

WILLINGHAM PARISH COUNCIL

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

Present: Councillors: Harris, L King, P King (Chair), Mansfield, Rogers (19:35), Watson, McKee,
District Councillor: Handley
Parishioners: Three

Clerk: Mandy Powell
Deputy Clerk: Amy Rudderham

186/22 To receive apologies for absence.

Apologies were received and ratified from the following Councillors:

Gibbs, Hutchcraft, Law with personal commitments; Councillors Memarzadeh, Clark and Smith with work commitments; Councillor Ramsden was unwell. Apologies were also received from District Councillor Lentell and County Councillor Gough.

187/22 Declarations of interest.

None

188/22 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 addressed the Council regarding speedwatch and asked the Council to support the scheme and to encourage local haulage firms to adopt the 20mph scheme as per Mick George.

189/22 To approve the minutes of the Parish Council meeting held on the 2nd November 2022.

Councillor Harris proposed the minutes be accepted as a true record of the meeting, seconded by Councillor McKee, and **ratified** with four votes in favour and two abstentions due to not being at the meeting.

190/22 To deal with any matters arising from the minutes of the meeting on the 2nd November 2022 not covered elsewhere on the agenda.

It was noted that although Councillor Lentell was not present at the meeting his report had been circulated ahead of the meeting and no questions were raised.

Councillor Rogers joined the meeting

191/22 To receive and consider any County Council reports and communications not covered elsewhere on this agenda including:

Report previously circulated. Concerns were raised regarding the amount of mud on the road near the new development at the top of Meadow Road. The Clerk was asked to report the issue to Highways and Councillor Handley agreed to check with planning as to whether there were any planning obligations to keep the road clean.

Actions: B Handley/Clerk

Concerns were raised regarding the delay in the commencement of the B1050 works and Councillor Harris proposed that as the County have delayed the project, the Council write to County Council requesting that until the works are conducted a temporary 7.5 tonne weight limit be put in place to prevent any further damage.

Action: Clerk

192/22 To receive and consider any District Council reports and communications not covered elsewhere on this agenda, including:

Both Councillor Handley's and Councillor Lentell's reports had been previously circulated.

Councillor Handley reported the urgent need for host families for Ukraine refugees and also asked the Parish Council to respond to the Greater Cambridge Partnership making connections consultation. Councillor L King expressed concern with regards to the bus service needing two buses to get to Cambridge and one only being hourly was unlikely to encourage people out of their cars. Councillor Harris asked whether the scheme being run in West Cambridgeshire would be suitable for Willingham and neighbouring villages. Councillor Handley reiterated that the bus service would be improved prior to any congestion charge being put in place and he was asked to provide whatever support possible to ensure that Willingham receives a better bus service for its residents.

Action: B Handley

193/22 Chair's report including:

To receive an update regarding the red horse chestnut tree on the Green and consider any actions.

The Council had received a complaint regarding its handling of the memorial on the village green. The Chair apologised unreservedly to the family concerned for the Council's poor handling of the situation. A family member stated that the communication from the Parish Council had been very poor and insensitive and hoped that lessons had been learnt.

The Chair confirmed that the tree was diseased and would need to be removed and Councillor Harris proposed that the Council consult with the family regarding a suitable replacement, seconded by Councillor Mansfield and **ratified** unanimously.

Action: Clerk

To receive correspondence from Cambridgeshire County Council Care Together and consider any actions.

Correspondence previously circulated. The Care Together Team had asked to attend the January meeting. Councillor Handley agreed to obtain some further information which would be circulated to the Council so that a decision could be made.

Action: B Handley/Clerk

Death of Bill Kirkman

The Chair reported that sadly Bill Kirkman had recently passed away. Bill had been a member of the Parish Council for many years and had been very actively involved in the village including the redesign of the village green and early improvements to the Public Hall. Bill would be sadly missed by the Council and all who knew him.

194/22 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 minutes from F&GP Meeting held on the 16th November 2022 and ratify any recommendations made by the committee

Councillor Watson proposed that the Council agree the recommendations made by the F&GP Committee with regards to the staff salary review and the patient participation group, seconded by Councillor Harris and **ratified** unanimously.

Action: Clerk

To ratify the minutes of the F&GP Meeting held on 30th November 2022

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

To ratify any recommendations made by the F&GP Committee during its meeting of 30th November 2022 (other than budget and precept)

Deputy Clerk probationary period

Councillor Harris proposed the recommendation from the F&GP Committee be agreed, seconded by Councillor L King, and **ratified** unanimously.

Action: Clerk

To ratify the budgets for 2023-2024 as recommended by the F&GP Committee

Councillor Watson proposed the Council agree the budgets as below recommended by the F&GP Committee, seconded by Councillor Watson, and **ratified** unanimously.

Cemetery:	£29,300
F&GP:	£142,253
G&B:	£10,800
L&A:	£43,750
Halls:	£24,750

To ratify the precept demand for 2023-2024 as recommended by the F&GP Committee

Councillor Harris proposed the Council agree the recommendation of the F&GP Committee and make a precept request of £166,600. Seconded by Councillor Mansfield and **ratified** unanimously.

Action: Clerk

Planning Committee – updates including:

To receive draft minutes from meetings held on 14th November and 5th December 2022 and consider any actions.
Previously circulated, no questions raised.

HALLS – Updates including:

To receive an update and consider any actions regarding future for the Public Hall
Ongoing, the Council was waiting to hear from the Scout Group.

