

WILLAND PARISH COUNCIL

DRAFT

MINUTES FOR COUNCIL MEETING ON 13 FEBRUARY 2003

Present: Mr Maynard (Chairman), Mr Vearncombe (Vice Chairman), Mrs Lane, Mr Street, Mr Hancock, Mr Wills, Mr Bush, Mrs Crook, Mr Berry (County Councillor), Mr Dennis (District Councillor) and the Clerk.

1. Apologies

Mr Helliker, Mr Roberts and Mr Spearing.

2. Chairman's Announcements and Correspondence

• **B&Q You Can Do It Awards 2003**

The Clerk is to pass this information on to the Youth Club.

• **Mr J Adair, 7 Buttercup Road – Letter**

This matter was dealt with in the Finance Committee meeting held on 21 January.

• **Devon Community Transport Week 2003 Questionnaire**

Willand Parish Council decided that Mr Dennis should take the questionnaire to the Transport Forum.

• **Inspecting Children's Playgrounds – Course**

It was suggested that Mr Snell should attend the course. The course is to be held on Tuesday 18 February 2003 and will be attended by Mr Snell.

• **e-Government – Devon County Council**

Devon County Council is compiling a list of public internet sites, availability, contact person and charges.

• **Royal Garden Parties 2003 – Nomination required by 28 February**

It was agreed that the Chairman should be nominated. The Clerk is to organise the relevant paperwork.

• **Mid Devon District Council – Balancing the Budget**

Mr Dennis to cover in his section.

• **Clerk's Course Request**

It was agreed that the Clerk should be allowed to take up the correspondence course. The Clerk is to organise the paperwork.

• **Play Area Funds Deadline**

A letter has been received in response to ours. It was agreed that the Clerk should contact David Scott ask exactly what the fund balance is to date.

• **Allotment Gate Quote – Hurdle Update**

John Weller, Westbury should receive a thank you letter for his assistance in providing the fencing panels that have been placed.

With regard to the gate, it was agreed that the Clerk should instruct Mr Bussell to purchase the gate from Batemans and should be in place as soon as possible. The Clerk to organise payment to Batemans so that the VAT can be reclaimed.

• **Culm Area Committee**

Mr Dennis to discuss in his section.

- **Devon Structure Plan 2001 – 2016 / Opportunity to comment**

Affordable housing has been extended to include a mix of housing choice connected with shopping and rural areas which affects Willand.

- **Diggerland – Sign Light Response**

A letter has been received from Diggerland stating that they will be trying to remedy the problem as soon as possible.

This matter is to be referred to the next meeting.

- **Planning for the Future Course – attended by Nick Street**

It was reported that the course was very poorly attended by Mid Devon. It was suggested that a design statement should be in place to safeguard the future. It was stated that Mr Dennis was commended by the course for his work in helping Willand through Mid Devon District Council.

- **Well Land**

Mr Maynard suggested that perhaps a well should be placed as an amenity area to mark the fact that Willand was once called Well Land in the 1620's. A village green with a stone well could be sited in the corner allotments opposite the entrance to Fir Close. A pump could be put on the side to facilitate water for the Allotment Association. It has been suggested that there may be a natural water supply under that site. Willand Parish Council agreed that the Trust should be asked if the idea would be acceptable. Mr Vearncombe will make some enquiries with the Trust. This matter is to be discussed at the next meeting in more detail.

3. Minutes of the Meetings and Matters Arising

- **Planning, Lighting and Transportation Committee** on 13 January 2003
- **Planning, Lighting and Transportation Committee** on 21 January 2003
- **Finance Committee** on 21 January 2003

These minutes were agreed as a true and correct record.

Mr & Mrs Hill, Rosejoy, Willand – caravan on site 4/59/2002/1237

Mr Dennis has called this application. The problem is the removal of the caravan which will now need to be removed in sections within one month of occupation of the house. This has been agreed with Mid Devon District Council and the applicant.

