



# WILLINGHAM PARISH COUNCIL

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

**Present** Councillors A Cook (Chairman), P King, G Pake, D Jacques, H Berry, (arrived 7.32pm), C Jones, R Manning,  
Ms W Hardman, R Foster, D Clarke, R Purnell, W Kirkman, S Mellows and H Awal

3- Parishioners attended the meeting, (all left the meeting at 7.55pm )

County Councillor Johnstone

224/11 Apologies for absence	Actions
Apologies were received from Councillor Barratt.	
<b>225/11 Declarations of interest</b>	
Councillor Manning as a District Councillor, Councillor Purnell declared a personal interest in WAG, Councillor Clarke declared a personal interest as a member of Willingham Pavilion Committee, Councillor Awal declared a personal interest as a Trustee of WYT	
<b>226/11 Public forum (maximum 3 minutes per person, with an overall limit of 15 minutes)</b>	
The Chairman adjourned the meeting:-	
Two parishioners attended with regard to the suggested revised bus time- tables. They felt they voiced the general opinion of the community with regard to the lack of a link to the Guided Busway, gaps in the timetable that didn't serve either the working community or those using the bus for leisure purposes. One parishioner handed a letter to the chairman with regard to these issues. The Councillors reiterated that they had written to Stage Coach and County Councillor Johnstone stated that she would be attending a further meeting with Mr Campbell of Stagecoach in the forthcoming week.	
Mr Thompson, a parent/governor of Willingham Primary school wanted to bring to the attention of the Parish Council the unsafe situation in Theodays close with regard to difficulty in crossing the road due to badly parked cars and dangerous driving in this area. He stated that the School had approached other appropriate bodies with regard to this situation but felt it had not improved and wanted to request that the Parish Council take this on board and help with the situation. Several ideas were discussed with regard to a Lollipop Lady, Double yellow lines and increased signage. Although it was thought that a Lolly pop lady was the best way forward. The Chairman explained that whilst the Parish Council sympathised with the on-going situation, it didn't come under their jurisdiction to act upon it. However, the Parish Council had several times passed on this information to the PCSO and Police. Councillor Johnstone stated that the County Council had not been made aware of the situation and that the School needed to raise this at the next Police neighbourhood panel meeting. She thought that double yellow lines would be too expensive and too many objections raised from locals, she also stated that the criteria for a Lollipop lady was complex and felt that in this situation they wouldn't be granted one. The best course of action she felt was for the School to liaise closely with CCC and perhaps suggest cars being banned from driving into Theodays Close completely. Councillor Johnstone would also liaise with the Police.	SJ <i>[Handwritten signature]</i>
The Chairman re-convened the meeting.	
<b>227/11 Minutes of the meeting of the full parish council held on the 2<sup>nd</sup> October 2011</b>	
Councillor King proposed the above minutes as a true record, this was seconded by Councillor Jacques and agreed unanimously.	
<b>228/11 Matters arising from the minutes of the meeting held on the 2<sup>nd</sup> November 2011 not covered elsewhere on the agenda.</b>	
None.	
<b>229/11 County Council Reports</b>	
Councillor Johnstone reported as County Councillor:-	
Reported that no-one was in favour of the revised bus time-table. Councillor Johnstone was hoping to have a meeting with Mr	<i>[Handwritten signature]</i>

Campbell before the Christmas period to discuss how it could be improved to help the community. Councillor King stated that the community really wanted a shuttle service to the Guided busway. Councillor Johnstone would report back on the response from the meeting in January. Councillor Johnstone reiterated that there was a community car scheme in place for those in need.

Actions  
SJ/Jan  
Mtg

Correspondence had been sent to all Parish Councils with regard to the £50,000 funding for minor Highway improvements across all Parishes in the district. Criteria was yet unknown for fund allocation although the schemes would be jointly funded by the County Council and the applicant.

Councillor Johnstone would chase the flooding that continues in heavy rain on/around the School premises.

SJ

Willingham Library would now remain open and continue to be funded by the County Council albeit on reduced hours. If extended hours were required then this could be met with volunteers.

