



WILLINGHAM PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of the Annual Parish Meeting of the Parish of Willingham held on
18th May 2016 at 7 30 pm in The Octagon, St Mary and All Saints Church

Present

Councillors: Croucher (Chair), Cook, Law, Manning, Mellows, Tassell, L King, P King
Parishioners: Thirteen

1. Reading of notice convening the meeting

The Chairman welcomed everybody to the meeting and read out the notice.

2. Apologies for Absence

Apologies were received from the following:

Councillors Harris, Smith and Mansfield all with prior commitments

Finance Officer – Sarah Rutherford – personal commitment

County Councillor Hudson – work commitment

Apologies were also received from the Cricket Club, Public Hall User Committee, Willingham Wolves and the Scout Group

3. To deal with matters arising from the Annual Parish Meeting held on 20th May 2015

Item 4 – 30mph speed limit Station Road – The Council have pursued this throughout the last year but have encountered various issues with Cambridgeshire County Council. County Councillor Hudson continues to push this forward on our behalf.

Item 6 – Parking around the school. The Clerk had endeavoured to arrange a meeting between the Council, School and PCSO. At the time of writing she was still waiting for confirmation of a meeting date so that this item can be taken forward.

4. To receive reports from the following local organisations/bodies

Cambridgeshire County Council

Councillor Hudson was not present but his report was tabled. The Chairman read out a letter on behalf of Mr Jeeps that raised several highways issues.

Mrs Daniels reported that the first drain in Priest Lane was overflowing even without rainfall. It appears to be coming from a nearby property.

It was also reported that although Millfield was resurfaced some time ago Highways had not been back to uncover the drains.

It was agreed to pass all the above issues to Councillor Hudson for action.

South Cambridgeshire District Council

Councillor Manning summarised his report which was tabled and confirmed that he would be standing down as Leader of SCDC. It was reported that the lights were being left on at the new primary school at Northstowe. It was thought this was probably a security measure.

Bruce Robjent raised concerns about the number of heavy vehicles travelling through the village to the Northstowe development and although he had reported it little seemed to be done about the issue. It was felt that if contractors were in breach of planning regulations then SCDC should investigate and take action. Councillor Manning confirmed that this was an issue but one that was difficult to enforce.

Councillor Manning was thanked for all he had done for the village during his nine-year term as Leader of the District Council.

5. To receive presentation of accounts and/or annual reports from the following village bodies

Willingham Parish Council

Report and accounts tabled. The Chairman summarised the report and thanked the Clerk and RFO for all their continued efforts and hard work on behalf of the Council. He also thanked Councillors for their continued support and dedication as volunteers supporting the Council and village residents.

Mr Mumby asked for clarification regarding the Minor Rural Centre status given to the village and why it was not currently being applied. Councillors Manning and Law confirmed that as it is part of the Local Plan (which was

Action

P Hudson

currently suspended) the National Planning Framework is referred to when making planning decisions. Once the Local Plan is reinstated classifications within it such as the Minor Rural Centres would again apply.

Questions were raised about the Council's plans for a new cemetery and the Chairman confirmed that the Council was looking for suitable land within the village that could be used.

Cambridgeshire Hearing Help

Report and accounts tabled. Frances Dewhurst summarised her report and gave a brief presentation on the work that the group do locally. She thanked the Parish Council for their grant and reported that new volunteers were always welcome to join the group.

Willingham Combined Charity

Report and accounts tabled. Mrs Daniels summarised the report and confirmed that the charity was hoping to purchase another bungalow over the coming year.

Willingham British School Trust

Report and accounts tabled. Councillor Croucher in his capacity as Secretary, summarised the report and confirmed that roughly 40% of their grants had been allocated to either Cottenham Village College or the Primary School with an additional 40% being allocated to individuals – often undergraduates.

Willingham Youth Trust

Report and accounts tabled. No representative was present and no questions were raised.

Public Hall Users Committee

Report and accounts tabled. No representative was present and no questions were raised.

Willingham Scouts

Report and accounts tabled

No representative was present and no questions were raised.

Councillor Cook pointed out that the Guides are a separate group and as they do not receive funding should not be included in the request for reports etc. The Clerk to amend the office records accordingly.

Willingham News

Report and accounts tabled. Liz Cosford, the Chair of Willingham News summarised the report and thanked the Parish Council for their continued support. The magazine is continuing to do well but would welcome more volunteers to help and for parishioners to offer suggestions for new content.

Willingham Action Group

Report and accounts tabled. Mr Purnell summarised the report on behalf of WAG. He reported that WAG were hoping to see Phase II of the QEII field completed in the coming year and an It's A Knockout tournament had been planned for the 17th July to raise funds. It had been reported that the play area had been well received and enjoyed by many. Sadly, though, some of the equipment had been victim to graffiti recently. Mr Purnell also reported that some outside furniture had been stolen from the Community Orchard.

Thanks were given to Mr Purnell for all his work and contributions to the village over recent years both with WAG and previously on the Parish Council.

Willingham Bowls Club

Report and accounts tabled. No representative was present and no questions were raised.

Willingham Wolves

Report and accounts tabled. No representative was present and no questions were raised.

Willingham Cricket Club

Accounts tabled. No representative was present and no questions were raised.

Willingham Library

Report tabled. Linda King, secretary of the friends of Willingham library (FOWL) summarised the libraries activities in the last year. A question was raised about the future of the library and Mrs King confirmed that in the past year opening hours and backroom staff had been cut within libraries and it was anticipated that moving forward community support would be needed to keep smaller libraries open. A short discussion took place and Councillor

Clerk

Croucher asked if some figures could be provided to the Council with regards to the number of people who use the library. It was agreed that the future of the library would be added to a Parish Council agenda for discussion.

FPC Mtg

Over Day Centre

Report and accounts tabled. Mrs Johnstone, Chair of the Day Centre summarised the report and reported that they would see a significant reduction in County Council funding next year which would have an impact on the Centre and how it operates. Councillor Croucher asked if a report could be forwarded to the Council showing the impact the changes would have for users of the centre. The centre is well used by residents of Willingham and Mrs Johnstone thanked the Parish Council for their continued financial support. Mrs Johnstone confirmed that she would be stepping down as Chair of the Centre this year and as Trustee next year.

6. Any other business

Councillor Croucher reported that Mr Jeeps had requested that councillor's telephone numbers be reinstated in the Willingham News. Two members of the public present also agreed that the telephone numbers should be reinstated as they were concerned that only publishing email addresses limited access to councillors for those residents without internet access or those who were not confident using computers.

Mr Bowman asked for clarification as to where Council minutes etc are displayed. The Clerk confirmed they are on the website and in the library. Mr Bowman asked if the Council could also distribute them to the community centre in Wilford Furlong so that those residents could have easy access to the information. It was agreed to add this to the agenda for the June meeting of the Parish Council.

Mr Garner also expressed concern regarding the future loss of the site manager in Wilford Furlong. It was understood that this role was not going to be replaced and it was feared this would have a negative impact on the residents and the community room.

**June FPC
Mtg**

Meeting closed at 9:01pm: