

## WILLINGHAM PARISH COUNCIL

Parish Council Office, Ploughman Hall, West Fen Road, Willingham  
Cambridge, CB24 5LP, Tel: 01954 261027

Email: [clerk@willinghamparishcouncil.gov.uk](mailto:clerk@willinghamparishcouncil.gov.uk) Website: [www.willinghamparishcouncil.gov.uk](http://www.willinghamparishcouncil.gov.uk)

### Minutes of the ordinary meeting of Willingham Parish Council held on Wednesday 6<sup>th</sup> March 2024 7.30pm, in the Octagon, St Mary and All Saints Church, Church Street, Willingham

#### Present:

Councillors: Barratt, Clark, Harris, L King, P King (Chair), Mansfield, Ramsden and Watson

County Councillor: Gough

District Councillors: Handley

Parishioners: None

Clerk: Mandy Powell

Deputy Clerk: Amy Rudderham (minute taker)

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#### **33/24 Apologies for absence, including:**

Apologies were received and accepted from Councillor Hutchcraft, Councillor Law, Councillor McKee, Councillor Smith and Councillor Todd all due to personal commitments and from Councillors Moore due to being unwell.

#### **34/24 Declarations of interest**

None were received.

**35/24 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.**

None present.

#### **36/24 To receive and ratify minutes from the Council meeting held on the 7<sup>th</sup> February 2024.**

Councillor Ramsden proposed that the draft minutes be approved. This was seconded by Councillor Harris and ratified with seven votes in favour and one abstention due to not being present at the meeting.

#### **37/24 To deal with any matters arising from the meeting on the 7<sup>th</sup> February, not covered elsewhere on the agenda.**

Deputy Clerk raised 21/24 from the previous meeting. Councillor Gough confirmed he would discuss this with his report

#### **38/24 To receive and consider any actions from the County Council reports and communications not covered elsewhere on this agenda including:**

Councillor Gough's report had previously been circulated to the Council.

With regards to the B1050 discussion at the previous meeting, Councillor Gough confirmed that there had been £40m of additional funds allocated to highways maintenance. Peat soil affected roads had been identified on a priority list and the B1050 was one of the top two roads on the list.

Councillor Gough went on to raise the results received regarding the 20mph zone and the speed bumps on Rampton Road. With the 20mph zone, the feedback on the County Council survey was very low. There were only 95 responses from the village. The survey was delivered to every household in Willingham, alongside the Willingham News. With regards to the speed bumps on Rampton Road the results had been very different to those gathered by the Parish Council. Councillor Gough would recommend that the Council liaise further again with the residents of Rampton Road before proceeding with the proposal to understand what the residents really want.

Councillor Harris agreed to revisit the speed bumps proposal and look at what other options may be available.

**Action: Councillor Harris**

#### **39/24 To receive and consider any actions from the District Council reports and communications not covered elsewhere on this agenda, including:**

Councillor Handley's report was received and previously circulated to the Council.

Councillor Handley confirmed that the budget had been approved and where many Councils were finding themselves in a particularly bad financial situation thankfully South Cambridgeshire District Council was not one of them.

Councillor Handley discussed how the Far Funding Review may have a big impact on SCDC.

Councillor Watson raised a question to Councillor Handley regarding Haden Way and the number of caravans that have been sited there. The Clerk confirmed that Councillor Lentell was liaising with Planning on the matter.

Councillor Harris raised a question regarding the parking enforcement attending the village. Councillor Harris said he would be keen to know figures for Willingham. Councillor Handley confirmed the enforcement were targeting the higher concern areas first. He would send the Clerk/Deputy Clerk an email address and encouraged the Parish Council to write confirming the areas and times etc that the enforcement officers should try and attend in Willingham.

**Action: Councillor Handley**

Councillor Handley went on to confirm that he had visited the site of the proposed footpath to Highgate along with Councillor Harris and Carole Hutton. Councillor Handley had spoken with the lead for housing who had confirmed most of the verge was owned by the District Council and he could foresee no issues with this being transferred over for the Footpath to be laid.

Councillor Lentell's report was received and previously circulated, no questions were raised.

**40/24 Chair's report including:**

To receive and consider correspondence from a resident regarding additional E charging points in the village.

Councillor Handley advised that South Cambridgeshire were issuing grants. Councillor Handley confirmed he would ask an Environment Officer to contact the Parish Council and advise us regarding the grants.

**Action: Councillor Handley**

Councillor L King commented this was something that could be re-visited and suggested the Council add something in the Willingham News to see what demand there was for this and proposed location.

**Action: Clerk**

**41/24 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 consider any quotations for utility contracts

Deputy Clerk confirmed the only company that had shown any interest in the street lighting had confirmed to the office that they would not take on the street lighting on its own. It was therefore suggested by the office that the Parish Council wait until the buildings are up for renewal too at the end of July and then place a contract covering them and the street lighting together. The Council agreed to this unanimously.