Mr Maynard apologised on behalf of the Clerk to not inviting Mrs Lane and Mrs Crook to the Finance Meeting where two applications were discussed rather than holding a separate Planning Meeting. The Clerk had not invited the entire Planning Meeting as the applications were due to be discussed after the Finance Meeting, the finish time of which could not be established in advance. On the night it was agreed to deal with the two applications before the Finance Committee meeting commenced.

4. Minutes of the Council Meeting held on 9 January 2003

These minutes were agreed as a true and correct record.

5. Precept 2003/2004 – As set by the Finance Committee

All Councillors were provided with a copy of the Precept worksheet to discuss.

See Finance Committee Minutes from 21 January 2003. It was unanimously agreed that the figures were correct.

6. Accounts

- **Cheque signing** – The cheques were signed.
- **Formal acceptance of monthly accounts** – The Clerk was unable to prepare the accounts as Coware corrupted today.
- **Portman – Amount transferred** will be £12,000.00 with only seven signatories. Mrs Lane, Mr Helliker and Mr Roberts will not be signatories but will act as internal auditors for this account instead.

7. Matters Arising

• Mid Devon District Councillor

Local Plan – Concerns in relation to Mid Devon District Council funding of its budget in particularly the advertising campaign for the waste strategy yet recycling collection in Willand is not in place on the new estate. Concerns were also passed on about the reduction in car parking in Tiverton and the excessive art spend on the new building. Paul Edwards was most unhelpful in his response to Mr Dennis' representations. The Budget was approved today and 3% has been removed from the budget. £9,867,000 is the full budget which the government supplying £5,052,000 leaving £4,815,000 to be collected in Council Tax. It should be note that £7,111,000 of the total budget goes on salaries alone. The average is an extra 11% on Council Tax bills this year.

Culm Valley Area Committee – There is a move to reduce their funding. The Committee is made up of District Councillors and is just becoming another talking shop to overturn decisions made by Parish Councils.

Community Transport – Mr Dennis felt that the questionnaire should be completed as it is such an important part of any rural community especially Willand.

Helen's Diner – Mid Devon District Council suggest that yellow lines are put outside the site with car park layout inside, new application for advertising will be required and operating time will be restricted.

• Devon County Councillor

Longer narrower buses are being piloted in rural areas.

Lengthsmen is an important feature of the community.

Community recycling centres are being planned for the area.

A sign on the roundabout is planned – Mr Dennis pointed out that the waste vehicles should be using the motorway to the next junction. It was suggested there should only be one at Waterloo Cross roundabout. The Clerk is to liaise with Mr Dennis as soon as possible.

Mrs Oliver – Distance to Cullompton Community College – A letter has now been received from Devon County Council but still dispute the 3 mile limit on the distance to Chestnut Close. Mr Maynard to discuss the matter with Mr Oliver.

• Devon & Cornwall Police

PC Davies – Since the last meeting from 9 January it was reported that 15 offences had taken place including drink driving, burglary, thefts, 4 drug offences, stolen goods and criminal damage. Out of 15, 5 have already been detected, 1 is pending and 9 are ongoing. It was suggested that the gate should be locked over night once a care taker was in place. There have been some concerns about parking in some areas. The Specials have been at the Village hall in uniform and plain clothes to assist in catching the youngsters that are causing problems. When a camera becomes available the Police would like to place a camera at the Village Hall in order to catch the youngsters that are causing such problems for Willand. Willand Parish Council has no objection but the Village Hall Committee will need to be consulted too. The new Sergeant starts on 17 February from Crediton.

• Play Area Inspection – Mr Dennis update

Being done in two weeks time.

8. Public Questions

There is some concern about the lack of doctor cover at the surgery. Mr Dennis is pursuing the matter further. A petition was suggested to shake them up.

Recycling Survey – Mr Bush conducted a survey on his estate and 40 out of 125 houses delivers responded supporting recycling.

Date of next meeting – Thursday 13 March 2003

