



WILLAND PARISH COUNCIL

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Minutes of the **Meeting of Willand Parish Council** held on **Thursday 12th December 2024 at 7.00 pm, in the Club Room at Willand Village Hall, Gables Rd, Willand.**

Present: Cllr Warren, Cllr Grantham, Cllr Sycamore, Cllr Leach, Cllr Phare, Cllr Little

In Attendance: D Bird, Parish Clerk
District Councillor Poynton
2 Members of the public

Minutes

1212/01 To receive and accept apologies

It was **resolved** to receive and accept apologies from Cllr James, Cllr Jones and Cllr Scott.

1212/02 Declarations of Interest

Declarations taken in the relevant item.

1212/03 Public Question Time

There were 2 members of the public present. No questions were asked.

1212/04 Order of Business

There were no changes to the order of business.

1212/05 It was **resolved** to approve and sign the minutes of the Willand Parish Council Meeting held on the 14th November 2024 as a correct record, Cllr Leach proposed and Cllr Sycamore seconded. Unanimously agreed.

1212/06 It was **resolved** to approve a grant of £265 to Willand Community Composting Scheme to purchase new equipment and PPE. Moved by the Chair. Unanimously agreed.

1212/07 Chairman's and Clerk's Announcements

- Jubilee Field Junior Goals fitted. The Chair reported that they are being well-used.
- Work commencing on the 6th January to fit the Jubilee Field Springer, Chestnut Drive Springer and the Orchard Way Equipment.
- S106 updated figures received from MDDC and expected amount remaining in the pot confirmed of £12,969.

- Willand Tennis Club have asked the Clerk to pass on their thanks to Councillors for agreeing to support the S106 application for resurfacing the tennis courts.
- Feedback received from Highways following walk around in October - notices have been served on several properties to cut back vegetation impeding the footpath or highway. The Highways Officer has put through a request for the contractor to plough the footpath between the Esso garage and the junction of Rowan Lea, this will be done on a priority basis as the contractors are currently focusing on drainage issues and the primary salting network before the freezing weather arrives so cannot provide a timeframe for that to be complete. He will keep an eye on the area by Spearings to see if the re-tarmacking has alleviated the flooding issues when it rains. He will look at the other issues raised however only the ones that are deemed as a safety defect according to DCC policy will be dealt with.
- M5 Community work update - the Clerk and Chair met with the M5 works Contracts Manager on the 10th December and they are going to cut back between the Esso Garage and the 30-mph sign to clear the footpath to its full width, starting on the 13th January – information will be added to the Website and Facebook the week before and DCC Highways advised (see above). They are happy to undertake further clearance work within their time on site.
- Christmas Lights Donations - £1,800 received to date from Pallex South West, Stoneman Engineering, Victoria Windows and Doors, Willand Community Composting, Pencarrie, Willand Rovers, Hopkins Machinery, Willand Service Centre and Rayda Plastics, with a further £250 promised from the Co-op.
- Christmas arrangements 2024 – The Clerk’s last working day is Monday 23rd December and she will return to work on Thursday 2nd January, when the January meeting agenda will be issued and posted. Out of Office will be activated and Voicemail changed.

1212/08 County and District Councillor Reports.

- Apologies received from County Cllr Radford who sent a report in advance of the meeting, which was circulated to members and noted with thanks.
- District Councillors – Apologies received from Cllr Connor. Written report received just prior to the meeting, circulated to members and discussed by Cllr Poynton at the meeting. The Clerk to add Facebook and website posts to advise the public that MDDC are conducting a tenant satisfaction survey to reassure them this is not a scam call.

1212/09 Accounts Due for Payment and Receipts to include:

- a) It was **resolved** to note the Summary of Receipts and Payments and approve the Bank Reconciliation up to the 30th November 2024. Cllr Phare proposed, Cllr Sycamore seconded. Unanimously agreed.
- b) It was **resolved** to authorise the payment of invoices received between the 7th November 2024 and 6th December 2024, and to **ratify** additional payments made since the previous meeting. Cllr Sycamore Proposed, Cllr Little seconded. Unanimously agreed.

- c) It was **resolved** to transfer £14,000 from the Lloyds Instant Savings account to the Treasurers account to cover the invoice for the Jubilee Field Junior Goals. Moved by Chair. Unanimously agreed.
- d) The Reserves Balances Report up to the 30th November 2024 was noted.

1212/10 The update on budget planning for 2025/26 was noted, and the Clerk reminded Councillors that the budget setting meeting was taking place on Thursday 19th December at 7 p.m. and she encouraged members to attend. The budget agreed at that meeting will inform the precept for approval at the January meeting.

1212/11 The emergency plan was reviewed and the reference to the Helpline on page 11 to be removed and an additional contact added for the WH&CC.

1212/12 It was **resolved** to write to Mid-Devon District Council to express the Parish Council's disappointment that the Town and Parish Charter approved by them in July was not developed in partnership with Towns and Parishes but is in effect a policy statement of the District Council. Cllr Little proposed and Cllr Leach seconded. 5 Councillors voted in favour with 1 abstention.

1212/13 It was **resolved** to approve the list of meeting dates for 2025 with the following amendment - the addition of Thursday the 18th December 2025 for a budget setting meeting. Moved by the Chair. Unanimously agreed.

1212/14 It was **resolved** to approve that work proceed to crown reduce an oak tree on the allotment boundary by 2-3m so it is not overhanging/shading one of the allotment plots. Moved by the Chair. 4 Councillors voted in favour, Cllr Phare voted against and Cllr Little abstained from voting having declared an interest as a trustee of Willand United Charities.

1212/15 The recommendations of the annual RoSPA reports on the play areas and the proposed actions were **noted**.

1212/16 It was **resolved** to approve a donation of £100 to Torridge, North, Mid and West Devon Citizens Advice. Cllr Little proposed and Cllr Leach seconded. Unanimously agreed.

1212/17 **Mid Devon District Council – Planning Applications** [MDDC Planning Public Access Portal](#)

Mid Devon District Council, the determining Authority, has asked for comments from this Parish Council on the following planning applications. **NO PLANNING APPLICATIONS TO CONSIDER THIS MEETING.**

- i. It was **resolved** to ratify that no objection was made to application Numbers 24/01581/HOUSE and 24/01588/LBC – Repair works to a garden wall Beaufofy House Willand Old Village Willand Cullompton EX15 2RH. Moved by the Chair. Unanimously agreed.

1212/18 Mid Devon District Council – Planning Decisions

It noted that Mid Devon District Council, the determining Authority, has made the following planning decision.

Reference: 24/01418/MARM

Proposal: Variation of condition 1 of planning permission 23/01172/MARM (Reserved Matters application, pursuant to Outline application 15/01332/MOUT, for employment development of up to 5,256m² of B1, 2,651m² of B2 and 4,919m² of B8 units together with internal access roads, parking and associated infrastructure) to allow substitute plans to enable 2 employment units to the North and a further development site to the South adjacent to the existing access road

Location: Land at NGR 303681 111677 (North Of Mid Devon Business Park) Muxbeare Lane Willand

DECISION: Approval of Matters Reserved Following Grant of Outline Planning Permission

1212/19 Councillor Reports:

- Cllr Leach reported that she had come across a dog walker letting their dog off the lead in the Victoria Park Play Area. This should be reported to Mid Devon District Council.
- Cllr Leach also reported a hedge growing over the footpath at Victoria Close – the Clerk will write to the resident.
- Cllr Leach will report an unsafe pavement to Devon County Council.

1212/20 The meeting closed at 20.08 p.m.