



WILLAND PARISH COUNCIL

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MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF THE PARISH COUNCIL HELD ON THURSDAY 12 JANUARY 2023 AT WILLAND VILLAGE HALL COMMENCING AT 7PM

Present: Councillors Grantham, James, Major, Phare, Sellick, Warren and Wilcox.

In attendance: Clerk B Bodkin and two members of the public.

1. Apologies had been received from Councillors Glover, Little and Mastrolacasa and their reasons for absence were approved unanimously. Apologies had also been received from District Councillor Evans and County Councillor Radford.

2. Declarations of interest from members would be made at the appropriate agenda item.

3. Public questions on any of the agenda items

A member of the public referred to the street lighting issue in Jaycroft and it was confirmed that relevant correspondence had been circulated to the Parish Council.

4. There were no items brought forward from the Chair.

5. Councillor Warren moved from the Chair that the Minutes of the meeting held on Thursday 8 December 2022 be approved, which was agreed by those who had been present at the meeting and the minutes were signed by the Chair.

6. Reports from District and County Councillors

a) District Councillors Chesterton, Evans and Warren

i) There were no reports from Councillors Chesterton and Evans.

ii) Councillor Warren reported that MDDC had asked the Environment PDG to save £300,000 on the budget. He also advised that an Extraordinary Council meeting would be held in the next week on the subject of 3 Rivers Developments.

b) County Councillor Radford's written report had been circulated and there were no questions.

7. For information and discussion

a) Crime in Willand: it was noted that no crimes were reported to the police in November 2022.

b) Highways Working Group update, to include:

i) VAS report for December 2022 had been circulated. Councillor Major noted that analysis of VAS data done by the Willand Community Speed Watch Group Co-ordinator

had shown that the number of speeding vehicles in December 2022 was significantly down when compared with December 2021 despite an increase in traffic volume. There had been a greater police presence recently. There were no further questions.

ii) The VAS Cyber Security Enhancement proposal was discussed. It was noted that it would need to be a firmware change to the sign to be carried out by the manufacturer, incurring collection and delivery costs due to its weight. It was agreed that Councillor Major would ask the manufacturer why the issue was not mentioned when the Bluetooth upgrade was done and to query the charges quoted. **ACTION: Councillor Major**

c) The installation of a disabled access bench in the Jubilee Field was discussed and it was agreed unanimously to proceed and to site the bench on the width of grass by the path near the 2 existing seats, leaving a gap of 30 – 40 feet between the seats. The Clerk would obtain 3 prices, including from the supplier of the benches around the tree and elsewhere in the Jubilee Field; also to obtain a price from the handyman for the base, depending on the size of the bench. A s106 application could then be made.

ACTION: Clerk

d) Neighbourhood Planning Group: Councillor Little's report had been circulated and was noted.

e) Pump track: the Clerk provided the following update which was noted:-
An s106 application had been submitted to MDDC.

A planning application had been submitted to MDDC and Planning Notice displayed under ref 23/00025/FULL; it was hoped that a decision would be issued by 2 March. The contractor had calendared in a start date of early to mid-May.

f) Willand Magazine – the clerk had circulated an update on the recruitment of new team members which was noted.

8. Finance & Administration

a) Authorisation of payments including invoices received since 2 December was agreed unanimously. The Clerk's proposal that the NALC invoice for the job advert be paid at the end of January was agreed. It was also agreed that authorisation of the approved invoices by initialling should be conducted solely by the Chair. **ACTION: Councillor Warren & Clerk**

b) Income received in December 2022 had been circulated and was noted.

c) Income and Expenditure report as at end of December 2022 had been circulated and was noted.

d) To minute ratification of the following since 2 December:

i) Barclaycard payment of £149.20 for submission of Pump Track Planning Application via the Planning Portal, as agreed by Chair and actioned by Clerk on 23 December. All agreed and duly ratified.

e) The revised budget and precept for 2023-2024 had been circulated and was unanimously agreed, with the precept of £74297 resulting in an increase of £10.39 per Band D house per year or 87p per month. Members thanked Councillor Wilcox and the Clerk for their work. Clerk to submit the precept request to MDDC. **ACTION: Clerk**

f) Councillors Phare and Wilcox provided an update on the recruitment of a new Clerk, including ratification of the decision to verbally offer the role to the candidate who had

been interviewed, subject to her references and the agreement of her contract. Members formally approved the decision to appoint the candidate.