Cemetery – updates including

Councillor Mansfield reported that the issue with wine bottles being dumped in the cemetery appeared to be lessening as no bottles had been found recently. She also reported that following concerns raised by a resident regarding the stability of the cemetery wall, Gawn had been asked to reinspect it. The Clerk had received a verbal report to confirm that the wall is not in danger of falling down and the Council would need to make medium term plans to replace that section. The written report would follow during the next week.

Green & Boundaries – updates including:

To receive and consider proposal for future enhancement of the Wildlife Meadow (Meadow Road site)

Councillor Watson summarised his report which had been previously circulated and confirmed that Cambridgeshire ACRE would like to add a wildlife pond to the site. Funding would be from their Lottery Grant funding and at no cost to the Council. Councillor Watson proposed that the Council delegate authority to himself, the Chair and Vice Chair to meet with ACRE and decide on behalf of the Council as to whether to move forward with the scheme. Seconded by Councillor McKee and **ratified** unanimously.

Action: Clerk

To consider request for placement of a memorial bench in the community orchard.

Councillor Watson, proposed the Council approve the request, seconded by Councillor Rogers, and **ratified** unanimously.

Action: Clerk

Leisure & Amenities – updates including:

To receive an update on storage at the pavilion and consider any proposals.

This was ongoing and was deferred to a future meeting.

To receive an update regarding the floodlights at the pavilion and consider any actions.

This was ongoing and was deferred to a future meeting.

MUGA

Councillor L King reported that she and the Clerk were liaising with the Planning department but were still waiting for a response with regards to the way forward. Councillor Handley offered to speak to planning and the Clerk would pass on the details to him.

Action: Clerk/B Handley

195/22 Monthly accounts for payment

Paid Items

Salaries	November	Salaries	4094.96
Paye	November	Salaries	795.91
Nest Pension	November	Pension	176.43

Items paid by direct debit

British gas	Pavilion Electric	L & A	66.86
British gas	Pavilion Gas	L & A	34.35
British gas	Public Hall Electric	Halls	49.46
British gas	Ploughman Electric	Halls	354.56
British gas	Village green	G & B	24.67
DRAX	Street Lighting	G & B	18.65
Co-op Phone	Mobile Phone	Will Hub	10.20

Items paid by Bank transfer

Buchans	Village Cuts	Est	2337.89
A J King	Verti Draining	L & A	1236.00
T Beckett Roofing	Replace tiles	Halls	416.40
Comm Road Watch	Batteries	Est	228.00
Comm Road Watch	Donation	Donations	100.00
Com Heart Beat	New Defib	Est	2556.00
Will News	Advertisement	Halls	384.00
Hall deposit return	Various	Halls	300.00

Items paid by credit card

SLCC	Membership	Est	144.00
Lebara Mobile	Phone	G & B	8.75
34SP	Hosting	Est	7.95
Viking	Stationery	Est	16.80
Grassmats	Plastic Pegs	L & A	24.00

Timpson	Keys	L & A	20.00
Timpson	Keys	G & B	12.00
Co-operation	Bin bags	Est	8.40
<u>To be Paid by bank transfer</u>			
Suds & Bubbles	Cleaning Ploughman	Halls	520.00
Suds & Bubbles	Pavilion Cleaning	L & A	281.00
Suds & Bubbles	Office Cleaning	L & A	40.00
OS Gawthroup	Hedge flailing	G & B	756.00
ESPI	Network Support	Est	763.20
Lexis Nexis	Arnold Baker Book	Est	131.99
ACA Heating	6 months water check	Halls/L & A	273.60

Action: RFO

Councillor Mansfield proposed the accounts be paid as listed and in addition as the January meeting was to be held a week later than usual to pay Suds and Bubbles ahead of the meeting. Seconded by Councillor Watson and **ratified** unanimously.

196/22 Police update including:

Nothing to report.

197/22 To receive an update on HCVs and traffic issues and consider any actions including:

To receive an update regarding speedwatch and consider any actions.

Paperwork previously circulated. Councillor Harris reported that there was interest from residents to set up a scheme on Earith Road. They would need to use the Council's SIDS and then training and additional equipment would be provided by the Police. Councillor Harris proposed that the Council help facilitate the setting up of the group by producing flyers for distribution and allow them use of the SIDS. Councillor Harris offered to oversee the initial set up and help where possible. Seconded by Councillor L King and **ratified** unanimously.

Action: N Harris

Councillor Harris had also circulated a report regarding his current work on highways and the SID reports and battery replacement. He had requested help moving forward and any Councillor happy to support Councillor Harris should contact him directly.

Action: All

198/22 Environment and Sustainability update including:

To receive information regarding Camcycle and consider any actions.

Councillor L King proposed the Council allow Camcycle to conduct the survey which would be free of charge, seconded by Councillor McKee and **ratified** unanimously.

Action: L King

To receive information regarding SCDC free tree scheme and consider any actions.

The Clerk was asked to place and order to be divided between Cemetery and Green and Boundaries.

Action: Clerk

To receive information regarding the Greater Cambridge Partnership's making connections consultation and consider any actions.

Information previously circulated. It was agreed that Councillor L King would respond on behalf of the Council as per her report.

Action: L King

199/22 To receive an update regarding the future of the Citi 5 bus route and consider any actions.

Timetables had now been provided by Stagecoach and had been put up at the bus stops and copies are available at the library, post office, Bakers, Doctors Surgery and Council office.

200/22 Items for future meetings.

Public Hall

201/22 Date of next meeting: Wednesday 11th January 2022

Meeting closed at 9pm