

WILLINGHAM PARISH COUNCIL

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Minutes of the Ordinary Meeting of Willingham Parish Council, held on Wednesday 2nd December 2020 at 7.30pm (meeting held remotely)

Present: Councillors: Harris, Law (Chair), P King, L King, Mansfield, Hutchcraft, Croft, McKee, Watson, A Cook, K Cook

County Councillor: Wotherspoon

District Councillors: Handley and Percival

Parishioners: three

Clerk: Mandy Powell

Compliance Administrator: Annika Osborne

170/20 To receive apologies for absence

In accordance with item no 119/20 apologies were received and agreed from Councillors, Manning, Todd, Tassell and Anderson

171/20 Declarations of interest

None declared

172/20 Public forum (*maximum 3 minutes per person, with an overall limit of 15 minutes*) All

No members of the public wished to speak.

173/20 To approve the minutes of the Parish Council meeting held on the 4th November 2020

Councillor Hutchcraft proposed the minutes be accepted as a true record of the meeting, seconded by Councillor Watson and **agreed** nine votes in favour and three abstentions due to not being at the meeting. (Due to Covid restrictions, Minutes to be signed at a later date)

174/20 To deal with any matters arising from the minutes of the meeting on the 4th November not covered elsewhere on the agenda including:

Signing of approved minutes

Due to the length of time that remote meetings had been taking place, it was agreed that the Chair and the Chair of Planning would sign the previously approved minutes over the Christmas period.

Various ongoing highway issues

Councillor Wotherspoon confirmed that the officer was now back at work and he would be trying to arrange a walk round. The Clerk was asked to confirm the outstanding items within the village

Action: T Wotherspoon/Clerk

175/20 To receive and consider any County Council reports and communications not covered elsewhere on this agenda

No report provided. Councillor Wotherspoon was asked to look in the pothole on Church Street outside the church and also the area outside the barbers on the High St as the tarmac was creeping up onto the pavement

Action: T Wotherspoon

176/20 To receive and consider any District Council reports and communications not covered elsewhere on this agenda, including:

Report previously circulated. Councillor Handley confirmed that the community warden scheme was now up and running and he agreed to approach the community lifeline team to ascertain need within that group of people.

Action: B Handley

Councillor Handley agreed to find out what happens next following the Northstowe Governance Review and report back to the Council.

Action: B Handley

Concerns were also raised about the increase in fly tipping around the village. Both the District and County Councillors were asked to push for central Government to bring about a change in legislation so these issues could be tackled fully.

177/20 Chair's report including:

To receive correspondence from a resident regarding the speed of traffic on Station Road and consider any actions.

Letter from resident and Clerk's response previously circulated. The Chair confirmed that the Council would not be permitted to have either speed bumps or chicanes on Station Road but hoped that the minor highways bid for a 40mph buffer and associated works at the Earith Road end of the village would help. The feasibility study had been carried out by CCC for this scheme and would be put forward for consideration by CCC.

Willingham News contributors

The rota of Council contributors was one short. No volunteers stepped forward at the meeting, but Councillors were asked to let the Clerk know if they would be willing to contribute.

Action: All

SCDC Covid Community Briefing meetings

The Chair had attended the recent meeting and confirmed that the next meeting would be on the 10th December (6pm)

Action: D Law/ Clerk

Correspondence from a resident regarding dog walking and the Haden Way Development

Correspondence had been received and the Chair confirmed that as advised previously there was no current availability central to the village. The Clerk had received confirmation from SCDC that no infringements had taken place on the Haden Way development and the resident had been advised according.

Solar Together

The Council had expressed an interest in the scheme run by SCDC and a quotation had been received at between £6,000 and £9,000. It was agreed that the Council did not currently have the funds to pursue the scheme at the present time.

178/20 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 ratify the minutes of the meeting held on the 17th November 2020

Councillor Harris proposed the minutes be accepted as a true record of the meeting, seconded by Councillor L King, and **agreed** with six votes in favour and five abstentions due to not being at the meeting.

To ratify the budgets for 2021/2022 as recommended by the F&GP Committee

The proposed budgets had been previously circulated, and Councillor Law proposed the Council agree the budgets as recommended by the F&GP Committee, seconded by Councillor L King, and **agreed** unanimously.