**ACTION: Councillors
Phare & Wilcox**

9. Meeting dates

i) To note the following dates:

- Thursday 9 February – Full Council meeting
- Thursday 9 March – Annual Parish Meeting (to precede Full Council meeting)
- Thursday 9 March – Full Council meeting
- Thursday 16 March – Finance and Administration Committee meeting
- Thursday 13 April – Full Council meeting
- Working Groups – to note any scheduled dates.

All noted.

ii) Councillors agreed that the date of the Annual Meeting of the Parish Council in May would take place on the second Thursday, 11 May 2023. (It was noted that following elections on 4 May and Bank Holiday on 8 May, new councillors would take office on 9 May, and the Annual Meeting must take place between 10 - 25 May inclusive).

10. Councillors Roundtable: to receive any further information from Councillors and to highlight future agenda items.

a) It was agreed that a poster publicising surgeries being held by R Foord MP would be advertised by Willand Village Hall but would not be publicised by the Parish Council.

ACTION: Councillor Wilcox

b) Councillor James reported that the footpath opposite the school connecting Silver Street with Plum Way was very slippery and it was agreed that the Clerk would report this on the DCC Report a Problem portal.

ACTION: Clerk

c) Councillor Wilcox proposed that the quote for 12 months' subscription to Scribe accounts software at a cost of £660 + VAT be accepted and started with effect from 1 February 2023. Councillor Phare seconded the proposal and members voted unanimously in favour, with the cost to be allocated to the 2022 General Opportunities Reserve Fund.

ACTION: Clerk

d) Councillor Wilcox noted that the Parish Council would need 14 licences for email and it was unanimously agreed to acquire additional licences at £9/month per licence.

ACTION: Councillor Wilcox & Clerk

11. Communications

A)

i) Members reconsidered a request from Citizens Advice for a donation, and it was unanimously agreed that a donation of £50 would be made.

ACTION: Clerk

ii) Members considered DCT's offer of grant funding to buy equipment to enable the Parish Council to implement the Community Emergency Plan. After taking account of issues such as storage, users and overall responsibility for any such equipment, it was agreed to take no further action.

iii) Members considered whether to submit an Expression of Interest in applying for funding through DCC's Road Safety Capital Allocation relating to 20mph speed limits (per Road Map newsletter circulated on 19.12.22). Councillor Major suggested that

members wait to see the outcome of the Road Safety Assessment. It was agreed that no further action would be taken at this stage and to put this back on the agenda if new information came to light.

iv) Members considered MDDC's Deputy Chief Executive (S151) Andrew Jarrett's response dated 15.12.22 including items with which the Parish Council could assist to share the financial load for services, as circulated. It was agreed that the Clerk would reply stating that the Parish Council would not wish to take on the responsibility of the 2 bus shelters in Somerville but would agree to continue to keep them cleaned at the same time as others in the village; and to point out that the Parish Council looks after 6 of the 9 village play areas and would not be in a position to take on any further financial commitment.

ACTION: Clerk

v) Members discussed what action to take regarding a street lighting issue in North Jaycroft, details of which had been circulated. It was agreed the Clerk would write to Councillor Ray Radford to express safety concerns and suggest that the matter could be improved by light No 7 being moved towards the bottom end of the allotments.

ACTION: Clerk

vi) Members considered a proposal by MDDC's Tree Officer to plant trees in the Parish, specifically at locations in the Jubilee Field. It was agreed that the Clerk would respond to explain that because of the uses made of the field, neither suggestion would be appropriate and that regrettably the Parish Council could not accede to the proposal.