**Action: Clerk**

To receive an update on flooding in the village and consider any actions.

Councillor P King confirmed that the two parishioners were still liaising with Anglian Water regarding the flooding and would update us further when they had liaised with them.

Planning Committee – updates including:

To receive draft minutes from the meetings held on the 15<sup>th</sup> February and 4<sup>th</sup> March 2024 and consider any actions.

The minutes had been previously circulated and noted. No questions raised. Deputy Clerk confirmed that Councillor Todd was liaising with Enforcement regarding the Cherry Trees Application and will update the Council accordingly.

HALLS – Updates including:

To receive an update from the public hall working group regarding the 2014 PHUC agreement due expire in December 2024.

Councillor Clark had submitted a report to the Council which had been circulated. Councillor P King reiterated that the Parish Council had made a decision to not renew the Agreement and take back direct Management. Unless it is agreed to formally rescind the decision and re-debate the matter, the decision cannot be altered.

Councillor Clark confirmed that the damp in the Public Hall was causing great concern, it appears to be coming up through the floor.

Councillor Clark had asked the Deputy Clerk to contact professionals to investigate the issue further.

**Action: Clerk**

Councillor Harris confirmed it had been announced in the Government budget that there would be funding available for Halls, which may be something the Parish Council can apply for, when needed.

To receive an update regarding Willingham Youth Trust user agreement due to expire February 2025.

The Clerk had issued the notice to the Youth Trust and would be meeting with them, Councillor P King and Councillor Clark on 12th March 2024.

**Action: Clerk/Councillor King/ Councillor Clark**

Cemetery – updates including:

To receive an update regarding the land being considered for a new cemetery and consider any actions.

Councillor Mansfield confirmed that she had submitted her report to the Council, which had been circulated. The Cemetery Gate had been repaired and was working well.

With regards to the new Cemetery land, this option had been exhausted and it was not an option the Council could proceed with.

Councillor Mansfield proposed that the Office formally write to the land owner, thanking them very much for the offer, but explaining that we could not take this on. This was seconded by Councillor Clark and ratified unanimously.

**Action: Clerk/Councillor Mansfield**

Green & Boundaries – updates including:

To receive an update regarding the Ringers Rest Mural and consider any actions.

Councillor Moore had today provided quotations received, but they were not received in time for the Agenda and would therefore be added to next month's Agenda.

**Action: Clerk**

To receive correspondence from a resident regarding vehicles accessing Black Pit Drove and consider request for signage.

It was agreed that Councillor L King would liaise with the resident who raised the concern to agree where an appropriate sign could be placed and what the sign should consist of.

**Action: Councillor L King**

To consider additional Christmas lighting on the Village Green.

Councillor Watson to liaise with the Compliance Administrator and Councillor Clark about the options available to the Parish Council.

**Action: Councillor Watson**

To receive and consider request from Willingham Action Group regarding the Council taking on the financial commitment for replacement trees and labels etc in the orchard.

Councillor P King proposed the Council take on this financial responsibility. This was seconded by Councillor Ramsden and **ratified** unanimously.

**Action: Clerk**

To receive an update regarding dog bag dispensers and the bin on Meadow Road and consider any actions.

Councillor Watson confirmed that he had received the bins and was awaiting a quotation for the installation.

The Deputy Clerk confirmed that the quotation for the bag dispenser had been sent to Councillor Watson for his consideration. But SCDC had confirmed that they would not place a bin on Meadow Road. Councillor Watson asked for this to be left for now whilst the bag dispenser was considered.

**Action: Councillor Watson/Clerk**

Leisure & Amenities - updates including:

To receive update regarding the recreation ground and consider purchase of a skip for the cricket club

Councillor L King explained the situation that the Cricket Club had found themselves in and proposed the Parish Council pay for the cost of a skip. This was seconded by Councillor Ramsden and **ratified** unanimously.

**Action: Councillor King/Clerk**

The MUGA was moving forward slowly.

Councillor L King confirmed Willingham Wolves were applying for a grant from the FA for the re-seeding of the upper rec and this would be a six-year regeneration.

The area of land where it was proposed the additional storage for Willingham Wolves would be placed, was now under water. Councillor L King confirmed she would be putting a proposal forward at the next meeting for a different location for the storage container.

**Action: L King**

Councillor Harris suggested a piece of land for the Willingham Wolves may be appropriate, which is currently owned by Willingham Combined Charities. Councillor L King is going to look into this.