Action: RFO

To ratify the Precept demand for 2021/2022 as recommended by the F&GP Committee.

The F&GP Committee had recommended a precept request of £135,000. Councillor Harris proposed the Council agree the recommendation and set the precept accordingly, seconded by Councillor K Cook and **agreed** unanimously

Action: Clerk

To receive an update regarding the proposed land donation and ratify the land transfer deed Paperwork previously circulated. The Clerk had received the transfer deeds for the land on Black Pit Drove. Although the transfer deed gives the land to the Council with no covenants/ties as to the future use, the owner has requested that the Council commit to retaining the land as an open natural amenity space for parishioners to use. Councillor Law proposed the Council complete the transfer and agree to the Chair and Vice signing the transfer deed on behalf of the Council. This was seconded by Councillor Hutchcraft and **agreed** unanimously.

Action: D Law/P King/Clerk

Planning Committee – updates including:

To receive draft planning minutes from meetings held on the 18th November 2020

Draft minutes were previously circulated, and no questions were raised. The next planning meeting would be on Monday 7th December.

Action: Planning Committee

To receive an update regarding the Northstowe Governance Review and consider any actions

This was also discussed under Chair's report. South Cambs District Council had considered the Governance Review at its meeting on the 26th November and confirmed that the area of Longstanton located north of the guided busway would become part of Willingham. This would result in elections taking place in May at which point Councillors would be elected for a five-year term.

HALLS – Updates including:

Nothing to report

Cemetery – updates including

To receive an update on the cemetery wall and consider any actions.

Gawn had sent their report on the damaged wall and the options available to the Council moving forward. The Clerk was asked to obtain quotations for a full assessment of the trees along the wall including their life expectancy and potential impact on the wall in the future.

Action: Clerk

Green & Boundaries – updates including:

To receive and consider quotation for flailing at the Community Orchard and Meadow Road sites

A quotation had been received from MD Contracting for £440 for the Orchard and £280 for Meadow Road. Councillor A Cook proposed the quotations be accepted, seconded by Councillor Watson, and **agreed** unanimously.

Action: Clerk

To receive an update regarding rights of way in Willingham and consider any actions

Correspondence had been received from a parishioner regarding registering unmapped rights of way in and around the village. The Clerk was asked to respond confirming that the Council agreed it was important that footpaths that were not listed on the definitive map should be registered so that they are not lost and were supportive of the parishioners actions with regards to this. They would be happy to advertise the project on their Facebook page and website etc.

Action: Clerk

Leisure & Amenities - updates including:

Report previously circulated.

To receive and consider quotations for the cycle store on the recreation ground.

Three quotations had been received but needed some further investigation. Councillor L King proposed that the Council delegate the decision of which company to go with to Councillors L King, D Law and S Croft with a maximum expenditure of £9,000. This was seconded by Councillor McKee and **agreed** unanimously. Monies would be taken from the S106 Brickhills allocation.

Action: L King, D Law, S Croft

To receive and consider quotations for table tennis tables on the QEII Field

Three quotations had been received and Councillor L King proposed the Council accept the quotation from Caloo at £7,414 + Vat for 2 x tables and bases. The monies would be taken from the S106 (Brickhills) allocation. This was seconded by Councillor Harris and **agreed** unanimously.

Action: Clerk

Councillors Law, Watson and L King would meet to decide on the best location for the tables.

Action: L King

To receive an update regarding maintenance/drainage on the Recreation Ground and consider any actions.

Councillor L King summarised the verti drain work currently being undertaken on the top recreation ground by the Wolves and proposed that the Council agree to the same work being carried out on the lower recreation ground in the Spring. The total cost would be £2,600 (subject to a discount from Hansen). The Wolves would donate £1,000 and the Council would make up the difference (maximum £1,600). If the project proves to be successful, they would look at the treatment on an annual basis. This was seconded by councillor Croft and **agreed** unanimously.

