



Clerk to the Parish Council
Mrs P Harrogate
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WILLAND PARISH COUNCIL

St Julitta Gables Road
Willand
EX15 2PL

Minutes of the full Meeting of the Parish Council which took place on
Thursday 10 September 2009 at **Willand Village Hall** at 19.00

Present: Cllr Davey, Cllr Davis, Cllr Perrett, Cllr Barnett, Cllr Crick, Cllr
Mander, Cllr Phare, Cllr Ursell.

In attendance: Mrs P Harrogate (Parish Clerk) District Cllr Chesterton,
District Cllr Brandon, PC Rich, 3 members of the public

1. Apologies

Cllr Crawford, County Cllr Radford, Cllr Hull

2. Public questions

The Chairman announced that it had been decided to amend the format of the
agenda and public questions would now be at the beginning of the meeting –
this would give members of the public an opportunity to comment on the
minutes before they were agreed and also to make comments on items on the
agenda before a decision is made by councillors.

3. Minutes of the Meetings held:

- Full Council 9 July 2009
- Planning Committee 13 August 2009

Agreed as a true and correct record.

NB – environmental agenda and minutes should be kept separate from
planning minutes for accurate record keeping

4. Matters Arising:

Introduction of the new Parish Clerk

The applicant that was offered the position decided that the position
was not suitable for them as they had been offered more hours in their
current position. Clerk to re-advertise the position.

Chairman's announcement

Cllr Perrett has decided to step down from the council between now and Christmas due to family commitments to enable him to spend more time with his family. He will resign as Chairman at the end of the meeting and will ask for nominations for a replacement.

Vice Chairman's announcement

Cllr Davis thanked Cllr Perrett for all his hard work over the past couple of years, Cllr Davis has been a member of the parish council for 6 years. He will continue until 31st March 2010 and will then step down. Cllr Davis will remain as vice chair unless there are nominations.

Cllr Mander would like to express his thanks to Cllr Perrett and Cllr Davis particularly in respect of some of the more controversial issues that they have had to deal with namely the bail hostel issues.

To accept Cllr Eschle's resignation

Cllr Eschle has resigned with immediate effect due to work and family commitments but wanted to thank fellow councillors for their hard work and support. The Parish Council expressed their thanks to Sheila for her hard work on the council particularly in respect of the footpaths.

Councillor Vacancy – Parish council now able to co-opt a new councillor, notices to be displayed on boards and in parish magazine.

Update on the churchyard adoption – Clerk to advise on outstanding issues.

Topple test needs to be re-done by MDDC on the 8 problematic stones, land registry have no record of the graveyard therefore a boundary map cannot be purchased.

Gravestones - To discuss the stones that recently failed the MDDC topple test

MDDC strap and stake stones as a temporary measure if they cannot find a relative, the cost of this is about £100 plus v.a.t. Following one residents complaints it appears that a tree was cut down behind one of the stones, the resident believes that this has caused the stone to come away from the base. The headstone was 'glued' to the base but is now not attached. A Stone mason has confirmed that the adhesive should last.

Cllr Ursell reported that there are 3 options: **1st option** – do nothing (for health and safety reasons and in order to move on with the graveyard adoption this is not an ideal option). **2nd option** – strap and stake at a cost £100 per stone, Adrian Cook has confirmed that this is merely a

temporary measure and in some cases will result in damage to the stone. **3rd option** – Pay for all of the stones that failed the topple test to meet the NAMM regulations at a cost of approximately £250 per stone.

Cllr Davis stated that a stake and strap solution may be suitable in a urban cemetery, but was not conducive to a rural settlement and reminded the council that £10,000 had been put aside for the graveyard several years ago in order for the adoption to go ahead.

Cllr Davis proposed to ensure the NAMM system is fitted on all 8 headstones, Cllr Mander seconded, all in agreement.

Clerk to instruct MDDC to complete a second topple test on the 8 listed headstones and some families have corrected the stones as originally asked – it was agreed that these people would be reimbursed on production of a receipt. Cllr Davis proposed a budget of £1600 plus v.a.t, for this project, Cllr Mander seconded, all in agreement.

