

WILLINGHAM PARISH COUNCIL

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Minutes of the Ordinary Meeting of Willingham Parish Council, held on Wednesday 7th September 2022 at 7.30pm in the Octagon at St Mary and All Saints Church, Church Street, Willingham

Present: Councillors: Clark, Harris, Hutchcraft, L King, P King, Law (Chair), Mansfield, McKee, Rogers, Smith, Watson, Ramsden

County Councillor: Gough

District Councillor: Handley, Lentell

Parishioners: Four

Clerk: Mandy Powell

133/22 To receive apologies for absence.

None received.

134/22 Declarations of interest.

None declared.

135/22 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.

A resident provided some history regarding the public hall and previous Council investigations into selling it about twenty years ago.

Arman Memarzadeh introduced himself to the Council and explained his reasons for applying for co-option.

136/22 To approve the minutes of the Parish Council meeting held on the 3rd August 2022.

Councillor Watson proposed the minutes be accepted as a true record of the meeting, seconded by Councillor Ramsden, and **ratified** unanimously.

137/22 To deal with any matters arising from the minutes of the meeting on the 3rd August 2022 not covered elsewhere on the agenda.

None raised.

138/22 To consider applications for co-option to the position of Councillor.

Arman Memarzadeh had submitted an application and voting slips had been distributed to Councillors.

Councillor P King proposed Mr Memarzadeh be co-opted onto the Council seconded by Councillor Harris and **ratified** unanimously (via voting slips).

Mr Memarzadeh signed his acceptance of office and joined the meeting. He did not vote on any of the items during the meeting as he had not completed his register of interests. (He was not included in the vote numbers for items ratified)

Action: Clerk

139/22 To receive and consider any County Council reports and communications not covered elsewhere on this agenda including:

Report previously circulated.

An update on the costs to-date for the B1050

Councillor Gough confirmed that the costs were approximately fifty to one hundred thousand pounds per year. County Council are waiting for the results of the recent piling survey to feed into the cost of the future update work.

Concerns were raised regarding traffic calming and speeding including the possibility of installing speed bumps on Earith Road.

Councillor Gough was asked if a cycle route could be included in the B1050 works and confirmed that no decision had been made and it would probably depend on the results of the piling survey and economics.

Councillor Gough was reminded that the boundary signs on Over Road and Station Road had still not been moved.

Action: N Gough

The Clerk was asked to check with Highways as to whether surfacing work was scheduled for Meadow Road and what the road closures signs were for.

Action: Clerk

140/22 To receive and consider any District Council reports and communications not covered elsewhere on this agenda, including:

Report previously circulated. Councillor Handley reported that the lack of connectivity of buses for Fen Edge villages was raised during the Cambridgeshire and Peterborough Partnership meeting.

Councillor Lentell reported on the recent meeting held with the Police Crime Commissioner and Councillor Harris and confirmed that speeding was raised, and it was felt important that the village look at reinstating speedwatch. It was hoped that this along with web-based reporting would help to build an evidence base so that resources can be targeted where they are needed.

141/22 Chair's report including:

To receive an update on the medical practice meeting and consider any actions

Due to the resignation of the Chairman, the meeting had been postponed. It would be reconvened once the new Chair was in post.

To consider donation for memorial wreath

Councillor Smith proposed the Council purchase the wreath with a donation of £100, seconded by Councillor Hutchcraft and **ratified** unanimously. It was agreed that the wreath would be purchased via the local branch of the British Legion rather than directly online.

Action: Clerk

To receive correspondence from Lucy Frazer MP and consider any response.

Correspondence had been received asking if the Council needed support with any specific projects or issues and the Chair advised the Council to let the Clerk know if they had any suggestions.

To receive information regarding Cambs ACRE 'Warm Hubs' and consider any actions

Councillor P King proposed that the Council write to the Churches, Willingham Youth Trust, and Wilford Furlong Community Centre to offer our support were they to run a Hub. In addition, the Council would set aside £1,000 to be passed as needed under the approval of the Chair/Vice Chair and Clerk. This was seconded by Councillor Hutchcraft and **ratified** with ten votes in favour and two objections.

Action: Clerk

Councillor P King volunteered to attend the meeting run by ACRE regarding the 'Warm Hubs'

Action: P King

142/22 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 and consider insurance renewal

Previously circulated. The premium had increased from £5,207.31 to £5,463.92. The Council were in a 3 year long term agreement and Councillor Law proposed the Council accept the renewal as circulated, seconded by Councillor L King, and **ratified** unanimously.

Action: RFO

To receive external audit report and consider any actions

The External Auditor had completed their audit and confirmed that they had no concerns. Councillor Hutchcraft proposed the Council accept the findings of the External Auditor and their report, seconded by Councillor Smith, and **ratified** unanimously.

To receive and consider quotations for survey of parish council trees

Quotes had been previously circulated, and Councillor Harris proposed the Council accept the quotation from Andrew Belson at £1,740 including VAT. Seconded by Councillor Ramsden and **ratified** unanimously.

Action: Clerk

To receive information regarding external audit opt in and consider any actions

Councillor P King proposed that the Council continue to opt in to the central scheme for allocation of external auditors, seconded by Councillor Hutchcraft and **ratified** unanimously.

