

Minutes of the Full Parish Council Meeting held on
2 February 2011 at 7 30 pm in the Octagon, St Mary and All Saints Church, Church Street

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

County Councillor – S Johnstone

District Councillor – R Manning

7 - Parishioners

DRAFT

Actions

1/11 Apologies for absence

None

2/11 Declarations of interest

Councillors Purnell and Kirkman as members of WAG

Item 9/11 – Councillor Berry with regard to security lighting at the Ploughman Hall and Councillor Foster as a Hall user with regard to Hiring Policies at the Ploughman Hall.

Item 12/11 – Councillor Awal as a member of WYT

3/11 Public forum

The meeting was adjourned.

Mrs King as a member of ‘friends of Willingham Library’ (FOWL), reported that she had seen documents relating to the Library review. Willingham had come out badly on usage and community issues, eg. lack of deprivation. FOWL would be meeting in the coming week to discuss salvaging the Library service in Willingham and hope to receive support from the Parish Council. Mrs King was aware that Cambs County Council would be meeting later on in February to discuss Library review.

Councillor Johnstone replied that Willingham had been noted as an underperforming Library, however, during the review she would be challenging the community figures that had been mentioned, especially the lack of deprivation. However, the Library would not be closed in the near future, although the long term future was the issue under review. Public consultation on Libraries was mentioned together with the fact that all views would be taken into consideration.

The Rev. Trevor Rowe had attended to represent WYT with their proposed business plan and request for financial support from the Parish Council. He reported that the Ploughman Hall site had been looked at with a view to a possible permanent youth office on the site and suggested that a portacabin on the east side of the building would be the immediate answer. A discussion between Councillors and the Rev. T Rowe took place with Councillor Purnell reiterating that Youth in the Village was a priority and any advice from WYT in the future would be most welcomed.

The meeting was re-convened.

4/11 Minutes of the Parish Council Meeting held on Wednesday 5 January 2011

Item 294/11 – Green & Boundaries, should say Councillor Kirkman reported and not Councillor King.

Subject to the above amendment, Councillor Kirkman proposed the minutes be accepted as a true record. This was seconded by Councillor King and **agreed** with ten votes in favour and three abstentions due to not being present at the last meeting.

5/11 Matters Arising from the Minutes of 1 December 2010 not covered elsewhere on this Agenda

None

Councillor Johnstone reported that the issue of the Caravan on the Causeway had been followed up.

Update on Earith Road – support design on the road was due to finish shortly and work to commence in March/April 2011. The Willow Trees close to the road will also be looked at.

The future meeting regarding HGV traffic (2nd March) would be attended by Councillor Purnell.

The final budget detail is shortly to be published and going to full Council in two weeks time. All subsidised bus services would be cut, this would include the No 15 evening service in Willingham. Pensioner's concessionary passes would not be affected. Councillor Kirkman asked if people were willing to contribute to concessionary fares, would it be welcomed? Councillor Johnstone reported that this question had recently been raised as yet there was no response.

Councillors Kirkman and King queried if the cuts to concessionary services would affect the Willingham – St Ives route. Councillor Johnstone was not aware that it would, however would investigate.

SJ

The current problem with the interactive sign in Willingham would be looked at, however Councillor Johnstone stated that all Interactive signs would not be maintained as part of the cuts. If problems developed, they would simply be switched off.

Councillor Johnstone left the room at 8:05pm.

7/11 District Council reports and communications not covered elsewhere on this Agenda

Councillor Manning reported:-

Northstowe – some core buildings would be retained, however it must be considered that any conservation would come out of the Section 106 money that is also needed elsewhere. The County Council would be having a meeting with local conservation representatives on Friday 4th to reach an agreement.

Three Plus Three group – no change.

Water charges in rural areas should be looked at, currently all consumers are required to pay a £30 charge for rainwater to enter the sewer. Often in rural areas' rainwater is absorbed in a soak-away. An article to appear in the Willingham news.

