



WILLAND PARISH COUNCIL

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THE MINUTES OF THE FULL METING OF THE PARISH COUNCIL HELD ON THURSDAY 13TH JANUARY 2011 AT WILLAND VILLAGE HALL COMMENCING AT 19.00

MINUTES

Present: Cllr Ursell, Cllr Phare, Cllr Wright, Cllr Crawford, Cllr Crick, Cllr Mander, Cllr Baker, County Cllr Radford, District Cllr Chesterton, District Cllr Hull, 7 members of the public

Cllr Ursell welcome David Richie the Voluntary Tree Warden to the meeting.

1. Apologies: PC Katie Rich

2. Public questions:

A member of the public had some questions for the Police, how did the house fire start in Victoria Close? A week later a fire was started on a van near the sub station not far from the house fire. The member of the public also stated that the gate of 3 Damson Close had recently been kicked in and the person was identified by 5 people. The member of the public asked if these incidents had been caused by a one person crime wave or were they different incidents.

Cllr Wright said that the Parish Council is concerned about Part-Night Lighting Policy being implemented, and concerned about vandalism in the village. At this point the Clerk read the Police report in PC Rich's absence. The Parish Council unanimously agreed to request a Police presence at the next meeting as there are clearly issues that need responses.

Two street based Youth Workers introduced themselves to the Parish Council and asked if it would still be alright to go ahead with youth work in the park as previously agreed with the Parish Council. Those involved will be aged between 13-17 years. The Youth Workers also asked if the seams of the youth shelter in the park could be resealed. Cllr Wright stated that quite a few children climb on to the roof and that could be the cause of some of the leakage. The Parish Council agreed to inspect the shelter to ascertain the repairs required.

A member of the public asked about the ongoing parking situation in Somerville Road. Cllr Ursell replied that he and Eddie Dennis had recently spoken with the Care Home owner and that the situation needs to be resolved before someone is injured. The Parish Council agreed that parking restrictions may be the best option to provide a long term answer. **Action Clerk, Police**

3. Minutes of the meetings held:

Thursday 9th December – Full Council

Thursday 9th December – Planning Committee

Tuesday 21st December – Administration and Finance Committee

Tuesday 21st December – Planning Committee

The minutes were all signed as a true and correct record. Unanimously agreed.

4. Matters arising

Fire appliance attendance – Devon & Somerset Fire and Rescue confirmed that the second appliance change took place on July 15th 2010.

Police Liaison Meetings and desk manning – Reply from Matt Lawler, Sector Insp, Mid Devon, The Avenue Police Station, Tiverton:-

The formal Police Liaison meetings are run by the Police Authority – not by local officers. For some time the attendance at such meetings has not been of a level that would all have hoped and so the Authority have made changes to them. I am sorry if for some they are unsuitable, but would stress that there are many other ways in which residents and interested parties can obtain information or question or challenge both the Authority and the indeed their local police officers. This includes telephone, letter, email and web based enquiries.

Irrespective of our front office counter closures, local officers will continue to receive callers at the Cullompton station, and hold regular meetings and engagement events in the community to demonstrate our determination to listen to the needs of local residents. Involvement with Parish councils is an example of that.

With regard to the front office counter services at Cullompton, as you may know, due to staff sickness, we have not had such full time facilities for nearly a year now. Recently the Force took a decision to close a number of front offices across the two counties. Surveys at some of the stations being closed revealed that we were employing staff on a full time basis to handle just 3 or 4 callers a day.

Around 80% of the force budget is made up of salary costs. I am sure that the Council would agree that in the current financial climate, we have to look at all our services to ensure appropriate use of tax payer's money, and therefore front office counter services are being modernised. In order to protect frontline police officers and PCSO provision, difficult decisions are having to be made about other areas.

The proposal to use of volunteers is a possibility. We currently employ 2 volunteers in Mid Devon supporting NHW and the neighbourhood teams, and I would like to extend the ways in which we can involve the community more in what we do. At present there are some legal issues around potentially replacing a previously paid employee with a volunteer performing exactly same role, and so it may be some time before we are able to use volunteers in such a way. That said, using volunteers to provide services and support out in the community is something we are keen to explore, and if there are any residents who would want to discuss volunteer work with their local police we'd love to speak to them. !

