

WILLINGHAM PARISH COUNCIL
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Minutes of the ordinary meeting of Willingham Parish Council held on Wednesday 4th March 2020 7.30pm, in the Octagon, St Mary and All Saints Church, Church Street, Willingham

Present:

Councillors: A Cook, Croft, Harris, L King, P King, Law, Manning, Mansfield, McKee, Tassell, Todd, Watson

County Councillor: Wotherspoon

District Councillor: Handley

Parishioners: Seven

Clerk: Mandy Powell

Compliance Administrator: Annika Osborne

34/20 Apologies for absence

Apologies were received from District Councillor Percival due to work commitments and Councillors Anderson and K Cook both due to personal reasons.

35/20 Declarations of interest

Item no: 44/20 – Councillor Manning declared a pecuniary interest as a recipient of a payment. Councillor Manning took no part in the discussion or vote on this item.

36/20 Public forum (*maximum 3 minutes per person, with an overall limit of 15 minutes*) All parishioners wishing to speak, must make their name known to the Clerk prior to the commencement of the meeting. Maximum of five people to speak. Large groups must decide on a spokesperson representative.

Meeting adjourned

Both applicants for the co-option vacancy presented themselves to Council and briefly explained why they wanted to join the Council.

A resident spoke regarding an additional Q&A session during the meeting. This item was on the agenda under Chair report

A resident addressed the Council regarding concerns about Coronavirus and the Chair confirmed that residents should follow Government and NHS guidelines.

A resident asked the Council whether it would be possible to move the speed sign located on Station Road to Earith Road. Councillor Harris confirmed he was having difficulty getting the Police or CCC to accept responsibility for the camera. Councillor Wotherspoon agreed to look into it.

Action: T Wotherspoon

Meeting reconvened

37/20 To consider applications received for co-option of Councillor vacancies.

The Council received two applications for co-option. The vote took place and James Hutchcraft was co-opted onto the Council. Councillor Hutchcraft signed his acceptance of office and joined the meeting.

38/20 To approve the minutes of the Parish Council meeting held on the 5th February 2020

Councillor Manning proposed the minutes be accepted as a true record of the meeting, seconded by Councillor Croft and **agreed** with ten votes in favour and two abstentions due to not being at the meeting

39/20 To deal with any matters arising from the minutes of the meeting on the 5th February not covered elsewhere on the agenda.

None

40/20 To receive and consider any County Council reports and communications not covered elsewhere on this agenda

Report previously circulated and tabled. Councillor Wotherspoon reported that CCC had been unsuccessful in its bid to the Challenge Fund for the B1050 on this occasion. Following questions Councillor Wotherspoon agreed to do the following:

- Continue to chase for updates on the A14 Legacy Grant application.
- Try to obtain a schedule of highways works for the village detailing what is scheduled and when it is likely to be done
- Make enquiries as to whether the pot hole outside Mannings Fruit Farm could be repaired by the land owner
- Investigate the inadequate signage to Willingham
- Establish some details of the accident on the B1050 in January which resulted in a car going into the river.
- To check the cost of signage on West Fen Road as no quote had been provided to the Parish Council

Action: T Wotherspoon

41/20 To receive and consider any District Council reports and communications not covered elsewhere on this agenda, including:

Report previously circulated and tabled. Questions were raised regarding the following:

- The dangers of bin operatives collecting on both sides of the road at the same time
- Planning delegation and the lack of applications going to committee
- Fly-tipping and Byway gates being left open (Councillor Handley agreed to ask for an officer to attend a meeting with the Parish Council and County Council on the 13th March)

Action: B Handley

42/20 Chair's report including:

To receive an update regarding a question and answer session and consider any actions.

The Clerk had been asked to look into this and the Chair reported that having taken legal advice and checked legislation that the Council should hold only one question and answer session during the meeting. Parishioners are currently given the opportunity to speak under the public forum and it was agreed that no additional session would be included.

To receive correspondence from a resident regarding speeding traffic in the village.

Correspondence had been received regarding speeding issues in the village and circulated to Councillors. The Clerk had responded explaining what measures were in place what measures were planned for the future.

To receive correspondence from residents regarding inconsiderate parking in the village

Correspondence had been received to which the Clerk had responded explaining the current situation regarding the Police being unable to enforce yellow lines. Some discussion took place around the lack of budget available and County and District level and the District Councillor was asked whether a pilot scheme could be set up possibly run by volunteers. Councillor Handley confirmed that legal advice would need to be sought.

Action: Bill Handley

43/20 To receive from the following Committees; reports from lead councillors, note any delegated decisions taken, and make any recommendations

F&GP Committee – updates including:

To receive notice of annual price increase for grounds maintenance

The Grounds maintenance company had written to the Clerk to advise of a 1% increase for 2020. Councillor Cook proposed the increase be accepted, seconded by Councillor Tassell and **agreed** unanimously.

Action: Clerk

To receive an update regarding the recent insurance claim and consider any actions

The Clerk reported that this was still ongoing and she had made a complaint to the insurance company.

Action: Clerk

Planning Committee – updates including:

Draft Planning minutes from the meeting held on 10th February 2020 had been previously circulated and noted.

