WILLITON PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of the Environment and Planning Committee Meeting held on 14th September 2026 at 7.00 pm in the Parish Office, 2 Killick Way, Williton

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Attendees:

Councillors: Cllr Prince (Chairman), Cllr Rutter, Cllr Schmieder

Public: None

Other: Charlotte Hirst (Committee Clerk – Assistant to the Clerk)

Apologies: Cllr Payne, Cllr Peeks, Cllr Aldridge – Personal Reasons.

It was advised the meeting would be recorded

26/55B **Health and Safety – Housekeeping and any reportable issues**
It was reported that a ridge tile had fallen from the Memorial Shelter in the children's play area and there were two slipped tiles.

26/56B **Apologies**
Apologies as noted above and reasons for absence approved as indicated (LGA 1972 s85 (1)). **Proposed Cllr Prince Seconded Cllr Rutter-** unanimously resolved.

26/57B **Declarations of Interest**
None

26/58B **Approval of Minutes of the Environment and Planning Committee meetings held 13th July 2026.**
It was **resolved** to approve the Minutes.

26/59B **Matters from the Minutes** – nothing.

26/60B **Correspondence**

26/60.1B An email had been received from Lovell regarding their Community Fund Project – which would be discussed under item 26/61.5B – noted.

26/60.2B A resident called into the Parish Office to report their concerns of the disrepair to the Egremont Building.
Resolution the committee clerk to would write to Magna Housing requesting this matter be addressed **Proposed Cllr Prince Seconded Cllr Schmieder Unanimously resolved.**

26/60.3B An email had been received from Somerset Council Conservation Term regarding heritage at risk – deferred.

26.60.4B Email from Somerset Rivers Authority regarding their annual report – noted.

26/61B **Planning Applications – plans are available for inspection on the Somerset Council website under the planning portal.**

26/61.1B The Following Planning Applications were considered and if a request for Section 106 Funding was appropriate.

Application No	Location	Details	Comment
None			

26/61.2B Decision to be made as to whether a request for any of the above applications to be considered by planning committee – No applications received.

26/61.3B To Note the Following Planning Decisions made by Somerset Council

Application No	Location	Outcome
3/39/26/007	5 Long Street, Williton, TA4 4QN	Grant
3/39/26/006	Bowhays Lodge, Smithyard Lane, Williton, TA4 4NN	Refuse
3/39/26/002	Arden Cottage, 33 Long Street, Williton, TA4 4QN	Grant

26/61.4B **Solar Farm** – it was noted that the Committee Clerk had still not been able to make contact with the developers of this site, it was agreed the Committee Clerk would keep trying to establish communication.

26/61.5B **Station Fields** the Committee Clerk had liaised with Lovell regarding their Community Fund Project and had agreed various dates for a meeting with their representative it was resolved to accept the 5th October at 11am in the Parish Office, the Committee Clerk would inform Lovell's representative.

26/61.6B **Planning Enforcement** – a response had been received from MP Rachel Gilmore's office which was noted and it was resolved to keep monitoring the situation and report back any concerns.

26/62B Highway Matters

26/62.1B **Doniford Road –** following the resolution 25/79.1B an email had been sent to Somerset Council requesting a reduction of the speed limit to 30MPH and petition had been attached, a request for an update had been submitted which had not been received Committee Clerk had contacted Cllr Rodrigues and Cllr Davies to request for assistance, Cllr Rodrigues had emailed to confirm he would investigate the matter.

26/62.2B **Road closure signs -** it was noted that an email had been sent to Somerset Council Highways and Rachel Gilmour MP asking that more information to be added to road closure signs i.e. access as far as, a response is awaited from both parties.

26/62.3B **Blacksmiths Close** – 6 month update – it was noted that Somerfield Homes are still responsible for the development site.

26/62.4B **Blocked Drains** – it was noted that a response was still awaited regarding the request for the drain maintenance schedule from Somerset Council.

26/62.5B **A39 Road Works** – concern had been raised regarding the A39 road closure diversion route during the proposed drainage improvement works due 28th September 2026 which had been reported to Somerset Council. Councillors agreed that the diversion route would be a serious concern especially at the Five Bells junction with B3190 and noted that the weight limited had been lifted on North Road, Cllr Rutter would report if he noticed any damage to the culvert.

26/62.6B **Tropiquaria Roundabout (Washford Cross)** – options were considered to improve the Tropiquaria roundabout, it was agreed that the Committee Clerk would write to Somerset Highways to ask for guidance on what is be able to be done to improve the visual effect of this roundabout, options and budgets would be considered at the next Environment and Planning Committee Meeting.

