



WILLAND PARISH COUNCIL

Clerk to Parish Council Ms K Taylor, 40 Townlands,
Willand, Cullompton, Devon, EX15 2RS. Tel: 07920014407
Email: willandclerk@willandmatters.org.uk

MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF THE ENVIRONMENT COMMITTEE HELD IN WILLAND VILLAGE HALL ON THURSDAY 28 JULY 2016 AT 19:44

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

Present: Councillor Grantham, Councillor Phare, Councillor Sellick, Councillor Tobin, Councillor Warren, Councillor Wilcox, DCC Councillor Radford, 2 members of the public Clerk K Taylor

1. **Apologies.** Councillor Mander,

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

3. **Public questions** there were no public questions

4. **Minutes of the meeting held on Thursday 23 June 2016 had been circulated.**

It was proposed by Councillor Warren seconded by Councillor Phare, and unanimously agreed that they be signed as a true and correct record.

5. **Progress reports for information**

a) Cemetery extension plans – Councillor Grantham gave a brief report on his survey of the current cemetery and following discussion Councillor Warren proposed that the Parish Council contact 3 fencing contractors to find out the cost of fencing the new area. Councillor Phare seconded the proposal and it was unanimously agreed. **ACTION:** Councillor Grantham/Clerk

b) Installation of light for air ambulance – Councillor Warren gave a brief report on the progress so far and confirmed it was in hand he would provide more information as it progressed.

ACTION: Councillor Warren

The Clerk confirmed that the Willand Theatrical Society had given a cheque towards the costs.

c) Leases for playgrounds – Councillor Warren reported that all the paperwork is now with the Parish Council Solicitor and this is moving forward.

d) Play equipment in the play areas. It was noted that Harpitt & Worcester Crescent equipment repairs had been done and the broken piece of plastic had been removed from the Gables Lea equipment. Councillor Warren reported that the new play area equipment had been ordered and the application for the S106 monies had been sent to MDDC.

e) The Clerk reported on the questions raised by one of the Trustees of the Charity as an individual rather than as a Trustee to the lease for land at the Gables. Councillors agreed that the Parish Council would only deal with the Trustee body in future and would not be drawn into correspondence with individuals. It was noted that there was a Trustee meeting during the week and the Parish Council would need to wait for a response to their recent letter.

6. **Items brought forward from Full Council**

a) Trees in Fir Close

Councillor Wilcox reported that she had met with the resident who was not happy with the response from MDDC. MDDC had cut 6 of the lower branches and it seemed unlikely there would be any further action.

b) Request from Culm Sampford Youth football club to use the pitch for matches
Tom Hope under 12 Coach for the Culm Sandford Youth Football joined the meeting at this point. There was a full discussion about the limitations of the pitch and possible issues around parking, it was stressed that parking on the field was not permitted. Mr Hope was able to confirm that the pitch would meet the requirements as it would only be used for teams who were under 12 years old. They would provide their own goals on the day and mark out the pitch as needed using bollards. He confirmed that the pitch is inspected by the referee and the coach before the match to make sure it was a safe playing area. The club had insurance through the Exeter League and that there would not be any liability on the Parish Council. The Club were waiting for their fixture list before being able to confirm which Saturdays they would need to use the pitch, and they were aware they would need to contact the village hall regarding parking. It was agreed that once the Clerk had been notified of the dates a formal letter of agreement would be written. Councillor Warren proposed that the Parish Council allow the club to use the pitch for matches for the next season without the need to pay rent. Councillor Phare seconded the proposal and it was unanimously agreed. **ACTION:** Clerk

7. Improving the state of the village campaign –

a) Grass Cutting

i) There was a full discussion on the report and the consensus was that Willand Parish Council would not wish to own a machine and employ someone to use it. There were strong views expressed that the Parish Council should do something to improve the look of the village along the B3181. It was acknowledged that this might draw comments from residents if other areas were not maintained. Issues relating to liability and cost were highlighted.

ii) Councillor Grantham had established that it would be at least £1,000 for one cut of all the land DCC had been responsible for. DCC Councillor Radford reported that he had been unable to establish any information from DCC as they were in the process of tendering for new contractors. Councillor Radford offered a one off contribution of £1,000 towards the grass cutting.

iii) It was agreed that Councillor Grantham would draw up a specification for cutting the areas of grass that DCC were no longer doing and circulate to all for comment. This would be put out to tender to three contractors. The Clerk would contact the Town Clerk at Cullompton to see if they would wish to be a contractor. **ACTION:** Councillor Grantham/Clerk

b) It was noted that an order had been given to the Handyman for work at the Gables and Jubilee Field to fill in the holes on the field and to clear the weeds in the Gables area. Councillor Warren, using Chairman's discretion due to urgency had authorised the placing of orders. Members ratified the decision.

c) It was agreed that an order should be issued to the Handyman to cut the hedge and weeds along the allotment edge on B3181. **ACTION:** Clerk

8. Councillors Roundtable

Councillor Wilcox provided the Clerk with a donation of £10 she had received for the Gables fund.

Councillor Wilcox informed the Parish Council that there had been an issue on Facebook regarding the posters advertising events that were put up around the village and often left for months after the event had taken place.

Councillor Wilcox reported that had been an increase in rubbish left lying around the Parish Field.

Councillor Wilcox had been contacted about the clock in the Village Hall and the Clerk confirmed that she had emailed the suggested contact but not had any response so far.

Councillor Tobin gave a brief update on the Composting site and informed that from September it would only be open on a Sunday and Wednesday between 10:00 and 12:00 when volunteers would be on site to manage what is being left.

Councillor Warren reported on a number of properties where the roadside hedges needed cutting back. Councillors will confirm the addresses and the Clerk would send letters to homeowners asking them to cut them back.

It was agreed that Councillor Grantham would now order the signs for the play areas as the leases were progressing. It was noted that MDDC had provided a copy of the dog order that covered all the public places in the District, but there was little likelihood of enforcement.

Councillor Grantham asked that the Website be raised on the next F& A agenda. It was noted that the problems with email delivery was not related to the website but to the domain name willandmatters and btinternet regarding it as a suspect spam domain.

Meeting closed 21:30

Councillor Keith Grantham
Chair of Environment Committee