



## WILLAND PARISH COUNCIL

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### THE MINUTES OF THE FULL MEETING OF THE PARISH COUNCIL HELD ON THURSDAY 12<sup>TH</sup> JULY 2012 AT WILLAND VILLAGE HALL AT 19.00

#### MINUTES

**Present:** Cllrs Ursell, Phare, Crick, Dennis, Warren, Firkins, Metherell, Wilcox, County Cllr Radford, District Cllrs, Chesterton, volunteer Brian Holmes Tracy Leaman (Parish Clerk) 3 members of the public

1. **Apologies:** Cllr Mander, District Cllr Brandon, PCSO Sims

#### 2. Chairman's announcements

Cllr Ursell explained that the Finance and Administration committee had discussed the length of meetings and agreed that although the length of meetings stated in the Standing Orders is a maximum of 2 hours as the Parish Council regularly holds 2 meetings each time they meet an additional statement should be added - Should the meeting run for 90 minutes a decision is taken to either continue with the meeting or postpone the remaining agenda until the next scheduled meeting.

Although the Fir Close planning application has been approved the Parish Council will challenge whether Mid Devon District Council can approve it own planning application.

The Parish Council is pleased with the resolution made regarding the Part Night Lighting Policy, Cllr Ursell thanked Cllr Warren and County Cllr Radford for their efforts.

The Parish Council has received complaints and is concerned about the state of the village. The weeds are beginning to make the village look scruffy. The Parish Council will discuss the problem with the County and District Cllrs and parishioners to see what can be done to improve the appearance of the village.

3. **Public questions:** A member of public had a query regarding the state of the village (Item 6), it was decided they should air their comments at that point in the agenda.

A member of the public stated that the parking in Sommerville Park is still dangerous. Cllr Firkins asked if the cars are parked close to the road junctions. Cllr Dennis stated that it is a situation where different authorities say different things. Cllr Ursell stated that the Parish Council will be meeting with Inspector Tom Holmes and that hopefully he can be taken around the village and shown matters of concern. Cllr Warren stressed the importance of residents telephoning

the relevant authorities to notify them of such problems. Cllr Ursell suggested that photographic evidence would be needed to back up the complaint.

#### **4. Minutes of the meeting held:**

Thursday 14<sup>th</sup> June 2012 – Cllr Crick proposed accepting the minutes as a true and correct record, Cllr Phare seconded. Five Cllrs voted in favour one abstained. Cllr Ursell stated that if no one person is actioned with a responsibility the Chair or Clerk will action it and that if no time scale is detailed it will be actioned before the next full council meeting.

#### **5. Matters arising:**

College Partnership – A meeting has been scheduled for Tuesday 7<sup>th</sup> August 2012 at 4.30pm.

MDDC/Ombudsman complaint – this item has been passed to Planning Committee.

Inspector Tom Holmes – A letter sent was sent and Inspector Holmes has contacted the Parish Council. Cllr Ursell will return his call. Cllr Crick asked what will be discussed. Cllr Ursell confirmed that the Parish Council wants to know how the village will be policed in the future and that general problems will be mentioned.

Parish Walk – this item has been passed to Environment Committee.

**Action Cllr Warren, Dennis, Planning Committee, Ursell, Environment Committee**

#### **6. Reports**

Devon and Cornwall Police – PCSO Sims report was forwarded to Cllrs prior to the meeting. There were no questions or comments.

District Councillors Brandon, Chesterton and Evans

District Cllr Brandon submitted a report stating that ‘MDDC are having a reshuffle in the waste management team as they have lost 2 members and will soon be losing another. It is not proposed to replace Gary Pilling as head of waste management, but have 2 people in charge of waste and recycling respectively who will both report to Paul Williams as head of service.’ Cllr Dennis expressed concern for when the waste offices move from Station Road to Phoenix House. Cllr Crick asked what the implications could be. Cllr Dennis confirmed that Gary Pilling had carried out a very good job and sorted any problems very quickly.

County Cllr Radford joined the meeting at 19:26.

The Parish Council is concerned that when a refuse lorry driver does not attend for work his duty is carried out by the road sweeper driver and the roads are not swept. District Cllr Chesterton confirmed that County Cllr Radford is investigating this. Cllr Warren stated that the roads had not been swept as regularly as District Cllr Chesterton had stated that they would be. Cllr Warren sent an email to Mid District Council asking when the roads are due to be swept, what the schedule is and about the sweeping of footpaths. He forwarded the reply he received to all Cllrs.

District Cllr Chesterton confirmed that planning permission had been refused for application 12/00320/FULL, and that the applicant has not submitted an appeal. The Parish Council was concerned that it only received notification of the refusal today. Cllr Crick asked what the time lag would be between the applicant being informed and the Parish Council. Cllr Ursell asked that the notification process and pre release needs to be confirmed. Cllr Crick also asked if the Parish Council should be informed if it or its Cllrs are mentioned in the supporting documents. District Cllr Chesterton offered to find whether the land is still for sale. **Action**

**District Cllr Chesterton**

County Councillor Radford – Cllr Ursell thanked County Cllr Radford for this help in the Part Night Lighting resolution. Cllr Warren stated that the grass and the bulk of the stinging nettles have been cut along the footpath.

