpetrators were caught on CCTV which was handed to the police. The window on the barn was smashed with a brick, and a fire had been lit in the Amenity Area next to the Children's Play Area. I kindly ask if you could take a moment to stress to your children how much damage like these costs and the impact it has on our community. It is important for everyone to understand the financial strain such actions place on resources, as well as the wider consequences

YAMAHA BABY GRAND PIANO

We have received a message regarding the above piano, stating "*I would be so grateful to see it go to someone who truly appreciates the joy of playing and the warmth a piano can bring to a home*". If you would be interested in rehoming a much-loved piano, please contact the Parish Office and we can put you in touch with the owner

DELIVERING NEWSLETTERS

I really hope you are enjoying these newsletters - there are currently vacancies for delivering in some areas around the village – if you are able to help, we would love to hear from you

WILLITON WITH WATCHET WI

Our speaker on November 20th will be Karina Heard - 'The Crooked Path' - who will be telling us a little bit about the woodland figures that she makes and showing us how to make some Christmas Angels. In December our members look forward to our yearly Christmas lunch at the Pavilion, catering by Foxes Academy. Our first open meeting of the New Year will be on Thursday 15th January, 2-4pm in Williton Pavilion. Visitors welcome. More about that in the next newsletter. It is a bit early, but as the next newsletter will not be out til January, may we wish you all a very Happy Christmas!! Irene Draper on behalf of Williton with Watchet WI.

WILLITON SHORT MAT BOWLS

Every Monday 2pm – 4pm in the Pavilion – just bring some flat soled indoor shoes, £3.50 per session. No experience needed – gentle exercise and fun

STATION FIELDS DEVELOPMENT

The Parish Council were not aware that the development was going to be called Station Fields and have asked to be involved/consulted with the naming of the individual roads, to ensure an historical link remains to the old field names

CINNAMON TRUST

Request for Volunteer Dog Walkers

If you are able to volunteer, please contact Sally on 01736 758707 or email sallycollins@cinnamon.org.uk

SOMERSET COUNCIL CHAIRMAN'S AWARD

Congratulations to Graham and Joan Scott on receiving the Somerset Council's Chairman's Award for service to the community –
thank you both for all you do for the village

SOMERSET COMMUNITY FOUNDATION

We are pleased to report that Williton Parish Council have been awarded a grant of £5,000 from the Help Through Winter grant programme, to enable continued support to the Wednesday Community Lunches and Tuesday Talking Café, both of which are held in the Pavilion.

Somerset Sight

Have you considered volunteering? They are looking for volunteers to work one-to-one with sight impaired people. Full training and support will be given – please contact them on 01823 333818 or email admin@somersetsight.org.uk

BUS SERVICE

Following a recent meeting with representatives from First Bus, Rachel Gilmour MP has created a First Bus Service Report Form to report constituents' issues to First Bus each quarter. The form, which can be found here: <https://forms.office.com/e/mSaetVSRz6?origin=lprLink> or on Rachel Gilmour MP's website, allows constituents to report any issues – including delays, overcrowding, and cancellations. Mrs. Gilmour will then use this information to hold First Bus to account as she continues to campaign for improved service standards.

If you know of any constituents who have had recent issues with First Bus services, particularly on the Number 28(A) or 25(A), please encourage them to fill out the form so Rachel can raise their issues.

Chatty Crafters

Tuesday 2pm – 3.45pm
(apart from 1st Tuesday of every month)
Danesborough View Meeting Room

Chatty Crafters brings together a diverse group of crafters, including crochet, knitting, jewellery making, textile art and more, in a friendly, social and supportive setting. Light refreshments are available and there are toilet facilities, and the meeting room is fully accessible.
Please feel free to drop by.

OTHER NEWS

Martin and Angela Chadwick are raising funds to buy an ambulance, fill it with medical supplies, and drive it to Ukraine where they will leave it with a hospital or military base. They started the fundraising on August 1st with the Friday walking group who meet outside the parish office. There were 14, average age 76, who walked for 6 miles & raised a massive £1500. We have currently raised nearly £4000 of our £10,000 target. The Wyndham arms is generously holding a race night on 16th November. Looking forward to that! Further Details please contact Martin or Angela on 07788895569.