BK

Several meetings had recently been attended. These included:-

- a) Meeting with Greg Clarke with regard to planning on Gypsy and Traveller sites – no further forward.
- b) Westminster - two meetings regarding appealing against 16% loss of grant in finance settlement – no real overall improvement.

No immediate increase in Council Tax, however, not sustainable in the long run and this would be reviewed in the future.

Councillor King stated that some parishioners had asked about the blue bins and how items were recycled. Councillor Manning to organise a visit to see how the recycling was dealt with. Councillors Purnell and King to attend. Recycling rates had not yet been published.

*RM
PK/
RP*

8/11 Chairman's Report

The Chairman reported:-

Mandy Powell, the Office administrative assistant would commence training for CiLCA in February at a cost of £350. This was **agreed**.

A phone call had been received from Mr Jeeps regarding the state of the pavement in the High Street and complaint with regard to difficulty in navigating a wheelchair along this pavement. Also the Fire Hydrant on the corner of Station Road/Over Road was sinking. Clerk to investigate and report to bodies concerned.

Clerk

Willingham School Association Fun Run to be held on 15 May 2011.

indication of where to place future Bus Stops. This to be considered at the March meeting.

A letter from Garner & Sons had been received regarding their rental of the old Recreation ground. This was noted.

A letter had been received from South Cambs District Council with regard to the Parish Council adopting the Phone Box that remained in the Village and maintaining it. Councillor King stated that approximately eighteen months ago the Parish Council had agreed with BT that it could remove the BT Box on the Green as long as it maintained the one on the High Street. Councillor Jones to investigate with BT.

9/11 To receive reports from the following committees, receive reports from lead councillors, note any delegated decisions taken, and make any recommendations

Planning Committee

Planning Committee meeting held on 19 January - Draft Minutes circulated.

Councillor Jones reported that he had attended a meeting at the South Cambs Parish Forum with regard to Planning to planning power on a local level when the localism Bill is to be passed. More information to follow in the future.

Green & Boundaries –

Councillor Kirkman reported that a lot of litter had been noted in the Priest Lane area. The Chairman suggested the Clerk report this to South Cambs District Council and ask them to deal with the removal of the litter.

There was no further progress regarding Flat Bridge.

Cemetery – To consider purchase of Epitaph Cemetery Software package
The Clerk informed the Council of the costs and attributes of the package.

Councillor Jones proposed that the Epitaph Classic online package be bought for the Parish Office Computer with the first year cost of £350 and a further four years at £110 per annum. A separate cost of £180 for transferral of Excel Burial data to also be added. This was seconded by Councillor Pake and **agreed** unanimously.

Clerk to notify and arrange set up with Edgedesigns.

Halls – To discuss Ploughman Hall Hiring Policy/Prices and to consider any changes
(This item was brought forward and discussed after Item 7/11)

Councillor Foster asked the Council if there were any issues on the previously circulated document that they would like to raise. A discussion took place. Councillor Foster agreed that a few minor adjustments may need to be made after the working document has been implemented. Subject to this, Councillor Kirkman proposed adopting the new Policy/Hiring prices. This was seconded by Councillor Purnell and **agreed** with twelve votes in favour and one abstention.

Councillor Foster then left the meeting.

- To discuss possible use of 'Infra Red' illumination for CCTV at Ploughman Hall – this item to be carried forward.

Leisure and Amenities –

Councillor Borland was not present to give an update.

10/11 Accounts

Paid Items

Salaries	January salaries	Salaries	(a)	2560.73
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To Pay

Anthony Gallagher	Security	Establishments	(b)	288.07
Cambridge ACRE	Membership	Establishments	(c)	35.00
Stocksigns	Signs	L & A	(d)	178.51
D Fouracre	Frozen Pipes/Ploughman	Halls	(e)	105.75
Chris Cross	Guttering/Ploughman	Halls	(f)	286.60
CBS	Stationery	Establishments	(g)	30.30
Connection Bus	Youth Bus	Section 142	(h)	1279.20
Parish Websites	Hosting	Establishments	(i)	300.00

March/
Mtg

CJ

Clerk

Clerk

March
Mtg

Darren Aldred	Public Hall	Halls	(k)	492.00
Dorcus Engineering	Church Clock	Community Buildings (l)		250.00

Actions

The Chairman highlighted the payment for Darren Aldred – regarding the Public Hall, he queried who had authorised this expenditure for emergency lighting and reported that the invoice had gone directly to 1st Willingham Scout Group, who had passed it on to the Parish Council. The Chairman requested the item be deferred for payment until the Clerk had investigated further.