ACTION: Clerk

vii) Members considered what action to take re tree branches overhanging Willand tennis courts, as reported by the Tennis Club Chairman. Councillor Warren confirmed that none of the trees in question had TPOs. It was agreed that the Clerk would contact Tony Lane (tree consultant) to ask him to carry out an inspection of the trees and report back with recommendations and associated costs.

ACTION: Clerk

B) Communications received since 2 December and emailed to Councillors:

i) Current Planning Applications

a) 22/02374/MFUL

Proposal: Construction and operation of a solar photovoltaic (PV) farm together with associated works, equipment and infrastructure

Location: Land at NGR 301974 110937 Dean Hill Road Willand

Response due: 26.1.23

Following discussion, Councillor Grantham's proposal to offer no objection to the application was seconded by Councillor Wilcox and the Parish Council voted by 4 in favour, 1 against and 2 abstentions, with the decision to be recorded "to offer no objection based on the information available at present." Councillor Warren stated he would not vote due to being on the MDDC Planning Committee.

ACTION: Clerk

b) 23/00008/HOUSE

Proposal: Erection of single storey rear extension following removal of conservatory

Location: 26 Townlands Willand Cullompton

Response due: 26.1.23

It was unanimously agreed that the Clerk would submit the following response, "Willand Parish Council has no objection."

ACTION: Clerk

ii) Planning Decisions notified for information:

a) 22/02290/CAT

Proposal: Notification of intention to remove 1 Cherry tree within the Conservation Area

Location: Pitfield House Willand Old Village Willand

Decision: MDDC has no objection

The decision was noted by members.

b) 22/02336/NMA

Proposal: Non material amendment to Planning Permission 21/00951/HOUSE to reduce size of development including amendment of quoins, changing glazing to brickwork on two walls, GRP roof to sunroom and reducing window on front elevation

Location: 1 Mulberry Close Willand Cullompton

Decision: Permission granted for Non Material Amendment

The decision was noted by members.

iii) Additional Planning Application received on 11.1.23:

23/00064/CAT

Proposal: Notification of intention to fell one Apple tree within a Conservation Area

Location: 1 Old Verbeer Willand Old Village Willand

This application had been referred to the Chair who briefed members and it was agreed the Clerk would submit the following response, "Willand Parish Council has no concerns."

ACTION: Clerk

iii) Newsletters and other correspondence

4 MDDC Press Releases, 3 MDDC meeting notifications

10 NALC bulletins and events newsletters, 2 DALC newsletters, 1 SLCC news bulletin

5 Rural Services Network bulletins

5 Devon County Council Coronavirus Updates & News Roundups

1 Locality Newsletter

1 Devon CPRE newsletters

4 Public Sector Executive news bulletins

2 Devon PROW Temporary Footpath Closure Notices

3 Devon Highways/Traffic Management newsletters

1 Devon Climate Emergency newsletter

1 ICO newsletter

C) Communications not referred to Councillors

16 emails offering various seminars, equipment and services

20.54 hours: there being no further business the meeting closed.

12 JANUARY 2023 PAYMENT SHEET			
PAYMENTS TO	INVOICE FOR	AMOUNT	BUDGET
Quarlfox Services	Cemetery extn grass cut No 6	108.10	Cemetery
Quarlfox Services	Cemetery main grass cut No 6	153.20	Cemetery
Barclaycard	Amazon - envelopes for Mag.	21.59	Magazine
	Mobile phone	6.00	Office/Admin
	Post Office - Magazine postage	14.28	Magazine
	Fish4UK - job vacancy advert	180.00	Office/Admin
	Screwfix - work platform (VAS)	44.99	Gen.Opp.Reserve
Source for Business (SWW)	Water charges Sep - Dec	153.23	Allotments
Source for Business (SWW)	Water charges Sep - Dec	23.62	Cemetery
HMRC	Quarterly payment PAYE	1073.15	Salaries
	Total of all payments	1778.16	
RECEIPTS IN DECEMBER 2022	Magazine advertising	72.00	
	Cemetery fees	42.00	
	Xmas lights donations	1550.00	
TOTAL INCOME		1664.00	