HALLS – Updates including: (report tabled)

To receive and consider any quotations for replacement doors at the Ploughman Hall and public hall.

Three quotations had been requested and two received. Councillor Tassell reported that the doors were in a poor state and some were suffering from water ingress during heavy rainfall. Councillor Tassell proposed that in light of the issue of potential water damage that the Council did not continue to seek a third quotation but accepted the cheapest quotation from Spectrum . He confirmed that the majority of the expenditure would be taken from S106 monies allocated to the halls, with the balance coming from the halls budget. This was seconded by Councillor Harris and **agreed** with ten votes in favour and two abstentions.

Action: Clerk

Public Hall

Councillor Tassell reported that he had been looking at some of the longer-term issues with the hall and various maintenance issues. He would bring a proposal forward to a future meeting

Action: R Tassell

Cemetery – updates including

To receive and consider any quotations received for work to the cemetery gates.

Following clarification of the original quotation received in November 2019 an additional quotation had been obtained. Councillor Mansfield proposed that the quotation from Hibbert Masonery for £3,401.50 plus VAT be accepted, seconded by Councillor Watson and **agreed** unanimously.

Action: Clerk

Green & Boundaries – updates including: (report tabled)

To consider further tree planting and works on the Meadow Road site.

Councillor Manning reported that it was a little late in the year now to order the Silver Birch trees so this would be left until later in the year. He anticipated that about thirty trees would cost around £100 including compost etc.

Action: R Manning

To consider grazing on Meadow Road site

Following discussion it was agreed not to allow grazing on the site. It was also noted that there is no signage to the site making it difficult for some residents to locate it. Councillors Manning and Cook agreed to look into this.

Action: R Manning/A Cook

To receive an update regarding fly grazing and consider any actions

Councillor Manning had written to Lucy Frazer and was waiting for a response.

Annita Papworth Bench

Councillor Manning reported that the bench is in a poor state and quotes would be obtained for replacement and or repair.

Action: Clerk

Orchard Entrance

Work is ongoing to improve the entrance area and thanks were given to Councillor Cook for his efforts.

Action: R Manning/A Cook

Land Ground

This area would need some work over the coming year and Councillor Manning would keep an eye on it.

Action: R Manning

Leisure & Amenities - updates including:

To receive an update on the MUGA, including the flood risk assessment and consider any actions and quotations received.

Three quotations had been received for a flood risk assessment (tabled) and Councillor L King confirmed that the work would be placed with Ellingham.

Action: Clerk

44/20 Monthly accounts for payment

Paid Items

Pozitive Energy	Elec Ploughman Hall	Halls	£ 99.17
Pozitive Energy	Elec Public Hall	Halls	£ 59.99
Pozitive Energy	Gas Pavilion	L&A	£ 30.60
Pozitive Energy	Elec Pavilion	L&A	£122.85
Haven Power	Street lighting	G&B	£ 76.65
Haven Power	Street lighting	G&B	£ 4.70
Haven Power	Street Lighting	G&B	£ 2.44
BT	Phone/Broadband	Est	£218.30

Paid by Credit Card

Amazon	Power Supply office	Est	£139.70
Amazon	Door Hook Ploughman	Hall	£ 6.95

To be Paid

MD Contracting	Flailing Meadow Road	G&B	£189.00
MD Contracting	Flailing Community Orchard	G&B	£462.00
Edge IT Systems	Epitaph Annual Fee	Est	£246.00
CAPALC	Staff training	Est	£ 10.00
SLCC	Clerk Annual Conference	Est	£464.00
Cambs County Council	Local Highways Scheme Cont	Est	£350.00
Manning & Son	Compost of Tree planting	G&B	£ 72.00
Cromwell Fire	Intruder Alarm service Pl Hall	Halls	£114.00
Cromwell Fire	Intruder alarm Service Pav	L&A	£114.00

Due to RFO's absence salaries have been paid and will be reported on the accounts at the March meeting. Councillor Tassell proposed the accounts be accepted as listed, seconded by Councillor Harris and **agreed** with eleven votes in favour and one abstention due to declaration of interest.

Action: RFO

45/20 Police update

Report previously circulated. Councillor Law reported that patrols continue in and around Willingham. He had also attended a recent Neighbourhood Watch meeting where the Police had confirmed that the perpetrators of the recent car damage on Church Street had been identified and cautioned.

46/20 To receive an update on HCVs and traffic issues and consider any actions including:

Councillor Harris reported that he had recently attended an HCV meeting and reported that some recent ANPR checks had been carried out on the A1123 to ascertain how many HCVs were going straight through the route (which they're not supposed to do). Results indicated that around 90% were not going all the way through

Concerns were raised about the amount of traffic using Church Street and Councillor Harris agreed to locate the traffic counter and recorder there for a week or two to collect data and would report back.

Action: N Harris

47/20 To receive an update from the Defibrillator working group and consider any quotations/actions

This item was taken before 46/20 and Councillor Law reported this was still ongoing.

48/20 Items for future meeting

Annita Papworth bench
Meadow Road trees (October)
Defibrillator
Traffic monitoring – Church Street

49/20 Date of next meeting: 1st April 2020

Meeting closed 9.06pm