Clerk

Subject to the above, Councillor Jones proposed that the accounts be accepted for payment This was seconded by Councillor King and agreed unanimously.

11/11 To discuss closure of Willingham Library and possible options

Letter from Cambs County Council had been tabled.

A discussion took place.

Councillor Kirkman suggested that FOWL consider any proposals that the Parish Council could put forward in favour of keeping the Library open.

Councillor Kirkman and King to bring the suggestions from FOWL to the March Parish Council Meeting.

Clerk to make a search on ownership and covenants on the Library.

Clerk

March
Mtg

Clerk

12/11 Youth – To consider request for future funding to Willingham Youth Trust and Connections Bus Project

(Request letters and Business Plan circulated)

Councillor Awal left the room. Councillor Purnell objected to this, the Clerk informed Councillor Purnell that Councillor Awal had a prejudicial interest and although could give information, had to then leave the room during discussion and voting. Councillor Purnell asked the Clerk to minute that he didn't agree with that rule.

The Chairman outlined the attendance and current position of the Connections Bus Project and reminded the Council that they required confirmation of support for the following year.

The Chairman also reminded the Council that the WYT had put forward a business plan for the next three years to the Council, asking for support, however, the Council would be considering support of £5,000 for the next financial year only.

The Chairman then adjourned the meeting to allow Reverend Trevor Rowe, as member of WYT to speak on the issue.

Rev. Rowe informed the council on enquiry that the attendance figures at present for the youth club were approximately six or seven for each meeting. He stated that the youth that currently attended the youth club, were not the same youths that attended the bus sessions. WYT were looking for future funding to enable them to obtain internet access to attract more youth and to have two separate sessions a week for young people aged 11-15 in the hope that they would then provide for both the youths from the bus and the youth that currently attended at the Baptist Church. They were looking to employ sessional youth workers and were seeking grants for the provision of a dedicated building.

The Chairman re-convened the meeting.

Much discussion took place.

Councillor Jones proposed that the Parish Council give the money requested from the Connections Bus project, approximately £5,300 for the next financial year, together with £5000 to the WYT for WYT to run both youth projects until such time that they could be amalgamated. The Chairman reminded Councillors that the Connections Bus project needed confirmation the following day on whether they would receive funding to enable them to forecast their financial status for the following year.

Councillor Kirkman stated that support for the Connections Bus project was only a temporary expenditure.

Councillor Berry, counter proposed that the Parish Council should support both the Connections Bus and the

Councillor King reminded the Council that only £5000 had been precepted for funding for youth for the next financial year and that there was not additional money in the budget to double that amount for youth funding. Other areas of Parish Council monies were ring fenced and that the Council had to maintain a budgeted amount to enable them to run on a skeletal basis for a year should a crisis occur. He said that any decisions should be made with 'eyes open'.

Councillor Jones rescinded his original proposal.

A vote took place on the proposal from Councillor Berry, it was **agreed** with five votes in favour, four against and two abstentions.

The Clerk to inform Connections Bus Project and WYT.

Councillor Purnell requested that Youth be on the March agenda for an update.

Councillor Awal returned to the meeting.

- To consider request from Willingham Travellers Project to display artwork on the wall of the Ploughman Hall

(Letter circulated)

The Clerk was asked to investigate if the insurance would cover this artwork display and to find out more information from Julie Bristow with regard to the content and length of time that the display would be on the wall. This item to be carried forward.

Clerk
March
Mtg

Clerk
March
Mtg

13/11 To discuss Willingham Parish Council's long term strategic plan

(Previously circulated)

The Parish Council **agreed** that it would be beneficial to the Council to have a long term strategy.

