



## WILLAND PARISH COUNCIL

### MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF THE ENVIRONMENT COMMITTEE HELD IN WILLAND VILLAGE HALL ON THURSDAY 26 SEPTEMBER 2019

**Present:** Councillors Grantham, Little, Phare, Warren, Whatley, Wilcox

**In attendance:** Clerk K Taylor 4 members of the public

Councillor Grantham opened the meeting at 20:25 and welcomed the members of the public

1. Apologies Councillors Dilke-Wing, Glover, Scott,
2. Councillor Little declared an interest in item 5d as a trustee of the Willand United Charities.
3. The residents who were present had raised concerns regarding noise that might be generated by older children being in the park on the new equipment. They had emailed the Parish Council with their concerns and had also met at the site visit earlier in the month. They asked if the Parish Council had a way of dealing with the situation if it became out of hand as they feared the equipment might prove a magnet for older children who would cause problems both for residents and for the young families who currently made use of the facilities. The Parish Council confirmed it would discuss these concerns under the agenda item.
4. Councillor Phare proposed that the minutes of the Environment Committee meeting held on Thursday 22 August 2019 be signed as a true record Councillor Little seconded the proposal and the minutes were signed

#### 5. Progress reports for information

5e) New play equipment in Orchard Way Open Space was brought forward by the Chair Councillor Warren gave a brief history of the parish council's involvement with play facilities and the reasons for it. He then went on to explain the reasons for adding an item of equipment to the Orchard Way play area and the fundraising that had been done to enable it to be viable, the funding obtained was site specific. There was a full discussion on the possible consequences of the new equipment and the steps that the parish council could take if the residents fears were realised. Because the proposed siting of the equipment was in full view of the road and did not provide any areas that could not be seen it was hoped that this would reduce the likelihood of misuse. The parish council confirmed that it would be prepared to remove the equipment in the event of it being misused or causing continued severe difficulties for local residents. Consideration had been given to the very occasional use of the field by the air ambulance and it was noted that the Jubilee Field was the night landing area and that the football field was over the road and could be used if necessary. Councillor Little then proposed that the Parish Council order and install the equipment but that in the event of it being misused it would be removed. Councillor Wilcox seconded the proposal. Councillor Whatley voted against the proposal, and it was carried by 5 votes.

20:50 3 residents left the meeting

#### a) Cemetery Fencing

The Parish Council expressed concern that the quotes were too different to compare as the specifications had changed after it had been drawn up, but had not been reissued. After a brief discussion it was agreed that the specification would be redone and the contractors asked to resubmit a quotation against the new specification. **ACTION:** Councillor Grantham

b) The bus shelter is ordered.

c) BMX track will be carried forward to next agenda

d) The Clerk had submitted the planning application for the work on the allotment trees and the closing date for comments was 10 October.

f) New plants for village planters were due to be delivered the first week in October.

## **6. Councillors Roundtable**

Councillor Whatley had reported what appeared to be an abandoned bike in South View Close to MDDC, it was still in situ and there had been no update from MDDC. Councillor Warren undertook to ask for further information. **ACTION:** Councillor Warren

The hedge at the end of Gables Road was causing difficulty to drivers looking to exit into Meadow Park. It was agreed that the Clerk would write to the householders to ask them to cut it back.

**ACTION:** Clerk

Councillor Whatley reported that she had heard from SWW regarding the leak in Silver Street and that it might take up to 12 weeks to repair as a road closure would be required.

Councillor Wilcox reported that there was an increase in black bags of rubbish dumped in Dean Hill Road and that she would be reporting the fly tipping to MDDC **ACTION:** Councillor Wilcox

The Chair closed the meeting at 21:19

Councillor Keith Grantham  
Chair of Environment Committee