**Action: Councillor L King**

#### **42/24 To receive and ratify monthly accounts for payment.**

##### Items paid by bank payments:

Salaries	February	Salaries	£4263.10
HMRC	February	PAYE	£ 802.62
Nest	Pension	Salaries	£ 198.54
O Gratwick	Hall Deposit	Halls	£ 100.00
P M Carman	Hall Deposit	Halls	£ 100.00
A Manning	Hall Deposit	Halls	£ 100.00
Cromwell Fire	Alarm service Ploughman	Halls	£ 183.60
Atlas	Fallen tree Rec Ground	L & A	£ 300.00
Atlas	Tree work Green	G & B	£ 768.00

##### Items paid by direct debit/standing order:

British Gas	Ploughman Electric	Halls	£ 868.75
British Gas	Pavilion Electric	L & A	£ 278.83
British Gas	Pavilion gas Feb	L & A	£ 13.42
British gas	Public hall electric	Halls	£ 39.10
British gas	Green	G & B	£ 15.84
British gas	Pavilion Jan	L & A	£ 232.77
Co-op Phones	Will Hub	Willingham Hub	£ 10.20
Drax	Street Lighting	G & B	£ 428.35
BT	Phones	Est	£ 95.00
BT	Phones	Est	£ 144.54

##### Items paid by charge card

Amazon	Stationery	Est	£ 22.84
Amazon	Stationery	Est	£ 13.07
Amazon	Washing liquid/hand towel	Halls	£ 34.99

34SP	Web Host	Est	£ 11.95
One stop	Stamps	Est	£ 10.00
UCheck	DBS Check Cllr Clerk	Est	£ 58.80
Slingsby	Bins	G & B	£ 456.00
Slingsby	Bin bases	G & B	£ 103.18
Land Registry	Land registry	Est	£ 3.00
Stuart Buchan	East Anglian Air Ambul	Donations	£ 100.00

Items to be paid by bank transfer:

Suds & Bubbles	Cleaning Ploughman	Halls	£ 560.00
Suds & Bubbles	Cleaning Pavilion	L & A	£ 241.00
Suds & Bubbles	Cleaning Office	Est	£ 40.00
Cromwell Fire	Ploughman Risk Assess	Halls	£ 300.00
Cromwell Fire	Risk assessment Public hall	Halls	£ 234.00
Cromwell Fire	Risk assessment Pavilion	L & A	£ 234.00
Cromwell Fire	Alarm call out Public hall	Halls	£ 174.90
Reids Playground	Equip repair	L & A	£1000.00
Hibbitt & Sons	Gate Repair	Cemetery	£1020.00
Holywell Cum NeedTravel		Est	£ 39.15
Hibbit Stonemason	Cemetery gate repair	Cemetery	£1,020.00
5 Folds	Octagon Hire	Est	£ 90.00

It was noted that Hibbit Stonemasons had been added to the payment schedule twice in error and the sum of £1,020 should only be paid once.

Councillor Mansfield proposed that the accounts are accepted and paid as shown, with the exception of the amendment noted above. This was seconded by Councillor Harris and **ratified** unanimously.

**Action: RFO**

**43/24 Police update including:**

No police update had been received.

**44/24 To receive an update on HCVs and traffic issues and consider any actions including:**

To receive an update regarding the 20mph scheme in the village and consider any actions.

Taken under item 38/24, it was agreed the Parish Council would liaise with the Rampton Road residents further and Councillor Harris would look into other suggestions.

**Action: Councillor Harris/Clerk**

To receive an update regarding the Minor Highways Improvement Bid application and consider any actions.

Councillor Harris confirmed he had a positive meeting with Carole Hutton regarding the pathway. He had chased an update prior to the meeting but this had not been received.

To receive and consider correspondence from County Council regarding weed treatment and consider any actions.

Noted.

**45/24 Environment and Sustainability update including:**

The Pink Bin will be visiting the village, as previously mentioned.

**46/24 To receive and consider grant application from CamSAR**

Deputy Clerk confirmed there were enough funds in the budget to support this application. Councillor P King therefore proposed the Council support the request. This was seconded by Councillor Harris and **ratified** unanimously.

**Action: Clerk/RFO**

**47/24 To consider correspondence requesting the Council take on the public open space located at Belsar Farm**

Councillor Clark proposed the Council did not take on the open space. This was seconded by Councillor Watson and **ratified** unanimously.

**Action: Clerk**

**48/24 To consider renewal of the Deputy Clerk's SLCC membership**

Councillor Ramsden proposed the Council agree to the renewal. This was seconded by Councillor L King and **ratified** unanimously.

**Action: Clerk**

**49/24 Items for future meetings.**

Speed Bumps – Rampton Road Consultation review  
Public Hall  
Youth Trust  
Co-Option  
Recreation Ground  
Christmas Lights  
Ringers Rest Mural  
Black Pit Drove  
Pavillion Storage Container

**50/24 Date of next meeting**  
3<sup>rd</sup> Aril 2024

*The meeting closed at 20:46*