Footpaths – Update from Cllr Eschle.

Due to Cllr Eschle's resignation Cllr Crick updated the council on progress. The walk around Diggerland is now not an option as support from the landowner has been withdrawn. Work would need to be done on the other side of the village, however unless another Councillor is prepared to take on this project it will be shelved for the time being.

Allotments – Update from Cllr Crick regarding the security issues raised by the allotment association. Invoices.

Cllr Mander declared a prejudicial interest

A second site meeting has taken place with Cllr Crick, Cllr Perrett and the Allotment Association. Cllr Crick had briefed the committee about the options for the corner security. The Allotment Association have received one quote. The design profile previously proposed by the Parish Council was agreed at the site meeting. Cllr Mander is to provide 2 more quotes and these will be discussed and agreed at the next Environmental Committee meeting.

Cllr Mander rejoined the meeting

Cllr Mander requested that the Allotment Association provide invoices and collect monies to enable them to keep a closer check on allotments. Cheques would continue to be made payable to the parish council and no terms or conditions would change. Cllr Mander voted in favour of this new procedure, all in agreement. Clerk to provide a paying in book to the Allotment Association.

Christmas Lights – Decision to be made regarding this year's lights

Cllr Phare gave an update on the Christmas lights situation.

3 options: there would be an initial cost of extra sockets but the next 2 years the costs would be reduced.

Option 1 – light fitting by Dean Hill Road, miss the rest of the lamp posts until you reach the double fitted lamp post. At the roundabout 4 fittings around the roundabout. Same lights every year for three years – led lights.

Option 2 – one at roundabout – slightly different fitting in the centre and one by the Esso garage.

Option 3 – as above but with no fitting by the Esso garage.

The Chairman thanked Cllr Phare for his work on this project. A donation has been received from the ladies Cameo group. Cllr Phare to respond to them offering the parish councils thanks.

Cllr Mander proposed to opt for option 1 – Cllr Davey abstained, the rest were in agreement. Cllr Phare to arrange.

Bus stops – Update from County Cllr Radford regarding timescales for the new bus stops. In Cllr Radford's absence Cllr Mander reported that all three bus stops would be installed on 19th November 2009.

Items to be reported:

- Devon and Cornwall Police

PC Rich gave the following report for the past 2 months.

- Shoplifter at One Stop – male located and arrested
- Two Drink drivers caught and arrested and charged
- Accident on Gables Road between lorry and bus.
- Problems with dog in Willand Old Village – owner has been spoken to and aggrieved parties updated.
- Obstruction of garages at South View Close
- Making off with out payment from Willand Services
- **Anti Social Behaviour**
- Anti social vehicles on Mid Devon Business Park – arrangements made for to be locked ??? to premises and patrols to pay passing attention when in area.
- Suspicious male at Diggerland. Officer attended and dealt with this male

- Problems with vehicles racing around grounds of Verbeer Manor
- 2 juveniles throwing stones at someone's windows in Celandine Gardens. They managed to detain the two youths and police attended and dealt with them
- Underage drinking in park on Harpitt Close – people encouraged to report this when it's happening and not the day afterwards!
- Group of youths in Jaycroft Park making a lot of noise. Located and dispersed. Alcohol found and poured away.
- Drunk males in Recreation Ground 3 males located and words of advice given and moved on.
- ASB Orchard Way – drink cans left
- Youths throwing bottles about in Willand Industrial Estate

Motor vehicle crime

- Theft from motor vehicle Somerlea Estate – negative SOCO result
- Car damaged on Harpitt Close – scratch on bumper
- Bicycle left insecure in garden of property on South View Close and stolen
- Wheel Trims stolen from car parked on Somerville Park
- Theft from motor vehicles parked at Industrial Unit – no CCTV or witnesses

Burglaries

- Burglary at Half Way House – shed broken in to and bike stolen
- Willand Services and car sales burgled and cash taken – investigations still on going

Allotments

- No further reported problems from allotments.