Councillors King and Cook had expected a specific 'wish list' to be presented at the meeting and suggested that this was what was needed.

A discussion took place.

Councillor Purnell proposed that the draft circulated, represented a reasonable starting point in the development of such a strategy. This was seconded by Councillor Jones and **agreed** with eight in favour and four abstentions.

Councillor Purnell asked all Councillors to send their comments on draft to him.

This would be an agenda item for March.

March
Mtg

14/11 To discuss Police matters and receive Crime Report

(Circulated)

The Chairman reminded the Council that there was a Police Panel meeting, hosted by the Parish Council at Willingham School on Tuesday, February 22 at 7 – 7.30pm.

15/11 To discuss future attendance of Thurston's Annual Fair

The Chairman reported that a meeting had taken place between himself, Councillor Pake and Councillor Kirkman.

Mr Thurston was very keen for the fair at Willingham to continue because of his family connection to the fair spanning the last century. He suggested that the fair this year arrive on Thursday to set up, open for Friday and Saturday, close on Sunday and leave on Monday.

All future correspondence must go through John W Thurston at Over.

WAG had been consulted on the change of days and had no initial objections. Councillor Cook proposed the above days/dates be accepted, this was seconded by Councillor Kirkman and **agreed** with eleven votes in favour and one abstention.

16/11 Items for future meetings

Public Hall,
Infra Red Camera's for CCTV,
Bus Shelters
Youth
Library Review
Long term strategy

17/11 Date of next meeting

The next meeting would be held on Wednesday 2 March 2011.