Action: L King/Clerk

179/20 Monthly accounts for payment

Paid Items

Salaries	November	Salaries	2778.67
Paye	November	Salaries	667.38
Nest Pension	November	Pension	127.89

Items paid by direct debit

Pozitive	Pavilion Electric	L & A	97.15
Pozitive	Pavilion Gas	L & A	16.02
Pozitive	Public Hall Electric	Halls	28.09
Pozitive	Ploughman Electric	Halls	400.70
Haven Power	Street Lighting	G & B	83.79

Items paid by Bank transfer

Buchans	Village Cuts	Est	977.85
Wave (Anglian Wat)	Ploughman/Pavilion	L & A/Halls	60.87
Andrew Deptford	Defib light	Est	54.00
Camb Signs	Signs	L & A	428.04

To be Paid by bank transfer

Suds & Bubbles	Cleaning Ploughman	Halls	520.00
Suds & Bubbles	Pavilion Cleaning	L & A	281.00
Suds & Bubbles	Office Cleaning	L & A	40.00

To Pay

Lawn Hopper	Winter treatment	L & A	46.00
Lawn Hopper	Autumn treatment	L & A	46.00
ESPI Ltd	Annual support	Est	734.00
Atlas Tree	Remove dead hedge	L & A	84.00
Co-op phone	Mobile phone	Will Hub	51.00
Binder	Pumping Station Pav	L&A	93.00
GAWN	Cem Wall survey	Cem	300.00

Items paid by credit card

34SP	Domain renewal	Est	7.50
Planning Portal	MUGA Planning	L & A	256.00
Amazon	Stationery	Est	82.73
Amazon	Stationery	Est	72.77
Stampit	Seal	Est	59.98
Amazon	Cable ties	L & A	4.75

Councillor A Cook proposed the accounts be agreed as listed, seconded by Councillor Watson, and **agreed** unanimously.

Action: RFO

180/20 Police update including:

Report previously circulated.

To receive any updates regarding the proposed reduction of local PCSOs and consider any further actions

Following the recent announcement for the reduction in PCSOs the Council had written to Lucy Frazer MP, the Crime Commissioner and Chief Constable to implore them to reconsider their decision. The Village Facebook page were forming an on-line petition objecting to the reduction in numbers and the possible fall in Police support for the village and requested that the petition be raised in the name of the Council. Following a long discussion where various strong views were expressed, Councillor Hutchcraft proposed that the Council agree to this request, seconded by Councillor P King, with two votes in favour, three against and six abstentions. **The vote was not carried.** Councillor Law suggested that as the Council had already written to the appropriate parties, the petition would most likely carry more weight if it were put forward by an additional organisation such as Neighbourhood Watch.

Action: J Hutchcraft

Recent Vehicle Vandalism

Following the recent night of vandalism, Councillor Hutchcraft had been asked by the village Facebook team to put forward a statement on behalf of the Council which would be included in a piece being put forward to the Cambridge News by the village Facebook page. Councillor Hutchcraft proposed the Council agree to the statement (which had been previously circulated), this was seconded by councillor Law and **agreed** with six votes in favour, two against and three abstentions.

Action: J Hutchcraft

The Facebook group would also be launching a text alert system and Councillor Hutchcraft proposed that the Council agree to print the leaflets at the Council's expense (expected to be less than £100 including the Clerk's time). This was seconded by Councillor Law and **agreed** with seven votes in favour and four abstentions.

Action: Clerk

181/20 To receive an update on HCVs and traffic issues and consider any actions including:

Update on minor highways bid

This was discussed under the Chair's report

Councillor Harris agreed to ask the officer to look at the entrance to the Orchard when assessing what was needed for the minor highways bid and also the A14 legacy grant application as he would be actioning both.

Action: N Harris

182/20 To consider renewal of energy contracts

Three quotes had been received and it was agreed to delegate the decision the Chair, Vice Chair and Clerk, who would then place the order.

Action: D Law, P King, Clerk

183/20 To receive an update on the Defibrillator for the High Street and consider any actions.

Councillor Hutchcraft reported that as the National Lottery have again changed their criteria for their grant he would be reapplying. Fen Edge had also accepted his grant application for a donation of up to £1,000. Councillor Hutchcraft would report back at the January meeting.

Action: J Hutchcraft

184/20 Items for future meeting

Defibrillator

Willingham News contributors

Tree Planting

185/20 Date of next meeting – 13th January 2021 (2nd Wednesday of the month)

Meeting closed at 21:46