

DRAFT

MINUTES FOR COUNCIL MEETING ON 14 FEBRUARY 2002

Present: Mr Dennis (Chairman), Mr Vearncombe, Mr Spearing, Mr Wills, Mrs Lane and Mr Maynard. In attendance were the Clerk, Mr Berry and PC Davies.

1. Apologies

Mrs Barfoot, Mr Gooding, Mr Steele and Mr Roberts.

Mr Nick Quinn – Mid Devon District Council, Web Site Presentation

Mr Quinn provided a short presentation on how useful web sites can be and then proceeded to demonstrate the proposed Willand Parish Council Web Site.

Mr Dennis congratulated Mr Quinn and Mr Wills for their tremendous effort in creating the web site that appeared to be very user friendly. It was unanimously agreed to go live with immediate effect. All Councillors were reminded that they must complete the Web Site Detail Consent Form and return it to the Clerk as soon as possible.

The Clerk is to investigate the possibility of publishing DRAFT minutes for the purposes of the Parish Magazine and the Web Site and report back to the Chairman.

2. Chairman's Announcements

- a. **Mr R Steele** has been admitted to hospital. Mr Dennis is in close contact with Mrs Steele to offer support. Councillors will be updated accordingly.
- b. **The Supermarket** planned for the Darwin Site in Cullompton has been approved by the Secretary of State subject to a judicial review.
- c. **Diggerland** – a S106 agreement required funding of a T-junction in Willand Old Village. Work should commence in April 2002.
- d. **School gate** – it has now been agreed that the damaged gate is the responsibility of the school and will now be dealt with. Willand Parish Council has also written to the Bursar requesting that the drive be repaired. The school has forwarded the request to Devon County Council.
- e. **Subway** – has continued to flood during the recent spell of wet weather. The Clerk has written to the Highways Agency to highlight the problem and request an update.
- f. **Council Charge** – has been agreed as an uplift of 9.5%.

3. Recruitment of new Litter Warden

Two applications have been received. This matter requires further discussion and will be reviewed after Councillors have attended the forthcoming Mid Devon Culm Valley meeting to be held at a date to be advised. In the meantime, the Clerk is to write to both applicants explaining the delay.

4. Minutes of the Meetings and Matters Arising

- a. **Planning, Lighting and Transportation Committee** on 14 January 2002
- b. **Planning, Lighting and Transportation Committee** on 28 January 2002
- c. **Issues outstanding**
 - i) **Planning Committee Representatives** – Mr Vearncombe will continue to cover for Mr Roberts and Mr Spearing will cover for Mr Steele until he recovers.
 - ii) **Livestock Market, Station Road** – Willand Parish Council recommends refusal of the application on environmental health grounds, as the additional 2 properties planned would be far too close to the M5. The Council still supports the application for 6 houses.
 - iii) **Mr & Mrs Essery, Gerstone Farm Appeal** – A letter supporting the appeal is to be sent by the Clerk recommending approval of the application in this instance.

- iv) **J P Associates** – Correspondence has been received from J P Associates regarding their intention to lay the hedge at the new Prowtings development. A letter has been sent by the Clerk in response, requesting a site meeting involving all parties.

The minutes of both meetings were signed as a true and correct record.

5. Minutes of the Council Meeting held on 10 January 2002

These minutes were signed as a true and correct record.

6. Matters Arising

a. Devon and Cornwall Police / Crime and Disorder

- PC Davies attended the meeting and stated that 9 crimes had been reported since the last meeting, one of which had been detected.
- Several Councillors reported that a red Astra is parking in an awkward position near the Post Office. PC Davies agreed to speak to the driver of the vehicle.
- Inspector Caldwell hopes to attend the March meeting. The Clerk is to formally write to invite him.
- Uffculme Parish Council are experiencing difficulties in organising insurance for a skateboard ramp. PC Davies is to contact the Clerk for assistance.
- Many vehicles are dangerously cutting the corner whilst turning out of Gables Road into Meadow Park at the B3181 end. Mr Dennis is to investigate.
- **IMPORTANT:** PC Davies mentioned that the public should be aware that a man aged 45 – 55 in a tidy small white van, was reported as having approached a child in Uffculme trying to entice them into his van, which may be T registration. **If you see such vehicle acting suspiciously near children dial 999 immediately.**
- Crime and Disorder – The Clerk is to respond stating that none of our members are available for the training.

b. Devon County Councillor

Mr Berry provided a summary of events since the last meeting:

- Council charges will be going up.
- A meeting was held to investigate flooding in Devon. The advice was to ensure that the Council clears gullies annually. Any information on flood spots should be passed to Mr Berry or contact Mr R Woodley at Westexe.
- A healthy eating campaign has been launched in schools, Fruity Friday, to encourage children to eat better.
- DCC are trying to establish public priority regarding highways maintenance. The main priority seems to be condition of roads.
- A committee has been set up to see how the Police should be run for the next 3 years.
- The Market and Coastal Towns Initiative is due to be launched on 2 March 2002.

