



WILLAND PARISH COUNCIL

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MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF THE ENVIRONMENT COMMITTEE HELD IN WILLAND VILLAGE HALL ON THURSDAY 23 AUGUST 2018

Present: Councillor Mander, Councillor Phare, Councillor Scott, Councillor Tobin, Councillor Warren, Councillor Wilcox.

In attendance: 1 member of public, Kate Taylor (Clerk)

1. Apologies: Councillor Bartlett, Councillor Glover, Councillor Grantham, Councillor Manktelow,

2. To receive any declarations of interest from Members for any of the agenda items.

No declarations of interest were advised.

3. As Vice Chair of the committee Councillor Tobin took the chair and declared the meeting open at 19.54 saying that it would be recorded.

4. Public questions

There were no public questions.

5. The minutes of the Environment Committee meeting held on Thursday 26 July 2018 had been circulated. Councillor Warren proposed that they be signed as a true record. Councillor Wilcox seconded the proposal and it was unanimously agreed.

6. Progress reports for information

- a) Councillor Tobin apologised that he had not yet been in contact with the resident in Blenheim Drive who had raised the issue of the border between his garden and the allotments. He confirmed that he would be getting in contact to discuss the concerns. **ACTION:** Councillor Tobin
- b) Jubilee field new play equipment. The order had been placed and work was expected to take place in the first week of October. Councillor Wilcox raised the question of the increased rubbish in the field due to the extra use by residents. It was agreed the clerk would ask MDDC if it would be possible to increase the number of bin collections in the summer months, and clarify when the rubbish collections took place. **ACTION:** Clerk
- c) The Clerk confirmed that she had heard from Highways England who were going to consider the missing grit/salt bin from the subway area. There had been no further information from the Neighbourhood Highways Officer with reference to the other salt bins in the village.
- d) The Clerk had written to the owner of the land where K&S autos operates, copied to K&S Autos asking that they attend to the fence between the land and footpath, but had received no response. It was agreed that the Clerk would write to DCC and copy to DCC Councillor Radford to ask that they start formal proceedings to get the work done. **ACTION:** Clerk
- e) The Clerk had been informed that Western Power had replaced the connections for the streetlights on the new poles in Old Village but had not heard from DCC when the lights would be fitted. She would contact DCC about this and report back. **ACTION:** Clerk
- f) Councillor Warren had circulated a list of work for the Community payback. Councillor Wilcox asked that the footpath between Bradford's and K&S Autos was added as it needed cutting back. Councillor Warren agreed to add this and send off the information. **ACTION:** Councillor Warren

7. Cemetery

a) Cremation plots

Following discussion on whether it was necessary to keep the cemetery symmetrical it was agreed that the cremation plots could be extended down the right side of the cemetery if necessary.

b) Cemetery extension plans

Councillor Phare proposed that the fencing of the cemetery extension is started as soon as is practical Councillor Mander seconded the proposal and it was unanimously agreed. It was further

agreed that the Clerk would consult with Councillor Grantham regarding the previous quotations he had obtained for the work in order for them to be updated. **ACTION:** Clerk/Councillor Grantham

The Clerk had raised two further points on the cemetery for the Parish Council to consider. There had been a burial recently and the contractor for the grass cutting had complained to the Clerk about the way the grave digger had driven over the land leaving stones and mess which would damage his grass cutting machinery. The Clerk reported that she had contacted the undertaker responsible for the funeral and they had agreed to a site meeting as soon as practical to establish firm guide lines for digging graves. The Parish Council encouraged a firm stance to be taken on this. **ACTION:** Clerk

The Clerk had received a request for a memorial to be placed the measurements of which exceeded the stated maximum allowed. Following discussion, it was agreed that the Clerk would respond indicating that the memorial must comply with the stated size allowed. **ACTION:** Clerk

8. Improving the state of the village campaign –

a) Councillor Warren had identified a number of areas including footpaths that would benefit from being sprayed to kill the weeds. The Rectory Close area was also identified as having weeds growing through the pavements. Councillor Wilcox proposed that the Clerk contact the contractor for weed spraying to ask them to include these areas for the next round of weed spraying. Councillor Scott seconded the proposal and it was unanimously agreed. **ACTION:** Clerk

b) The Parish Council agreed to add in the odd areas of grass that had not been included in the contract for this year and where ownership had not been clarified previously to the maps to go out to tender for next year. **ACTION:** Councillor Warren

c) The Clerk gave a brief resume of the complaints received from residents regarding the state of the overgrown hedges and footpaths and the action taken.

d) Councillor Warren proposed that the Bus shelter cleaning contract be renewed for another year Councillor Mander seconded the proposal and it was unanimously agreed. **ACTION:** Clerk

e) Following discussion about extra seating in the Jubilee Field it was agreed that Councillor Warren would investigate further the cost for extra benches including the cost of installation. He would also look further at the idea for the circular seat around the oak tree. He would also look to finding funding for this. **ACTION:** Councillor Warren

9. Councillor Scott proposed that the Parish Council support the idea of First Aid training offered by the Willand First Responder. Councillor Wilcox seconded the proposal and it was unanimously agreed. The Clerk would contact him to let him know that he had the support of the Parish Council. **ACTION:** Clerk

10. Notification of cycling events

a) Tour of Britain Devon Stage - Willand 3 Sept 2018 It was noted that the timing was at lunch time when Station Road was normally busy with traffic at the One Stop and Chip Shop, an appeal for volunteers had been posted on Facebook.

b) UK Cycling Saturday 20th October 2018 out of Bicton College, East Budleigh this was noted.

11. Councillors Roundtable

Councillor Warren had received an email from MDDC Councillor Evans which indicated that progress was being made with the Environment Agency and enforcement relating to the 2 Sisters site. The Clerk would forward the email to all Councillors for information and an update would be added to the website and Facebook. **ACTION:** Clerk

The Clerk had received an email from a resident regarding the amount of rubbish left at the end of his drive before the Friday morning collection. It was agreed the clerk would respond explaining that MDDC were responsible for issues relating to rubbish and ask for further information as to the area this was occurring. **ACTION:** Clerk

The meeting closed at 20:50

Councillor Keith Grantham
Chair of Environment Committee
27 September 2018