Police Volunteers for Community Speed Watch

- Looking for volunteers who will be vetted and then able to run their own speed watch initiatives. They will be given a speed gun and will record the speed of cars with their registration numbers and then they will be sent warning letters. Parish Clerk will advertise this initiative in the village magazine.

Mid Devon District Councillors Chesterton, Hull and Brandon

Cllr Brandon reported that grass cutting was on the policy and development group agenda, however Cllr Terry Snow has put a motion that it had to go to full council. This will be discussed next Tuesday. At the DAPC empowering local communities conference it was reported that a South Hams parish council organise their own grass cutting – verges, parks and open spaces and other parish grass. Cuts take place every 2 weeks and the total cost is £5000 under budget. DAPC AGM on 27th September 2009. Cllr

Hull was voted as Vice Chairman of MDDC, Cllr Chesterton is now the portfolio holder for Planning and Economic Regeneration.

Cllr Chesterton clarified the issues regarding the site for affordable homes on the B3181 listed in the LDF – there was some misunderstanding about this area, the site includes the field next to Mr Rowe's land. There is an opportunity to comment on the amendments to the LDF – consultation will start on 6th October and will last 6 weeks.

Dave Scott or Simon Thornley will come out to a council meeting to answer questions if requested by parish councils.

Merrimeade was allocated for a gypsy and traveller site – max of 8 pitches is in the LDF

3 million pounds will be spent on a library and information hub at the old health centre site – issue at the moment is parking – some discussion about the magistrates court land being encompassed into the project or a possibility of MDDC offering a land swap with the District Councils car park in station road in return for the health centre site which would be turned into a car park. Project should start in spring 2011.

Issue with the planning portal link – clerk to report

- **Devon County Councillor Radford**

Apologies sent

- **Parish Lengthsman / Health and Safety - areas for attention**
Broken bench in Townlands – Cllr Hull has spoken to the residents association who will take this to their next committee meeting.
- The Clerk was advised by MDDC that a child had been hurt whilst using the skate board ramp which is damaged. Cllr Mander arranged for the equipment to be repaired.

Overgrown footpath between Willand old village and Harpitt Close – Clerk to report

6. Accounts:

Cheque signing

P Harrogate (office expenses and internet)	£ 23.00
P Harrogate (BT phone bill)	£ 33.08
Brian Bussell (September payment)	£ 649.00
MDDC (Trade Waste collection)	£ 96.23
Viking Direct (stationary)	£ 162.35

Audit commission	£ 373.75
Astra Printing (Sept/Oct issue)	£ 939.00
P Harrogate (flowers)	£ 30.65
HMRC (NI and tax)	£4050.00
J Widdecombe-Humphries (repairs)	£ 50.00

Income this month

Magazine receipts (July/Aug/Sept)	£ 426.00
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To ratify cheques written in August

P Harrogate (office expenses and internet)	£ 23.99
P Harrogate (BT phone bill)	£ 35.04
Brian Bussell (seats in cemetery & churchyard)	£ 47.00
John Holmes (back pay 12mnths)	£ 92.88
P Harrogate (back pay 12mnths)	£ 579.60

7. Correspondence Received:

Letter from Willand Preschool requesting the repair of the CCTV

It was suggested that preschool check whether the equipment was covered by preschool insurance. If this is not the case, Cllr Davis proposed to pay the full amount for the repairs but to bring this item back to the October agenda to decide whether the council consider it to be a parish council asset therefore paying future costs of funding and maintenance. Cllr Crick seconded all in agreement.

The Chairman thanked the clerk for her work on the parish council as this will be her last full council meeting.

Deferred from chairman's announcement

Cllr Perrett asked for nominations for a new Chairman following his announcement at the beginning of the meeting.

Cllr Davis nominated Cllr Ursell, Cllr Ursell accepted the nomination, Cllr Crick seconded all in agreement – unanimous.

Meeting closed: 21.10