**The B1050** – The Environment Agency had been working on the river bank inserting Piles to shore up the bank. However, the County Council Highways team acknowledged that this road was now a priority as there were serious structural cracks in the bank that supports the road. The previous plan to improve the road would now not work and the County had consulted Atkins Consultants of which the outcome suggestion would be to drive in thick concrete piles on either side of the road on which a new road surface would be laid. The estimated cost of this was currently at 2.5 million and would take a large part of Highways entire budget for 2012; with other options for funding being reviewed. This plan was not, however, finalised.

There was much discussion on this, Councillor King felt that it was a case of "good money chasing bad", that it was not a solution and may not fix the problem permanently. The road had been described as "A crust sitting on a soft centre".

Councillor Purnell felt that a new road would jeopardise the long term plan of a by-pass for Willingham, this was also reiterated by Councillor Manning who suggested that if the County spent large sums of money on this now, the future by-pass would not go-ahead for many decades.

The Chairman felt that the County Council were acting recklessly in that they would spend millions of public money within a short time frame and that the whole concept of a permanent solution had not been well thought out.

All the Council felt some doubt with the technical advice given and wanted to know why in the interim, given the gravity of the road situation, a HGV ban had not been pursued.

Councillor Johnstone stated that the technical team had reported that the same method had been used on the A12 about 20 years ago and it had proved successful. She would chase County Council with regards to a possible HGV ban.

SJ

The Chairman requested that Mr Crosswell and other experts attend a meeting with the Parish Council as a matter of urgency, possibly before the January meeting, if that was not possible, then to attend the January Parish Council meeting to discuss this further. Councillor Johnstone agreed to try and arrange this.

SJ

### 230/11 District Council reports

Councillor Manning reported as District Councillor;

The District Council were waiting for the Localism Bill to detail the outcome of the Gypsy and Traveller Consultation. Councillor King asked how much public money had been spent to date on the consultation. Councillor Manning would find out and report at the next meeting.

RM

There had still been no applications from Willingham for the Community Chest grants.

No action as yet on Long Pond due to low rainfall.

### 231/11 Chairman's report

The Chairman reported:-

A letter had been received from the 'Friends of Willingham Library', thanking the Parish Council for their support during the recent review process. Such strong support helped demonstrate to the County Council just how important the Library was to the communities of Willingham and Over.

The Parish Council thanked WAG for the organised Litter Pick that had taken place in early November, a large turnout had made it a very successful event.

A letter of thanks had been received from the PCC of St Mary and All Saints church with regard to the recent work on the Tree's in the Cemetery.

There had been a recent spate of Burglaries in Willingham and residents should be aware. Lead had again been taken from the Church roof in Church Street.

*Q will?*

WAG had asked the Parish Council to address issues with regard to rubbish being found in the ditches/Lode and the Co-op car park having a Litter problem. The Parish Council thought it best to have a notice about this in the Willingham News so that residents could act on the information.

Actions  
W-News

The Clerk to also contact the Probation Officer with regards to Community Payback teams being able to do small tidying works on Parish Council Land.

Clerk/PK

The Rights of Way Officer at the County Council had been informed regarding a land tenants concern of the public trampling through his crops and rights of way, (*public footpath 10, between Rampton Rd and Mill Rd*).

**232/11 Reports from the following Committees, reports from lead councillors, any delegated decisions taken, and any recommendations**

**Finance and General Purpose Committee -**

Meeting held on 15 November – Councillor Foster proposed acceptance of the F & GP's committee's recommendation for precept for 2012/2013 of £109,000. Seconded by Councillor Hardman and **agreed** with twelve votes in favour and two abstentions.

There is a typing error on the presented Precept accounts,

Cleaning £300.00

Advertising £3,000.00

It should read, Cleaning £3,000 and Advertising £300. Clerk to inform the RFO.

Clerk/  
RFO

**Planning Committee -**

Planning Committee meetings held on 8 and 24 November 2011

Minutes circulated.

- Wall at Willingham House had been taken down under permitted development.
- PC Homecall sign – waiting for Heritage statement.
- Spong Drove – still ongoing in planning application stage.

**Green & Boundaries –**

Risk Assessment report received, still awaiting Village sign.

Councillor Kirkman is investigating the possibility again of installing a Map on the Village Green. Funding will be applied for using the SCDC Community Chest Fund. Councillor Kirk will obtain an estimate for the work and will report at the January meeting.