Fly posters – Clerk emailed magazine

Village emergency – The Chair thanked those who had attended emergency, and assisted those evacuated: - Devon and Somerset Fire and Rescue, PSCO Legge, Carol and Richard Allan, John and Sally Holmes and their children, Devon County Council Emergency Team, the Salvation Army, St John Ambulance and Eddie Dennis. Cllr Crick confirmed that he has contacted the Salvation Army they will call him back re costs

5. Reports

Devon and Cornwall Police: PC Katie Rich emailed the police report and both her and Jonathans apologies due to them both working a day shift to attend a training course today and making them unable to attend this evenings meeting.

District Councillors Brandon, Chesterton and Hull – District Cllr Hull asked the Parish Council for their comments on recent waste collections, due to the bad weather. District Cllr Hull read the list of contacts Mid Devon District Council used to forward information. The Parish Council did feel that Willand had been forgotten when the emergency collection points were arranged.

District Cllr Hull also reminded the Parish Council that the Census is being carried out this March; the main difference this time will be that the Census forms will be posted to the public who will then be encouraged to complete and return the forms. A note mentioning this will be submitted in the next Village Magazine.

District Cllr Hull also confirmed that John Scott is under pressure to move the Housing Needs Survey forward.

District Cllr Chesterton – Confirmed that the Portway planning application had finally been refused planning permission and that the reasons given should stand up to an appeal by applicant.

District Cllr Chesterton also confirmed that Government funding for next year is worse than anticipated and Mid Devon District Council are currently balancing their budget. Mid Devon District Council are pledging to maintain frontline services. There will also be a zero tax freeze council tax.

A member of the public asked the District Cllrs ‘how long does it take for a repair when someone reports a need to Social Housing’, District Cllr Chesterton, said there is a schedule in place and the department is targeted to meet the schedule. The member of the public agreed to forward the details of the case to the District Cllrs to enable them to make enquiries.

County Councillor Radford confirmed that the Part-Night Lighting will be commencing and that vulnerable areas should be reported to Devon County Council, asking for lights to be left on. County Cllr Radford explained how much road salt had been spread on the road this year. Cllr Ursell confirmed that he had

been telephoned by the Postmistress who was concerned about pensioners slipping due the state of the road in Willand Old Village. Cllr Ursell contacted Rob Clark who immediately gritted the area when asked. Cllr Ursell thanked Rob for his efforts and the fact that he refused to take payment for the materials.

County Cllr Radford also confirmed that concessionary fares are now back which will cost Devon County Council £12 million a year.

County Cllr Radford urged the Parish Council to write to Devon County Council to express their disappointment that the recycling site in Cullompton is not now going ahead.

Bus shelters – there is £1682.00 S106 money remaining with Devon District Council from the shelters previously provided in the village + possible interest of about £900.00. The Parish Council will continue to follow this up so the damaged shelters can be replaced as soon as possible.

Cllr Ursell read the reply the Parish Lengthsman sent when the Parish Council questioned him about the state of the hedge cutting in Meadow Park. David Richie the Voluntary Tree Warden was of the opinion that the appearance of the hedge could be improved with the pruning of the jagged edges. David Richie informed the Parish Council that he will be meeting the Woodland Trust Manager in the near future.

