



WILLAND PARISH COUNCIL

Clerk to Parish Council Mrs T Leaman, 11 Cornlands, Sampford Peverell,
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THE MINUTES OF THE ENVIRONMENTAL COMMITTEE HELD ON THURSDAY 26TH MAY 2011 AT 19.00 AT WILLAND VILLAGE HALL

Present: Cllr Ursell, Cllr Phare, Cllr Crick, Cllr Baker, Cllr Bartlett, 1 member of the public, Tracy Leaman (Parish Clerk)

1. Election of Chair: Cllr Ursell suggested that as Parish Councillor numbers are low at present the Environment and Planning committees should be united until more Councillors join the Parish Council. Cllr Ursell nominated Cllr Crick, Cllr Phare seconded this nomination and the decision was unanimously carried.

2. Apologies: Cllr Mander, Cllr Crawford

3. Matters arising

Churchyard wall – letter to Diocese, Cllr Ursell showed the committee a copy of the letter to be sent to the Diocese of Exeter. Cllr Ursell confirmed that Mid Devon District Council's legal team have also viewed the letter. The committee unanimously agreed to the content of the letter and it will be forwarded by the Clerk. Cllr Crick suggested that the Parish Council meet with the new Vicar as soon as possible following their selection.

Asset Register – land by B3181- The Clerk emailed Adrian Cooke of Mid Devon District Council for confirmation. A member of public present confirmed that the land belongs to the Parish Council by default (12 year rule). The land will be added to the asset register.

Damaged trees – Cllr Mander had confirmed that the trees are fine but have been planted in wrong place, they should have been planted as close to the boundary as were the two trees planted adjacent to the Aspen Close boundary. Cllr Mander will contact Adrian Cook of Mid Devon District Council. A member of the public offered to forward the committee the names of Adrian Cook's staff to enable the Parish Council to contact them rather than Adrian. Cllr Ursell and Eddie Dennis confirmed that they are trying to arrange regular meetings with our District Cllrs, as they do with County Cllr Radford.

Allotment hedge – Cllr Mander will get quotes for October, its too late now. Cllr Crick confirmed that the Parish Council will need 2 or 3 quotes. **Action Clerk, Cllr Ursell, Cllr Mander**

4. Grit bins

Update – Cllr Ursell confirmed that County Cllr Radford has said that he will forward the list of grit bins required to Devon County Council. **Action Clerk**

5. The Big Tree Plant

Update – Cllr Mander absent from the meeting

6. Cemetery

Bush removal – The Clerk confirmed that the plants been removed. Following the Cllrs viewing the cemetery during the May Parish Walk, it was decided that a written piece needs to be included in the next edition of the Village Magazine to raise awareness of the fact that a number of graves need to be levelled. Cllr Crick confirmed that not too many mounds need levelling and that most of them could be levelled with the use of a small digger. The Clerk will ask the grave digger why some of the mounds have not be reducing over years and how much he would charge to level the graves required. The Parish Council will also remind parishioners that additional pots of flowers and adornments should only be displayed on the base of the headstone in order to keep the grass cutting in the cemetery easier. Cllr Ursell offered to write the article for the magazine. **Action Cllr Ursell, Clerk**

Working Party – bench painting, Bier repairs and painting – Mike Wright has volunteered to do some of the bits and pieces that need attention. A quote will be sought to repair the woodwork on the Bier a working party will then paint the repaired surfaces. **Action Clerk**

Hedge – replanting – Cllr Mander has contacted the Old Well Garden Centre who confirmed the hedge saplings should be planted in October.

Headstone repairs – The Clerk has made contact with the family of one of the headstones requiring repairs and the memorial company is working with the family.

7. Parish Field

Grass cutting – The football club responded by saying that the £45.00 + VAT is a fair price for the work involved, alternatively the club could cut the pitch grass only for no fee or the Under 13s training sessions would have to be squeezed onto the Silver Street site. This would mean that the plans to hold Under 9s and 10s training sessions would have to be shelved. The Environment Committee unanimously agreed to the football club continuing to cut the Parish Council half of the field and the play area for £45.00 +VAT for each of the 15 cuts.

Play equipment – The equipment has been installed. The Clerk has received the funding plaque which is to be hung on the fence. An article will be included in the next edition of the Village Magazine and the Parish Council will ask County Cllr Radford to pose for a publicity photograph. The new equipment is being well used by the children. The Clerk needs to contact the company to enquire about remaining toddler/ bucket swing seats that were ordered, MNR Services can then be asked to change the seats.

Signs – Cllr Phare confirmed that new signs asking owners to keep their dogs on leads would cost £25.00 + VAT. Cllr Phare also confirmed that there is not a dog bin in the parish field. A member of the public confirmed that a bylaw states that in a 40mph area dogs should remain on a lead. Cllr Baker confirmed that the dog

mess problem in Gables Road is improving. An article will be included in the next edition of the magazine stating that the situation is improving. It was suggested that the current dog bin in Chestnut Drive could be repositioned to Gables Road. **Action Cllr Ursell, Clerk**

Meeting closed: 19:51

Cllr Ray Ursell

Chair Willand Parish Council