c. Internet site for Willand

See above presentation details.

d. Millennium Clock

The clock appears to be working at present. Legal proceedings will be pursued against Rydon Signs if the clock fails to adjust automatically to the hour change next month. The Clerk is to contact Denise Rushton to ask how the Council should go about such proceedings.

e. Parish Boundaries

Mr Dennis reported that the submission was now complete. Ms K Tebbey is to advise all Parish Clerks in due course as to when and where to make the submission.

f. Cemetery

- The new sign is now in place and was reported as looking very good. The Perspex Willand sign has also been repaired so the Clerk can now issue a cheque in payment.

- One parishioner wishes to place a memorial tree and plaque in Willand Cemetery. Councillors agreed this was a nice idea and should be a non-invasive root variety to replace the dead tree currently in the Cemetery. The Clerk is to liaise with the parishioner concerned and Cllr Lane.
- The gates have been repaired. The Clerk is now awaiting the invoice.

g. B3181 Traffic Flow / Lorries – 11 February Meeting

Mr Dennis was the only Willand Councillor to attend the meeting. A working group has been set up now. With the completion of the northern relief road, a review of the existing weight restrictions will take place. If the existing restriction were lifted, Willand would see a large percentage increase of large vehicle movement through the centre of the village. It was reported that 49,947 lorry movements are made from Willand. An article is to be placed in the Parish Magazine by Mr Dennis. Mr Dennis will also write a formal letter of complaint and also organise a letter box drop of the new housing development on the outskirts of Cullompton who will also be affected by the lorry movement if the restriction is lifted.

h. Rockers Toddler Group

Mr Maynard will price and purchase the equipment that the Council wishes to donate to the Group and also arrange media cover.

i. Mr Snow's Caravan

It was reported that Mr Snow should vacate the site for 2 weeks by the end of June. The site currently has poor fencing and is very unattractive. Mr Rowe is happy for Mr Snow to continue provided Mr Snow complies with the necessary planning regulations. Mr Snow must arrange planning permission for the unauthorised structures. The caravan must go. Mr Dennis and Mr Maynard are to visit Mr Snow on site to discuss the matter in full.

j. Local Government White Paper – Strong Local Leadership

Mr Dennis stated that there was no update.

7. Queen's Golden Jubilee update

Mr Maynard reported that the Sub Committee has had several successful meetings. The Clerk is to arrange for £1,000 to be transferred into a temporary separate bank account, with 3 signatories. The planned programme is as follows:

- Sunday 2 June - Joint Service in the Village Hall.
- Monday 3 June - Picnic in the Park incorporating many village organisations.
- Monday 3 June - Evening Celebration 50 years of music by Jeremy Huggett.
- Saturday 22 June - Open Air or Marquee Concert at the Football Club featuring the Sole Traders and a support band.

It was agreed that the events should be featured on the Web Site.

8. Local Authority Housing – Somerville Park and Barnes Close

The car in Somerville Park has now been removed. One family in Barnes Close has been previously evicted for failing to meet their tenancy agreement. Any further problems should be reported to Mr Dennis or MDCC.

9. Code of Conduct

This item will be the priority at next month's meeting, once most Councillors have been on the workshop.

10. Correspondence

a. Play Equipment Grant Application

Mr Dennis and Mr Maynard are to arrange to meet to discuss this in detail. Deadline 28 February.

b. Bus Shelter replacement and maintenance

The Council agreed to accept the 4 new bus shelters from Devon County Council and accept responsibility for maintenance. The Clerk is to order the shelters and add to the insurance.

c. Culm Valley Car Scheme funding request

A request had been received for additional funding. The Clerk is to write stating that the Council would like to continue supporting the scheme from April under the new Precept.

d. The Local Elections (Declaration of Acceptance of Office) Order 2001

To be deferred to the next meeting.

e. Parish Transport Grant

Mr Dennis to consult with Mid Devon Association of Local Councils.

f. Prams and Pushchairs Toddler Group

A request for funding has been received from the group. The Council agreed to offer £50 now as a gesture of goodwill but unfortunately their request missed the Precept deadline and has therefore not been budgeted for in 2002/2003. The Clerk is to advise the group accordingly.

g. Willand Tennis Club

A letter requesting funding has been received for the Summer Programme. Regrettably, the request has missed the Precept for 2002/2003 and therefore cannot be considered. The Clerk is to respond to that effect.

11. Accounts

The accounts were agreed as true and correct.

12. Public Questions

None.

13. Date of next meeting – Thursday 14 March 2002 at 7pm