Parish Lengthsman/Health and safety – In Barnes Close the Mid Devon District Council dust cart has mounted the verge and the 5 Cross Ways Roundabout needs attention. Confirmation of responsibility will be found then repairs asked for.
Action Clerk

6. Finance

PAYMENTS

T Leaman	Office expenses and Internet	£23.00
Shaw and Sons Limited	Grant of Exclusive Rights of Burial	£115.42
Voluntary Support Scheme	Donation	£50.00
Hospiscare	Donation	£50.00
SWW	Allotments	£41.26
SWW	Cemetery	£11.03
T Leaman	Hospitality	£22.88
Antony Pipe	Birdscape	£160.00
HMRC	NI and PAYE	£229.39
Astra Printing Group	Magazine	£938.99
P Balaam	Magazine expenses	£112.21
Festive Lighting	Christmas lights	£3280.60

Allotment	Rent	£10.00
Cemetery	Fees	£31.50
Magazine	Advertising	£462.00

Approval of 2011-12 Precept – The draft Precept was discussed at the Finance and Administration meeting held in December and the meeting proposed a 2011-2012 precept which is unchanged from the previous year. The final draft was emailed to Cllrs for their approval before the meeting. Cllr Mander proposed the Precept and Cllr Phare seconded the Parish Council agreed unanimously. **Action Clerk**

7. Meeting dates

Thursday 27th January – Environment and Planning meetings
 Thursday 10th February – Full Council and Planning meetings
 Thursday 24th February - Environment and Planning meetings
 Thursday 10th March - Full Council and Planning meetings
 Thursday 17th March – Annual Parish meeting 7.30pm
 Thursday 24th March – Finance and Administration and Planning meetings

8. Standing Orders

Sections 3, 4 and 5 – The sections had been emailed to the Finance and Administration Committee for their consideration and were unanimously adopted.

9. Parish Plan

Cllr Ursell suggested a committee of 4 Cllrs and up to 10 other committee members of different age groups. Cllr Crawford suggested asking for committee members at the Annual Parish Meeting, a request will also be included in the Village Magazine. Cllrs Ursell, Crick, Crawford and Phare confirmed that they would be happy to be part of committee. The Parish Council hope that a variety of parishioners would like to become committee members. **Action Clerk**

10. Communications received

Recycling Newsletter – emailed to Cllr 1st December
 Email from parishioner re: badly cut hedge Meadow Park – Clerk contacted MDDC and parishioner
 DCC Emergency Planning Newsletter – emailed to Cllrs 6th December
 NALC – E-bullet in – emailed to Cllrs 6th December
 Road name enquiry - Western Commodities Ltd – Clerk contacted MDDC
 Email from parishioner re: dumped conifer, Tamarind – Clerk contacted - Customer Service Centre Roads & Transport Team
 Mid Devon Landscape Character Assessment Workshop letter – tabled at December meeting
 December In Touch newsletter – emailed to Cllrs 7th December
 Confirmation of bush removal from grave from Exclusive Rights Guarantee
 Voluntary Youth Services newsletter – emailed to Cllrs 9th December

Changes to Mobile Library Service letter – tabled at meeting
Allocations and Infrastructure Development Plan Document Sustainability Statement – tabled at meeting
December Parish Matters – emailed to Cllrs 14th December
Grounds Maintenance for the Parish – emailed to Cllrs 15th December
DALC – The Localism Bill – emailed to Cllrs 15th December
Tough Choices Report – emailed to Cllrs 15th December
Putting People First in Devon – emailed to Cllrs 16th December
The Queen’s 2012 Diamond Jubilee – emailed to Cllrs 17th December
Tiverton Town FC offer – emailed to Cllrs 20th December
Fir Park Close – email from parishioner – emailed to Cllrs 20th December
Police reply re: questions at last meeting – emailed to Cllrs 20th December
Telephone call from parishioner – The Gables – asked to complete questionnaire in Willand Magazine
MDDC poster to display – re: District Council elections – displayed on notice boards
Telephone call from Post Mistress – re: ice outside the store – Cllr Ursell arranged salt
Birdscape survey – tabled at meeting, information to be included in Willand Magazine
Balfour Beatty re: Damaged fence near Lloyd Maunder – emailed to Cllrs 22nd December
Waste collection email – emailed to Cllrs 22nd December
Gritting routes emailed from parishioner – emailed to Cllrs 23rd December
Fir Park Close – cc reply from Planning Enforcement – Emailed to Cllr Crick
Culm Voluntary Car Scheme – donation request – decision required – postponed until next meeting

Meeting closed: 20:22

**Cllr Ray Ursell
Willand Parish Council**