The meeting ended at 09.50pm

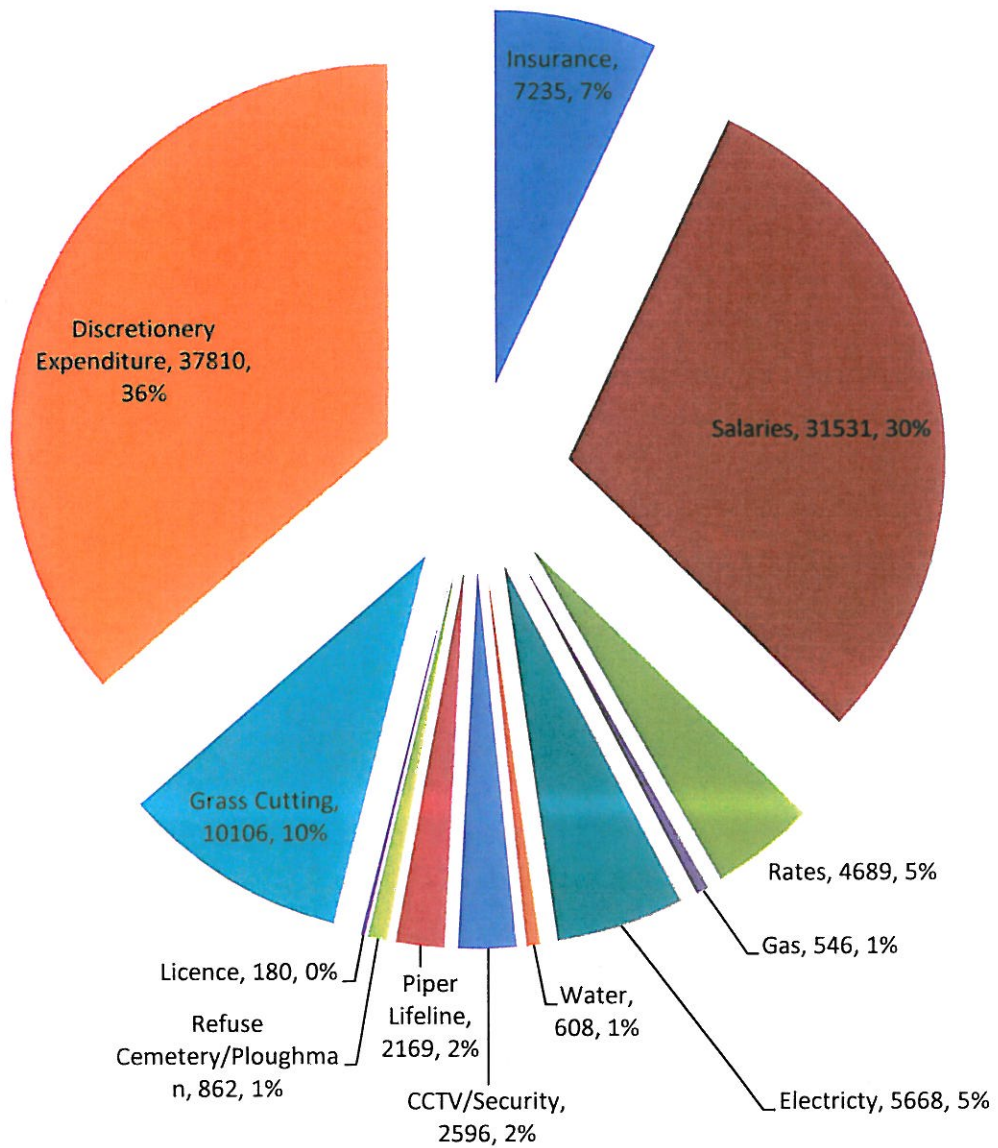
Legislation Governing Payments

Ref. To letters (a) – (j)

- (a) –LGA 1972 s112(2)*
- (b) – LGA (Misc Provs) ACT 1976 s19(1)*
- (c) –LGA 1972 s143*
- (d) – LGA 1894S(8)(1)(i)*
- (e) - Ditto*
- (f) –Ditto*
- (g) –LGA 1972 s111*
- (h) – LGA 1972 s137*
- (i) – LGA 1972 s111*
- (j) – Highways Act 1980 s5(4)*
- (k) – LGA 1972 s133*
- (l) - LGA 1894S(8)(1)(i)*

Willingham Parish Council

- Insurance
- Gas
- CCTV/Security
- Licence
- Salaries
- Electricity
- Piper Lifeline
- Grass Cutting
- Rates
- Water
- Refuse Cemetery/Ploughman
- Discretionary Expenditure



110000

Chairman's Report
ITEM 25/11

My ref:
Your ref:

Date: 23 February 2011

Contact: Passenger Transport Services
Direct dial: 0345 045 5208
E Mail: bus.tenders@cambridgeshire.gov.uk



Cambridgeshire
County Council

As email distribution

Environment Services

Passenger Transport Services

Box CC1301
Shire Hall
Castle Hill
Cambridge
CB3 0AP

Tel: 0345 045 5208

PROPOSED CHANGES FOR APRIL 2011

Cambridgeshire County Council wants to hear your views on changes and reductions being made to some bus services which are supported by financial contributions from Council funds.

Why we are contacting you

The majority of bus services in Cambridgeshire (about 80%) are provided by commercial operators without subsidy. However, the County Council subsidises some bus services where bus operators are currently unable to operate commercially. There is no statutory duty for the Council to provide this, nor do we receive specific funding from Government to do so.

In the future this subsidy will not be possible due to reduced overall grants to councils from Government coupled with increased costs of, and for, services. The County Council needs to make savings of around £160 million over the next five years and some of these savings have to come from the transport budget.

On Tuesday 15th February 2011 Full Council voted to phase out funding for subsidised bus services over the next four years and agreed to a reduction of £654,000 in subsidised services in 2011/12. This letter is the start of a consultation process seeking comments for the first set of reductions.

We are working with operators, community transport providers, local councils and businesses to see if we can find viable ways of meeting the transport needs of communities as much as possible and are looking for other alternative solutions to help reduce the impact of these changes.

Your views are an important part of this process to help us decide on how we implement the financial savings and where possible find local solutions.



