



## WILLAND PARISH COUNCIL

Clerk to Parish Council Mrs T Leaman, 11 Lower Town, Sampford  
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### THE MINUTES OF THE ENVIRONMENT COMMITTEE HELD ON THURSDAY 24<sup>TH</sup> NOVEMBER 2011 AT 19.00 AT WILLAND VILLAGE HALL

#### MINUTES

**Present:** Cllrs Ursell, Phare, Crick, Warren, Firkins, 1 x volunteer Tracy Leaman (Parish Clerk), 7 members of the public

**1. Apologies:** Cllrs Baker, Mander, Brian Holmes

**2. Matters arising**

Damaged trees – Cllr Mander confirmed that the state and location of the two Oak trees are deemed acceptable by the residents in Buttercup and that Adrian Cook of Mid Devon District Council has been made aware of this.

Allotment hedge trimming quotes – Cllr Mander has received one quote and is awaiting another, if a third is required he needs a name of who might be able to help. Cllr Warren suggested Stafford Spurway. **Action Cllr Mander**

Grit bins - Cllr Ursell confirmed that he is meeting with County Cllr Radford on Monday 28<sup>th</sup> November. Cllr Ursell also confirmed that when Willand Parish Council was first asked if it required more grit bins there was no indication that the expense would be met by County Cllr Radford's budget.

The Big Tree Plant – Clerk is to apply for funding based on the Parish Councils ability to contribute four trees. **Action Clerk**

**3. Jubilee**

The committee and the members of the public suggested different options, the idea of a picnic in the park, with different community groups providing entertainment seem popular with a open air 'Songs of Praise' being held on another day. The school confirmed that it is keen to get involved and that the school facilities could be used for the event. The school also asked if the Parish Council would be providing a memento for the children. There are currently about 500 children in the village. A member of the public asked if the school children would be able to make bunting for the event. Cllr Crick confirmed that the Parish Council is happy to be involved but it should not be a Parish Council led committee, the Parish Council will arrange some finance at its precept meeting in December. Cllr Firkins suggested the need to set a date, enquiries regarding the hiring of equipment can then be made. A meeting was scheduled for Tuesday 29<sup>th</sup> November 8.00pm in the Youth Club. A committee will be formed to coordinate the event, a Parish Cllr will attend. The Parish Council offered to arrange a

Jubilee email address and a flier for distribution. The Parish Council will also make memento enquiries.

The village Tree Warden has suggested the planting of a commemorative tree and a member of the public has suggested a seat/s placed along Jaycroft.

4. **Notice boards:** Cllr Phare stated that the notice boards are in an appalling state and he has contacted 2 companies for estimates. To replace both notice boards would cost £1500.00-£2000.00. Mr Dennis offered to ask the village hall committee who it purchased it board from.
  
5. **Fallen leaves (School)** – The school care taker or the children’s garden club remove the leaves.
  
6. **Cemetery** - Grave levelling – Cllr Mander has identified those graves that need levelling. Rex Saunders (the grave digger) will provide a quote for the required levelling. Cllr Mander’s understanding of the regulations is ‘owners whose graves are 5 years or less need to be informed of our intention to level’. The Parish Council can continue levelling with those older than 5 years. The Clerk will phone Rex for the quote. **Action Clerk**  
 Bier repairs – Cllr Ursell has contacted a builder and received a quote. Cllr Ursell will try to arrange the work for next week. **Action Cllr Ursell.**  
 Hedge replanting to fill the roadside gap – Cllr Mander confirmed that is still too warm to purchase the hedge plant as the growers have not yet lifted them for sale. **Action Cllr Mander.**  
 Headstone repair – Cllr Mander has identified one headstone that needs to be made safe. Rex can make headstone safe for less than £30-00. The Parish Council is not aware any other headstones that need attention. The Clerk will ask Rex to carry out the work. **Action Clerk.**
  
7. **Parish Field**  
 Dog signage – Cllr Phare is to arrange for Ken White to replace signs. **Action Cllr Phare**  
 By Law - The Clerk has contacted Phil Collins, District Officer, Environmental Enforcement Team who has passed the request to Mid Devon District Council Legal Services  
 Repairs – The Clerk has contact MNR Projects who will carry out the work.
  
8. **Churchyard wall** – Cllr Firkins confirmed that Western Power are putting the stay back up and erecting a temporary pole. The wall can then be repaired and the permanent pole replaced. Lester Willmington has made enquiries about the site and Cllr Firkins will arrange to meet him at the site if necessary. There is concern as to what will be found when the wall comes down for rebuilding. Unfortunately nothing can be done to the wall until the faculty is received from the Diocese. Cllr Crick asked if red warning tape should be erected around the wall. Mr Dennis suggested the Parish Council write to Devon County Council stating that it is taking a responsible step in doing so. Cllr Ursell, Warren and Mr Dennis

offered to write to Devon Council. Cllr Firkins asked to be updated by all committee members at all times.

**Meeting closed: 20:25**

**Cllr Ray Ursell**

**Chair Willand Parish Council**