



## WILLAND PARISH COUNCIL

Clerk to Parish Council Ms K Taylor, 40 Townlands,  
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### MINUTES OF THE ENVIRONMENT COMMITTEE HELD IN WILLAND VILLAGE HALL ON THURSDAY 26 OCTOBER 2017.

**Present:** Councillor Mander, Councillor Phare, Councillor Sellick, Councillor Tobin, Councillor Warren, Councillor Wilcox, 1 member of the public, Clerk K Taylor.

In the absence of Councillor Grantham, the Chair of the Parish Council took the chair and asked for nominations for the Vice Chair of the Environment Committee. Councillor Wilcox nominated Councillor Mander who accepted the nomination. Councillor Phare seconded the nomination and it was unanimously agreed. Councillor Mander took the chair and opened the meeting at 19.41

**Apologies:** Councillor Dilke-Wing, Councillor Grantham, Councillor Bartlett.

2. Councillor Mander announced that the meeting would be recorded

3. Mrs Dennis raised a question under item 6d Christmas lights requested that the Parish Council retain the lights and that they become more colourful.

4. The minutes of the Environment Committee meeting held on Thursday 28 September 2017 had been previously circulated. It was proposed by Councillor Wilcox seconded by Councillor Sellick, and unanimously agreed that they be signed as a true and correct record.

#### 5. Progress reports for information

a) The Clerk reported that she had received one quote so far but was expecting another three by the end of the month. It was confirmed that the grass which was being quoted for, was DCC responsibility and the Parish Council would receive a small contribution towards the cutting.

b) The Clerk had contacted MDDC saying that the Parish Council were prepared to take on the lease for Orchard Way Public Open Space on condition that the fence against the road was replaced. It was now up to MDDC to respond and it was agreed to leave this off the agenda until a response was received from the District Council.

c) The Clerk reported that Highways England had responded regarding the question of safety at the motorway bridge to the effect that they would be considering this. The Parish Council felt that Highways England response was very helpful and more positive than that received from Devon County Council Highways department.

d) Councillor Warren reported that Community Payback had done all the areas requested and have done good work. It was agreed that following the work they had done in clearing the spaces in Mallow Court, Councillor Tobin would purchase some grass seed to put in the empty beds. Councillor Warren would write to thank them, and was expecting that DCC would pay the costs. Following discussion, it was agreed that both Councillor Warren and the Clerk would attend the Highways event on 10 November. **ACTION:** Clerk/Councillor Tobin

e) Councillor Warren proposed that the Parish Council keep to their original decision that it should be a maintenance free bench. Councillor Wilcox seconded the proposal and it was agreed with one abstention and one against. **ACTION:** Clerk

f) The Clerk gave a brief update on the allotments which had been subdivided into about 60 plots. There were some outstanding payments and the Secretary to the Allotment Association would be chasing these up.

g) Update on outstanding jobs. Councillor Grantham had identified some of the outstanding jobs with the Handyman. These included the benches in Jaycroft, goal posts in Jubilee field, making good the village hall clock removal area and staking the planters. It was agreed that Councillor Grantham would be asked to report back at Full Council. **ACTION:** Clerk

## **6. Improving the state of the village campaign**

a) Request from residents of Willand Moor for a Parish noticeboard in the area. Following discussion, it was agreed to put out a question on Facebook & Willand Matters website to see if there is a required need for this. **ACTION:** Clerk/Councillor Wilcox

b) It was agreed that the planters would be replenished when it was felt to be the right time by the volunteer John Holmes, the repairs had been noted in 5g. Clerk would contact Mr Holmes. **ACTION:** Clerk

c) It was noted that the first round for applications had been completed for the TAP Fund, and that such a project as Best Kept Village suggested by Councillor Dilke-Wing would need quite a commitment and support from MDDC in terms of keeping their grass cut and areas of ground tidy. The Clerk reported that she had attended a meeting and it was mentioned that the TAP Fund would be going towards more innovative projects. It was agreed that this would need to be discussed further when Councillor Dilke-Wing would be present.

d) There was a full discussion about the Christmas lights and it was identified that the Parish Council needed to consider whether it was affordable with the extra money needed to pay for keeping the village looking presentable throughout the year. It was noted that there were other parishes where separate groups raised money all through the year to support the Christmas lights. It was agreed that this could be put out to the community for them to express a view as to the value they placed on the lights, and whether anyone wished to form a group to raise money independently. It would be put out on Facebook and the website following the notice board request. It was agreed that the Clerk would contact the current supplier to see if there was a figure that could be used for budgeting purposes. **ACTION:** Clerk

e) The paper prepared by Councillor Grantham as circulated to Councillors regarding regulations for the use of the Jubilee Field by outside organisations was discussed and amended. Following this Councillor Mander proposed that the paper be accepted and published, Councillor Phare seconded the proposal and it was unanimously agreed. **ACTION:** Clerk

## **7. Councillors Roundtable**

Councillor Wilcox reported that the Village Hall WiFi is now working. The Parish Council recorded that they wanted to thank Alex Wilcox for giving his time at the weekend to install the WIFI system. **ACTION:** Clerk

Councillor Warren reported that there had been no response to the leaflets asking for volunteers to cut South View play area so this would need to be included in the budget for the coming year. The lease documents had not yet been received. **ACTION:** Clerk

Councillor Warren reminded Councillors that the Parish Council would be laying a wreath at the Remembrance Service on 12 November and asked if other Councillors would be there to support him.

Councillor Tobin reported that he had been asked about the pathway under the bridges in Station Road where it is overgrown. Councillor Warren had not received information to ask Community Payback about this, but was not sure they would be able to work there and suggested that it was reported to Devon Highways. Photographs to be forwarded to the Clerk so that they could be used to make the report. **ACTION:** Clerk/Councillor Tobin

The meeting closed 21.01.