



WILLAND PARISH COUNCIL

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MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF THE ENVIRONMENT COMMITTEE HELD ON THURSDAY 23 APRIL 2015 IN WILLAND VILLAGE HALL

PLEASE NOTE: All Council Meetings are electronically recorded in the interests of accuracy.

MINUTES

Present: Cllrs Wilcox, Warren, Ursell, Phare, Mander, Grantham, Clerk K Taylor

1. **Apologies** there were no apologies

2. **Chairman's announcements:** Meeting would be recorded

The Village Hall clock had been reset and is now showing the correct time.

3. **Public questions** No members of the public present

4. **Minutes of the meeting held:** 26 March 2015 Proposed Cllr Warren
Seconded Cllr Wilcox unanimously agreed that they be signed as a true and correct record.

5. Matters arising

5a) Play Areas –i) Letter to Adrian Cook sent 29 March 2015 the Clerk reported that an email had been received from Mr Cook apologising for his delay in responding.

ii) It was noted that the Willand Parish Register of Open Space and Play Areas is now a document on the Willand Matters website. It was agreed that the link to this would be sent to Mr Cook as the document with the photos was too large to email.

ACTION: Clerk

iii) It had been reported that there was a pile of leaves on the Harpitt Close Play area surface. It was agreed to email MDDC customer service to ask if the leaves could be cleared.

ACTION: Clerk

iv) Jubilee Field. It was reported that there was damage to the skateboard ramp which would need to be repaired as soon as possible. It was agreed to ask the handyman to attend to this as a matter of urgency. It was agreed that there was also some work required on the BMX track which he could do at the same time.

ACTION: Cllr Grantham

Cllr Wilcox would arrange for a notice to be displayed indicating the damage to the track and informing it should not be used.

20:00 John Holmes joined the meeting

b) Churchyard – i) a letter had been sent to the Diocese informing them of the change to the Parish Clerk asking for a response to the previous letter. It was noted that there was a contract in place to cut the grass twelve times this year. Following discussion it was proposed by Cllr Warren, seconded by Cllr Wilcox and unanimously agreed that the contractor should be informed that there would be no extra cuts this year.

ACTION: Clerk

ii) A parishioner had contacted the Parish Council regarding the state of the holly tree in the churchyard. Following discussion it was agreed that they would be informed they could cut back the overhanging branches in their garden, but that the Parish Council would not be doing further maintenance on the trees in the Churchyard.

ACTION: Clerk

6 Jubilee Parish Field a) Fencing Cllr Phare reported that he had obtained the support of the 3 MDDC Cllrs to use 106 money for this and he will continue with this.

b) Dog signage Cllr Phare will continue to pursue this.

c) Grass surface goals were resurfaced and staked but children moved the stakes and went on surface it was agreed that this should be re staked. **AGREED**

7 Cemetery – Bench replacement the bench had been ordered.

8 Improving the state of the village campaign a) It was confirmed that the Handyman did not hold a pesticide licence. A quote had been obtained to do the work and following confirmation that DCC Cllr Radford had confirmed that DCC would support the cost it was proposed by Cllr Warren seconded by Cllr Grantham and unanimously agreed to accept the quote. **ACTION:** Clerk

b) Confirmation that MDDC would be paying for grass cutting for this year. It was reported that this had only been confirmed verbally by Cllr Chesterton. It was noted that the Handyman had a mower capable of cutting the Jubilee Field.

c) Cllr Warren and the Clerk had discussed the state of the village spreadsheet and had agreed a way forward.

6. Improving the state of the village campaign

a) Planters

John Holmes reported that he had ordered the summer plants at the end of last year but the suppliers had been unable to provide them. Following discussion it was agreed that a list would be provided of the normal plants obtained and an approach would be made to local suppliers, a request put in the magazine and on the website.

ACTION: ALL/ Cllr Warren.

Following discussion it was agreed that should the grass grow too high round the planters during the summer months then the Handyman would be asked to cut down an area around each of them.

20:33 John Holmes left the meeting

b) An offer of a new bench to replace the broken bench on DCC land by the roundabout had been received. Following discussion the following actions were agreed

i) an reply would be sent to Mr Barrington to thank him for the offer of the bench which the Parish Council would be pleased to accept and would do all it could to move forward.

ii) an email would be sent to Willy Pike and Ray Radford explaining what was on offer and asking for confirmation that it would be acceptable to DCC for Willand Parish Council to do this.

ACTION: Clerk

Meeting closed 20:40

Cllr R Phare
Chair of Environment Committee