The current situation

A commercial bus operator, Stagecoach, has identified a number of services that they are no longer able to operate, because they are no longer viable to run with current levels of County Council financial support regardless of the pressures described above. The operator has notified the Traffic Commissioner that as of Sunday 17th April 2011 they will no longer be operating the services listed in table 1 (attached).

The County Council is also considering withdrawing the subsidy for some evening and Sunday services, so that we can focus on subsidised services that provide for mainly journeys for work, school and personal business such as shopping. We have discussed these proposed withdrawals of subsidy with operators and consequently the evening and Sunday journeys shown in table 2 have also been deregistered from Sunday 17th April 2011.

In addition we are looking to withdraw the subsidy for the Cambridge City Centre Shuttle, which currently is provided free for users at a cost of £80,000 to taxpayers across the county. Shopmobility is available for eligible users.

What happens next?

We are seeking your views on these proposed changes shown in the tables and we are keen to hear proposals from local communities, voluntary groups and bus operators. In the meantime, we will continue to look for replacement bus operators or alternative solutions and approaches.

We will consider all responses we receive before making a final decision after the end of the consultation period. Even after changes have been made, we will continue to liaise closely with communities affected to monitor the impacts of the changes.

We welcome your comments

The County Council welcomes any comments you may have about the above proposals. To enable us to have enough time to fully consider responses before Sunday 17th April 2011 we would be grateful if you could respond by **16:00 on Friday 11th March 2011** using one of the following means

By email bus.tenders@cambridgeshire.gov.uk

By telephone 0345 045 0675

By post Cambridgeshire County Council, CC1301, Castle Court, Shire Hall, Cambridge CB3 0AP

We appreciate that this does not give as much time as we would like. But we are bound by the requirements of the Council's legally binding contract with bus operators which stipulates the maximum notice required.

Yours sincerely



Head of Passenger Transport Services
Cambridgeshire County Council



Table 1

The contractor has notified the Traffic Commissioner that as of Sunday 17th April 2011 they will no longer be operating the following services

Contractor	Service	Journey
Stagecoach	32	Chatteris – Ramsey / Whittlesey
Stagecoach	67	St Neots - Southoe - St Neots
Stagecoach	139	Foxton - Great Shelford - Sawston - Royston
Stagecoach	400*	Keyston - Huntingdon
Stagecoach	401*	Grafham - Spaldwick - Huntingdon
Stagecoach	402*	St Ives – Huntingdon - Spaldwick - Ellington
Stagecoach	403	Huntingdon - Ellington - Raunds - Thrapston
Stagecoach	404	Huntingdon - Bedford
Stagecoach	405	Huntingdon - Peterborough
Stagecoach	406	Huntingdon - Kettering
Stagecoach	407	Huntingdon - Peterborough
Stagecoach	408	Huntingdon - St Neots
Stagecoach	409	Huntingdon - Great Gidding Circular
Stagecoach	414	Graveley - St Neots
Stagecoach	431	Great Raveley - St Neots
Stagecoach	100	Cambridge City Centre Shuttle

Table 2

In addition to the above, the evening (after 20:00) and Sunday journeys on the following services have also been deregistered from Sunday 17th April 2011

Contractor	Service	Journey
Whippet	1A	Huntingdon - Peterborough
Stagecoach	9	Littleport - Ely - Waterbeach to Cambridge
Stagecoach	15	Cambridge - Longstanton - Willingham - Swavesey - Fenstanton
Stagecoach	18	Cambridge - Comberton - Cambourne - Longstowe
Stagecoach	30	Huntingdon - Warboys – Ramsey
Stagecoach	33	March - Whittlesey - Peterborough
Stagecoach	45	Huntingdon - Wyton - St Ives at 20:05 and 21:05
Stagecoach	Citi 7	Sawston to Duxford/Whittlesford

Notes

1. (Services marked with an asterix) Due to the lack of alternative services Cambridgeshire County Council intends to retender some journeys for services 400 and 401 although this is likely to be on a reduced service level.
2. Our initial proposals are not to replace the services in Tables 1 and 2 as alternative journeys are available to other destinations or priority has been given to protecting work, school and essential shopping journeys.