BK  
Jan MTG

**Cemetery –**

Fergusons to remove remaining diseased Cherry Tree in the Cemetery.

**Halls -**

– Car-park Extension – Paul Warrington would submit proposals before 14 December.

– Energy Audit received – No immediate action required, filed for future reference.

– New agreement for regular users of the Ploughman Hall – Councillor Foster has worked on this document and would circulate prior to the January meeting.

RF/  
Jan MTG

- H & Safety Audit - This was a very detailed report on all the Halls and the Sports Pavilion. Many actions that needed attention both in the short-term and the long-term. A working party to be decided to carry this forward.

Jan MTG

- Letter from the contractor Cleaner regarding increase in hourly rate – A letter had been received from the Contract cleaner, Mr Steve Oldham with regard to hourly rate which was currently £10 an hour. He requested an increase to £12 an hour to cover all costs of providing cleaning equipment. It was noted at the meeting that he had greatly improved the overall cleanliness of both the Ploughman Hall and the Pavilion. Councillor foster proposed to agree to the increase, seconded by Councillor Clarke and **agreed** unanimously. Clerk to inform the cleaner and produce a new contract with included increase.

Clerk

**Leisure and Amenities –**

– Pavilion – H & S Audit had been discussed at a recent Pavilion Management Committee meeting, many actions had arisen from this. List to be sent to the office to commence action.

Clerk to speak to Cleaner with regard to cleaning the Changing Rooms more frequently instead of the main common room.

WH/Clerk

<sup>W.S.C.</sup>  
Pavilion Committee is considering donating money to the Parish Council to provide a Storage container.

<sup>Q. White</sup>  
The Weather Vane and canopy had come off in the recent strong winds and tiles had been damaged. Clerk to contact Coulsons as hole left in roof needed to be addressed urgently to prevent more damage.

Clerk  
DC

*Q. White*

- Jubilee Field and Recreation Ground – Fergusons have done a major tidy up of the flailed areas and edges. The two Oak trees have now been planted in suitable area in the Jubilee field and WAG have taken on the role of planting improvements in the Jubilee field along the areas that have been cleared and tidied.
- There is a long term plan towards installing further play equipment and possible plan of outdoor gym and skate park. Plans on this were shown to the Council and discussion on possible funding sources took place. A public consultation on these and other ideas to be arranged once funding sources have been decided.
- The football wall graffiti art is now on hold due to the possibility it may have to be moved in the near future.

**Actions  
Clerk**

**Future  
MTG**

### 233/11 Accounts

#### Paid Items

Salaries	November		Salaries (a)	2706.82
Eon	Electricity Green		G & B (b)	78.29
Eon	Electricity Pavilion	L & A	(c)	114.35
Eon	Electricity Public Hall		Halls (d)	36.60
SCDC	Licence Ploughman	Halls	(e)	180.00
BT	Telephone		Est (f)	141.89
PC Business	Remote support		Est (g)	90.00

#### To Pay

D Fouracre	Pavilion toilets		L & A (h)	90.00
Camb Glass	Public Hall window	Halls	(i)	130.80
Coulsons	Ploughman Roof repairs	Halls	(j)	874.80
Konica Minolta	Photocopier		Est (k)	276.37
Konica Minolta	Photocopier		Est (l)	30.30
Garden Works	Rec ground trees		L & A (m)	3924.00
Will Youth Trust	Donation for youth	Section 142	(n)	389.95
Oldham Cleaning	Pavilion		L & A (o)	160.00
	Ploughman Hall		Halls (p)	200.00
Oldham Cleaning	Ploughman Hall		Halls (q)	35.00
Chris Cross	Benches & Pump		G & B (r)	931.00
	Play Area	L & A	(s)	40.00
Camb Acre	Energy Audit		Halls (t)	364.68
P cash	Office		Est (u)	93.63
P Cash	RFO Feb – Nov		Est (v)	187.21
Pete Cornish	Jubilee field signs & posts		L & A (w)	140.00

Subject to an alteration on amount invoiced for electricity on the Village green, it was discovered this had been estimated and in fact EON owed the Parish Council £106, which will sit on account to pay for the Christmas lights. Councillor Purnell proposed acceptance of the above accounts, seconded by Councillor King and **agreed** unanimously.