26/62.7B **Yellow Road Signs for Housing Developments** – deferred.

26/63B Items to report on Footpaths/Pavements

26/63.1B **Blocked footpath Aller Mead** – Deferred.

26/63.2B **Footpath at Catwell and Townsend** it was reported that the footpath appeared to be open and that no repairs had been carried out. Cllr Prince had been in communication with Somerset Council and the Environment Agency and would update the office.

26/63.3B **Overgrown brambles and vegetation** it was noted that some areas had been maintained but there were still areas that were overgrown, it was agreed that the office would keep reporting any areas that needed maintenance.

26/64B Items of Report from Grounds Maintenance Officers

26/64.1B **Bellamy's Corner** – it was reported that the bench on Bellamy's needed maintenance, it was agreed that the Committee Clerk would contact the Community Payback Scheme if they would undertake this work.

26/64.2B **Street Furniture -** Bench at Aller Farm an update from Cllr Rutter, the bench would need to be wire brushed a request had been made for the Community Payback Scheme outdoor team to undertake this work a response is still awaited, the Committee Clerk to enquire again.

26/64.3B **Keep Williton Tidy Scheme** – the parishioner would be thanked for the work they had undertaken so far.

26/64.4B **Waste Bins** – it was noted that a parishioner had requested more waste bins to be located around Williton however it was viewed by the Committee that this would be too much of an expense to purchase and the ongoing expensive refuse collection fees and also that litter bins increase the amount of litter and felt that this would cause more of an issue than a remedy, it was suggested that a notification would be placed in the Williton Window reminding residents to take any waste with them rather than littering.

26/64.5B **Memorial Stone** – a report had been received that the memorial stone was loose – a contractor had been arranged to carry out repair works, this had now been undertaken – noted.

26/64.6B A resident of Half Acre Close had reported that they were concerned that the trees near their home had grown very large and that this had been reported to Magna Housing who confirmed these trees would be carefully monitored within the tree management plan and if deemed necessary, works would be undertaken – noted.

26/65B Grounds Maintenance

26/65.1B **Wildflower Project –** it was agreed that no works would be undertaken until the spring however the areas designated for planting would be very difficult to maintain it was suggested that it would be better to concentrate on one area and it was agreed to make a request to Full Council that a portion of land in the Amenity Area be able to be utilised to plant with the potential to enlarge the section of land if positively received by the community.

26/65.2B **Footpath between Shutgate Meadow and Williton Hospital** a response is still awaited from the Estate Office of the NHS Trust.

26/66B Flooding Matters

26/66.1B An email had been received from Somerset Rivers Authority regarding grants Cllr Prince and Cllr Rutter would liaise with the Committee Clerk to apply for a grant with a view to carry work out in the area **Proposed Cllr Rutter Seconded Cllr Schmieder unanimously resolved**.

26/66.2B An email had been sent to all Councillors from Cllr Rutter on 5th September regarding the El Nenio effect on the UK it was agreed to arrange a community event in November and to invite Somerset Rivers Authority, Environment Agency, the fire service and The Rotary Club's Somerset Prepared & EVAG (Emergency Volunteer Action Group).

26/66.3B It had been reported by Cllr Peeks that the ditches located at Union Lane, Doniford Road by Aller Mead and Orchard Brooks needed clearing it was agreed that the parties responsible would be asked to clear these ditches.

26/67B **Somerset Local Nature Recovery Strategy**

26/67.1B Defer.

26/68B **Finance and Budget**

Budgets will be discussed at the October meeting.

26/69B **Telephone Box Northcroft**

26/69.1B It was reported by British Telecom that the telephone line had been reinstated.

26/69.2B it was reported that the phone box had been damaged which had been reported to British Telecom and this had been assigned to an engineer - noted.

26/70B **Play Equipment in Recreation Ground**

26/70.1B It was reported that the Rospa Play Safe inspection had been undertaken - noted.

26/70.2B It was noted that Full Council had accepted a quotation for the replacement gates and that these had been ordered - noted.

26/71B **Somerset Council Car Park located in Killick Way.**

Letters had been hand delivered to local businesses asking their feedback on the free parking available in Williton however no businesses had responded.

26/72B **Matters for the next meeting to be held on 12th October 2026**

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Meeting closed at 20.39pm

Signed as a true and correct record ……Cllr Peeks……. Dated ……03/11/2026…….