To receive an update on the opening of a new bank account

This is ongoing

Planning Committee – updates including:

To receive and note draft minutes from meetings held on 17th August and 5th September 2022

Previously circulated and noted. Councillor Harris reported that he was intending to respond to the calls for site survey and that he had along with Councillor Watson met the owner of a new location that had been added to the plan. The Planning committee had agreed to respond to this particular location confirming the Council had no concerns regarding development up to the village envelope but would not be happy with anything beyond that point. It was agreed that Councillor Harris should continue as recommended by planning.

HALLS – Updates including:

To receive an update and consider any actions regarding future plans for the Public Hall

Councillor Smith summarised the actions to date and confirmed that the article for the Willingham News this month would be regarding the hall only. Public meetings and drop-in sessions had been scheduled and included in the Willingham News article and information would also be added to the website.

To receive notice of accident report for the ploughman hall and consider any actions

The Clerk summarised the incident and it was duly noted.

Cemetery – updates including

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

This was ongoing.

Councillor Mansfield also reported that she had met with SCDC officers and the Diocese regarding the trip hazard in the closed churchyard. SCDC were now having to apply for a faculty and would report back in due course.

Green & Boundaries – updates including:

To consider additional information relating to proposal from Willingham Action Group for the future management of the Orchard

Report had been previously circulated. Councillor L King proposed that the Council agree to the proposal of the Council taking over the funding moving forward and that the volunteers complete a volunteer agreement and move under the umbrella of the Parish Council.

Action: Clerk

To receive and consider name proposals for the Meadow Road site.

Various options had been put forward and Councillor Watson proposed that the name ‘Wildlife Meadow’ be accepted, seconded by Councillor Ramsden, and **ratified** unanimously.

To receive an update regarding additional benches in the village and consider any actions.

Still ongoing

To receive and consider quotations for flailing of the hedges in the community orchard

Two quotations were received and Councillor Watson proposed that the quotation from Oliver Gawthrop at £534 + VAT be accepted, seconded by Councillor Ramsden and **ratified** unanimously.

Leisure & Amenities - updates including:

To receive an update on the multi-use games area and consider any actions.

Councillor L King reported that she was hoping to submit the application by the end of the week.

143/22 Monthly accounts for payment

Paid Items:

Salaries	August	Salaries	4041.64
PAYE	August	Salaries	884.02
Nest Pension	August	Salaries	170.19
Buchans	Grass cutting village	Est	1859.77
Andrew Deptford	Defib charge stick	Est	118.80
Samuel Moss	Refund Ploughman	Halls	100.00
CBE Ltd	Rec lights	L & A	264.00

Items paid by Direct Debit

British gas	Gas Pavilion	L & A	25.82
British gas	Electricity Public H	Halls	40.33
British gas	Electricity Plough	Halls	99.42
British gas	Pavilion Pav	L & A	93.61

Drax	Street Lighting	G & B	18.65
<u>Items paid by credit card:</u>			
HMRC	Land search	Est	3.00
Amazon	Charger	G & B	15.98
Amazon	Stationery	Est	84.06
Amazon	CCTV Camera	G & B	194.99
Amazon	Paper towels	Est	38.98
<u>Items to be paid by BACS:</u>			
Suds & Bubbles	Cleaning	L&A/Halls/Est	841.00
Co-op Phones	Will Hub Phones	Will Hub	10.20
Cromwell Fire	Ploughman fire ext	Halls	377.74
Cromwell Fire	Pavilion fire ext	L & A	211.29
Cromwell Fire	Public Hall fire ext	Halls	216.20
Cromwell Fire	Recharge to Wolves	Recharge	72.04
Atlas Tree Surgery	Willow Barton Field	G & B	84.00
Proludic	Parts for play equip	L&A	30.89
Will PCC	Octagon Hire	Est	50.00
PJ Little John	External Audit	Est	480.00

Councillor Smith proposed the accounts be accepted as a true record of the meeting, seconded by Councillor Clark, and **ratified** unanimously.

144/22 Police update including:

Councillor Hutchcraft thanked Councillors Harris and Lentell for attending the meeting with the Crime Commissioner and also reported that he had received correspondence regarding the prevention of ram raiding of ATMs. It was confirmed that the Co-Op had removed theirs.

145/22 To receive an update on HCVs and traffic issues and consider any actions including:

To receive information regarding the Parish Council's minor highways bid including the additional signage near the school and consider any actions.

Councillor Harris proposed that the Council approve the additional signage in principle to be reviewed when costings were known, seconded by Councillor McKee, and **ratified** unanimously.

To receive notice of traffic regulation orders for Willingham and consider a response

Councillor Smith left the meeting room (20:57)

It was agreed that Councillor Harris would look into this further and report back to the Council.

146/22 Environment and Sustainability update including:

To receive an update on the electrical car charging project and consider any actions

The Clerk confirmed that no interest had been expressed to date and would report back at a later date.

Flower Tubs

Councillor L King reported that the gardening club had been asked if they were willing to take over the watering of the tubs and she was waiting a response. Councillor King also reported that thanks to Mr and Mrs Garner the new hedge on Barton Field and been water during the recent dry spell.

147/22 Items for future meetings.

- TRO Village Green
- Speedwatch, plus additional speed indication device.
- Public Hall
- Benches
- Meadow Road

Councillor Smith returned to the meeting: 21:07

148/22 Date of next meeting - 5th October 2022

Meeting closed at 21:07