### 234/11 A bid for local minor Highway improvements

The Chairman read out the terms of funding/criteria detailed in the letter received from County Council. Councillor Purnell proposed applying for funding for the car-parking area/West fen Road improvements, this was seconded by Councillor Clarke and **agreed** with nine votes in favour, three against and one abstention. *(One Councillor was not in the room at the time of voting).*

**Clerk**

Councillor King proposed road safety improvements or a Zebra Crossing for Theodays Close to address the problem highlighted by the School on road crossing, seconded by Councillor Berry and **agreed** with eleven votes in favour and two abstentions. *(One Councillor was not in the room at the time of voting).*

**Clerk**

### 235/11 Improvements on the B1050

*See the discussion and response from Councillor Johnstone on the B1050 under Item 229/11. Report awaited.*

**SJ**

Councillor Manning reiterated the importance of a meeting with the engineers/consultants/CCC/Parish Council, as soon as possible.

**RM**

The Clerk has written to various Clerks in the surrounding parishes that use the road to ask them for their opinion and support.

### 236/11 Youth update -

- Youth Conversion at the Ploughman Hall – Initial plans by 14 December. Councillor Berry enquired whether a public outdoor toilet had been considered. It was thought this would be problematic and could attract vandalism.

- Update from CBP – The Connections Bus has new times of 7 – 9pm – noted.

- Football Wall graffiti art – deferred until January.

- WYT – There had been a meeting with the WYT and PC liaison group who had given WYT idea's/plans for them to follow for their suggested business plan.

Actions

### 237/11 Further idea's on an Olympic Party weekend

Councillor Berry has rung around for an idea of support for the event from local volunteer groups, in general it had been well received. Councillor Berry proposed that the PC put together a team of Councillors to run the event together with volunteers. There was no second for this proposal and the Chairman stated that although the PC felt it was a good idea, they were uncertain if the volunteers required would stay throughout the process of this big event, he also stated that in general Councillors felt that they couldn't commit to organising it. Councillor Berry stated that he was very disappointed with the general response.

### 238/11 Update on WPC Long Term Strategy

Deferred to the January Meeting.

Jan MTG

### 239/11 A response regarding bus timetables and receive a letter from a parishioner with regard to this

(previously discussed during Item 226/11)

It was felt that the service would be halved by introducing the Stagecoach proposal. Councillor Purnell proposed that the Chairman write to Mr Campbell at Stagecoach, this was seconded by Councillor Manning and was **agreed** with twelve votes in favour and one abstention. (one councillor was out of the meeting room at the time of voting).

AC

### 240/11 A donation for Over Day Centre

Councillor Manning reminded the Council that in the past £500 had been donated to Over Day Centre, however, they provided a very good facility and excellent service, he proposed £600. Seconded by Councillor Kirkman and **agreed** with twelve votes in favour and one abstention. (one councillor was out of the meeting room at the time of voting).

Clerk

### 241/11 Items for future meetings

Revised Bus Timetable – (Report from CCC)	Football Wall Graffiti Art – (L&A)
Map on the Green – (G&B)	Quotes and locations for new equipment – (L&A)
Regular User group agreement – (Halls)	WPC Long Term Strategy
Health & Safety Audit – (Halls + L&A)	B1050
	Whether Parish Councillors should have ID Cards

**Councillor Manning thanked Councillors King and Cook for providing the Mulled Wine and Mince Pies at the meeting, Councillor Cook thanked Mrs King for preparing these.**

### 242/11 Date of next meeting – Wednesday January 4<sup>th</sup> 2012

The meeting ended at 10:15pm

### Legislation governing payments

(a) LGA 1972 s112(2)

(b) LG (Misc Provs) Act 1976 s19(1)(b)

(c) Ditto

(d) Ditto

(e) LGA 1972 s143

(f) LGA 1972 s111

(g) Ditto

(h) LGA 1984 a(8)(1)(i)

(i) Ditto

(j) Ditto

(k) LGA 1972 s111

(l) Ditto

(m) Open Spaces Act 1906 s10

(n) LGA 1972 s142

(o) LGA 1984 a(8)(1)(i)

(p) Ditto

(q) Ditto

(r) Ditto

(s) Ditto

(t) Ditto

(u) LGA 1972 s111

(v) Ditto

(w) LGA 1984 a(8)(1)(i)