State of the village – Cllr Ursell suggested a short discussion take place to confirm the problems and how those problems could be resolved, the item will then be passed to the Environment Committee for its next meeting. Following a discussion the main four areas of concern were agreed, weeds, some grass cutting, overhanging branches and dog mess. The problems are village wide and the Parish Council is concerned that the weeds are taking a hold that will cause long term damage to the road and pavement surfaces. One big clearing of weeds and regular road sweeping might resolve the problem. A member of the public asked if Community Service could be used to help with the problem. County Cllr Radford suggested that a group meet and walk around the village to view the problem. County Cllr Radford, District Cllr Chesterton and Cllrs Warren and Dennis offered to attend. District Cllr Radford offered the Parish Council £500.00 towards the cost of weed removal, as he did last year. The Parish Council agreed to this and thanked County Cllr Radford. The Parish Council expressed concern that in spite of Mid Devon District Council and Devon County Council assurances that frontline services would be maintained, despite a cut in funding, it is not the case.

A member of the public stated that the play area in South View Close has not been upgraded since it was first built, and that it is not an area where young children want to play. A member of the public confirmed that the area is very busy with cars visiting the College Surgery nearby and wondered if the surgery would be willing to assist with the funding of equipment. Cllr Dennis confirmed that the play equipment has been there since 1979. A member of the public stated that when he contacted Mid Devon District Council about the play area he was told if he continued to complain, the facility would be removed. District Cllr Chesterton confirmed that this was unacceptable and that a complaint should be taken further. The results of the discussion have been passed to the Environment Committee. **Action County Cllr Radford, District Cllr Chesterton, Cllrs Warren, Dennis, Environment Committee**

Parish Lengthsman/Health and safety – areas for attention – Cllr Crick is preparing the results from the parish walk. The Clerk will then forward the details of any areas needing attention to the relevant authorities. Cllr Dennis confirmed that the Parish Lengthsmans criteria have changed and that the Parish

Council need to understand it. This item will be added Environment Committees agenda. Action **Cllr Crick, Clerk, Environment Committee**

## 7. Finance

### PAYMENTS

T Leaman	Office expenses, telephone and internet	£21.00
T Leaman	Stationary	£28.73
Ron Tucker	Plants for planters	£253.50
Allotment Association	Annual Subscriptions	£244.00
M Phillips	Internal audit	£60.00
F Wilcox	Jubilee hospitality	£26.48
SWW	Allotments (estimate)	£30.31
SWW	Cemetery (estimate)	£11.16
HMRC	PAYE/NI	£215.40
Astra Printing Group	Magazine	£885.00
Ken White Signs	Honors board update	£42.00
Ken Broom	Churchyard grass and privet hedge	£210.00
H Hill King	Jubilee tree stakes for plaques	64.00

### RECEIPTS

Grave levelling	5 payments	£100.00
Magazine	Advertising	£256.00

Cllr Warren queried amount paid for plants for planters. This will be discussed at the next Environment meeting.

Ratification of Finance meeting re allocation of funds for community use – Cllr Ursell proposed allocating £20,000.00 to possibly purchase land at the Gables. Cllr Ursell confirmed that there is no risk involved. The Parish Council agreed unanimously. **Action Community Committee**

## 8. Meeting dates

- Thursday 26<sup>th</sup> July Planning and Environment meetings
- Thursday 9<sup>th</sup> August Planning meeting – tbc if required
- Thursday 23<sup>rd</sup> August Planning and Environment meetings
- Thursday 13<sup>th</sup> September Full Council and Planning meetings

## 11. Communications received:

Winter service 2012 review – response to be submitted by 31<sup>st</sup> July - forwarded to Chairs 13<sup>th</sup> June item 8

Dog Control Orders – survey information completed on behalf of the Parish Council by Cllr Phare Chair of the Environment Committee, Cllrs to submit returns as individuals if they wish

Town and Village Character Assessment – any comments to be submitted by 30<sup>th</sup> July – Cllr Warren reading through paperwork

Code of Conduct for Town and Parish Councils – copies forwarded with agenda – decision – Cllr Dennis – officers used to declare interest, do they have to do so now.

Cllr Firkins stated that the DALC Code of Conduct is more independent. Cllr Warren proposed adopting the DALC code, Cllr Firkins seconded, 5 Cllr voted in favor of adopting 2 Cllrs abstained

Allotment holder shed request – Plot 3B 6’x4’ –unanimously agreed – Clerk to inform allotment holder

A telephone call to Cllr Dennis from a resident in South View Close regarding the Play Area – item 9

MDDC Heritage Asset Register – passed to Environment Committee

**Meeting closed: 20:30**

**Cllr Ray Ursell**

**Chair Willand Parish Council**