



# WILLINGHAM PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of the Annual Parish Meeting of the Parish of Willingham held on  
18 May 2011 at 7 30 pm in The Octagon, St Mary and All Saints Church

**Present** Councillors


A Cook (Chairman), P King, H Berry, C Jones, Ms W Hardman, R Foster, B Kirkman,  
G Pake, I Barratt, H Awal, R Purnell, D Jacques and S Mellows.

District Councillors Mr R Manning and Mrs P Corney.

**Attending** 5 parishioners & The Rev. Trevor Rowe (*arrived at 8.10pm*)

1. <b>Notice convening the meeting</b>	Action
Councillor Cook read the notice and welcomed parishioners to the meeting.	
<b>2. Apologies for absence</b>	
Apologies for absence were received from Councillor Kirkman , County Councillor Johnstone and Cambridgeshire Constabulary. The Rev. Trevor Rowe advised of arriving late to the meeting.	
<b>3. Matters arising from the Annual Parish Meeting held on 28 April 2010</b>	
None.	
<b>4. Presentation of accounts and annual reports from the following village bodies</b>	
<b>(i) Willingham Parish Council</b>	
The Chairman's report was taken as read.	
The Chairman reported:-	
WYT – Use of the current storage facility at the Ploughman Hall had been identified as a possible area to be converted for youth provision. Talks were progressing with regard to planning objectives and it was hoped that within the next year this possibility would prove feasible and be fully functioning.	
Library – The meeting was well attended and the general consensus from the local population was that the Library was a valuable asset to the community and should remain open. A letter had been sent from the Parish Council to the County Council offering future support to enable the Library to stay open. A reply was awaited.	
Parish Council Accounts – it was explained that certain monies were ring fenced for identified projects such as a youth building and a new cemetery. This gave a distorted view of the amount of reserves the Parish Council held. The remainder of the reserves were a legal requirement to enable the Council to run for a year on a skeletal basis should that need arise.	
The question was raised as to the timescale for use of the section 106 money, earmarked for the youth. The Chairmen clarified that it was for five years and any monies from this had to be match funded by the WYT	
Car park – Ploughman Hall – It was hoped to achieve a new car-park during the next financial year. It was clarified that parking outside the Pavilion was not Parish Council land, but down to Highways at the County Council.	
New Bench on the Village Green – this was due to be placed within the next few months. A letter to all the residents nearby had been previously sent.	
<b>(ii) Willingham Combined Charity</b>	
The accounts were taken as read. A letter which had been sent to the Charity, but had been copied to the Parish Council with regard to boundary fences and tree pruning and was currently being looked at by the Charity with a response to be sent shortly.	
The chairman of the WCC reported that he had only been Chair for a short time and was aware that there appeared to be a large amount of reserves in their accounts. This would be looked at and Trustees consulted to see whether monies could be used in better ways whilst remaining good stewards.	

*Q* 11/6/2011

	Action
<p><b>(iii) Willingham British School Trust</b></p> <p>The report and accounts were taken as read.</p>	
<p><b>(iv) Willingham Sports Council</b></p> <p>No report had been provided.</p> <p>The sports council had not met in the last twelve months. A new group had been formed to look at the possibility of providing a MUGA for the Village, a meeting was due in the next few weeks to decide the outcome of this.</p>	
<p><b>(v) Public Hall Users Committee</b></p> <p>The report was taken as read.</p>	
<p><b>(vi) Pavilion Management Committee</b></p> <p>The report was taken as read.</p>	
<p><b>(vii) Willingham News</b></p> <p>The report and accounts were taken as read.</p> <p>Councillor Berry gave congratulations on behalf of the Parish Council to the Willingham New team for their achievement in being awarded both 'best overall Village magazine' and 'most improved Village magazine. A thank you to the team for all their work.</p>	
<p><b>5. Reports from the following other local bodies</b></p>	
<p><b>(i) Willingham Action Group</b></p> <p>The report was taken as read.</p>	
<p><b>(ii) Willingham Youth Trust</b></p> <p>No report had been provided.</p> <p>Charitable status had now been achieved for WYT. Councillor Foster requested that a report be submitted in future with regard to their activities and accounts. Mike Tidball, secretary of WYT assured the Council that a report would be submitted in future.</p>	
<p><b>(iii) Cambridgeshire County Councillor</b></p> <p>Councillor Johnstone's report was taken as read.</p> <p>The question of why Willingham was named as a most affluent Village by the County Council when they were considering Library closures was raised. Mrs Linda King who was a representative of FOWL (friends of Willingham library), assured the meeting that they were pursuing the matter with the County Council as to why they had arrived at that statement.</p>	
<p><b>(iv) South Cambridgeshire District Councillors</b></p> <p>Councillor Manning's report was taken as read.</p> <p>District Councillor Corney reported that Councillor Burling was attending a Northstowe meeting that evening, that Northstowe was progressing slowly although the sticking point was Highways and the road infrastructure. Questions were raised as to whether other areas for development would be highlighted if Northstowe did not go ahead. The District Councillors present felt that it would not be the case and Northstowe would go ahead although a call for available land from 2016 – 2030 from developers had gone out. A possible upgrade to Chesterton Station was currently being pushed forward from other groups which, if it went ahead, would relieve pressure on this area. It was also reported that once Northstowe was built the 'old' airfield road would cease to exist.</p> <p>Councillor Pake requested more information on the help available to local business rates and asked whether any had been given to date. The reply was that it was only given when it was the last shop or public house standing in a Village and had been given recently to one village for enable them to keep their public house. Councillor Pake remonstrated that County Councils nationally should look at small business rates and national manufacturing as their priority focus for the future.</p>	

**(v) Cambridgeshire Constabulary**


Sargent Paul Rogerson had sent an updated report on the replacement of the PCSO Claire Whiteman with two new PCSO's Paul Butcher who would be patrolling Willingham and Over and Lee Page who would be patrolling Swavesey and Longstanton. PC Gilbey remained the local neighbourhood constable. This information had been tabled.

Councillor Purnell who had recently attended a Police Panel meeting, added that there would be increased patrols on speeding and antisocial behaviour. Police would be interviewing youth in the Village asking them their perception of crimes in the area as it had appeared in a recent report that their perception was different to that of the older generation.

**6. Any other business**

A parishioner raised the question with regard to any more news on a possible by-pass to the Village. The answer in short, was that there was no money available at present for this. However, the Parish Council had tried in recent years and would still continue to support this. Councillor Purnell reported that less HGV's were now using the B1050 and other options, such as night time bans, were being considered.

The meeting ended at 8.17pm.

 1/6/2011

