



WILLAND PARISH COUNCIL

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Minutes of the **Meeting of Willand Parish Council** held on **Thursday 19th December 2024 at 7.00 pm, in the Club Room at Willand Village Hall, Gables Rd, Willand.**

Present: Cllr Warren, Cllr Grantham, Cllr Scott, Cllr Sycamore, Cllr James, Cllr Glover, Cllr Phare

In Attendance: D Bird, Parish Clerk
1 Member of the public

Meeting opened at 7.05 p.m.

Minutes

1912/01 To receive and accept apologies

It was **resolved** to receive and accept apologies from Cllr Little, Cllr Jones and Cllr Leach.

1912/02 Declarations of Interest

No declarations of interest.

1912/03 Public Question Time

There was 1 member of the public present. No questions were asked.

1912/04 The draft budget was considered and the following agreed:

1. It was **resolved** to approve the Allotment Income and Expenditure as set out in the draft budget, without amendment. Moved by the Chair. Unanimously agreed.
2. It was **resolved** to approve the Bank Interest income and Bank Charges as set out in the draft budget, without amendment. Moved by the Chair. Unanimously agreed.
3. It was **resolved** to approve the Capital Expenditure as set out in the draft budget with the following amendments:
 - £6,000 to be budgeted for Local Community Projects instead of New Play Area Equipment - to be used to fund projects to benefit the local community, which can also include play areas.
 - The budget of £2,500 for Play Area Development to be removed.
Proposed by Cllr Glover, seconded by Cllr James. Unanimously agreed.

4. It was **resolved** to transfer £10,000 of the predicted underspend for 2024/25 into a Legal Expenses earmarked reserve as currently there are no reserve funds held for this purpose and legal costs, when required, are expensive. Any legal expenses allocated in the annual capital budget and not spent in that year to be transferred to the new reserve at the end of each financial year. Moved by the Chair. Unanimously agreed.
5. It was **resolved** to approve the Cemetery Income and Expenditure as set out in the draft budget, without amendment. Proposed by Cllr Phare, seconded by Cllr Sycamore. Unanimously agreed.
6. It was **resolved** to increase the Donations budget to £500 to allow for additional funding for local Willand based organisations. Proposed by Cllr Phare, seconded by Cllr Glover. Unanimously agreed.
7. Following a debate, it was **resolved** to continue weed spraying in the Village. Proposed by Cllr Glover, seconded by Cllr Scott. Unanimously agreed.
8. It was **resolved** to approve the Grounds Maintenance Income and Expenditure, including Play Area Inspections and repairs with one amendment, to increase the Play Area Miscellaneous Grounds Maintenance expenditure to £1,000 to allow for pressure washing of equipment and surfaces. Proposed by Cllr Phare, seconded by Cllr Glover. Unanimously agreed.
9. It was **resolved** to approve the Magazine Income and Expenditure as set out in the draft budget, without amendment. Moved by the Chair. Unanimously agreed.
10. It was **resolved** to approve the Office Admin Income and Expenditure as set out in the draft budget, without amendment. Moved by the Chair. Unanimously agreed.
11. It was **resolved** to approve the Staffing expenditure as set out in the draft budget, without amendment. Moved by the Chair. Unanimously agreed.
12. It was **resolved** to approve the Village Services expenditure as set out in the draft budget with one amendment, to increase the Planters expenditure to £400 to allow for repairs to the planters. Moved by the Chair. Unanimously agreed.
13. It was **resolved** to transfer any remaining underspend for 2024/25, after the transfer approved in 4 above, to a new Local Community Projects earmarked reserve to be utilised in conjunction with the spend allocated in the Capital budget. Proposed by Cllr Glover, seconded by Cllr Sycamore. Unanimously agreed.

The Precept required based on the finally approved budget, after the agreed amendments were made, is £78,418, representing an increase of £1,863 on 2024/25, a 2.43% increase. In practice this equates to a reduction of 15p in the annual Precept for a Band D property due to an increase in the tax base with the completion of new housing in Willand. The precept amount to be formally approved at the meeting of Council on the 9th January 2025.

1912/05

The meeting closed at 20.23 p.m.