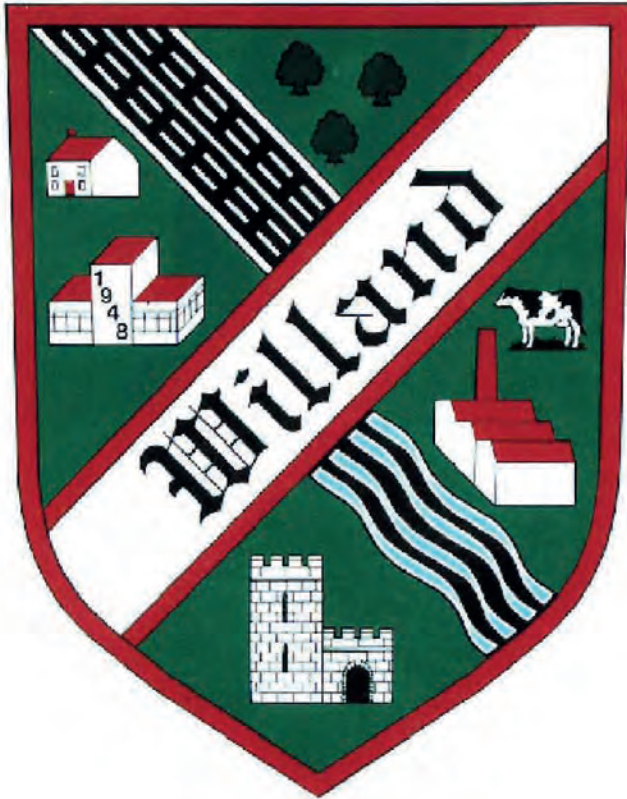


# WILLAND MAGAZINE

February & March 2022



LOCAL NEWS : LOCAL EVENTS : LOCAL CONTACTS

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## WILLAND PARISH ORGANISATIONS

Allotment Holders	Sylvia Statham	Secretary/Contact	peterandsylviaastatham@hotmail.com
Bridge Club	Wendy Boothroyd		01398 331219
Brownies	Bridget Pearse		07814 569054
C.A.M.E.O. Ladies Grp	Peta Jackman		07900 904822
Club 55	Margaret Atherton	27 Townlands	38217
Folk Dance Club	Marilyn Broom		01404 47200
Garden Club	Mrs Carol Allan	4 Orchard Way	33828
Tiny Tots	Karly Cousins	Cullompton	07730 895472
Tennis Club	Mrs R. Parish		weirmilldevon@gmail.com 820803
Tennis Courts (Public Hire)		clubspark.lta.org.uk/WillandTennisClub	
Village Hall Bookings	Frances Wilcox		bookings@willandvillagehall.org.uk
Village Hall Caretaker	Sam Fincher - caretaker@willandvillagehall.org.uk		07377 556946
Willand Rovers FC	Cath Dinner		07775 550436
Willand Art Group	Jenny Baker	Gables Road	822882
Willand Community Composting	Tony Mander		821174
Willand Cycle Club	Alan Smith - biggiggy@hotmail.com		07545 273085
Willand History Group	James Morrison - jamorrison235@gmail.com		01884 250057
Willand Short Mat Bowling Club	John Crocker	12 Maple Close	35589
Willand Theatrical Society	Karen Goodchild		38122
Willand United Charities	Rev Simon Talbot		562570
Youth Club (35218)	Mrs M. Billings	Cullompton	07766 141361

## CHURCHES / EDUCATION

Baptist Church, Cullompton	Rev. Glen Graham		34077
Culm Valley Methodist Church	Rev. Paul Booth		32679
Quakers	Pat Bell		840823
Roman Catholic Church	Canon Kristian Paver - St Boniface, Cullompton		252292
St. Mary's Church	Rev. Simon Talbot		01884 562570
St. Mary Parochial CC	Secretary Sandy Hancock		35165
Cullompton Community College			33364
Uffculme School			840458
Willand Pre-School			33711
Willand Primary School			820367
Parent/Teacher Assoc.	Mrs Jacobs	willandschoolptfa@gmail.com	

## LOCAL REPRESENTATIVES

Neil Parish	(M.P.)	neil.parish.mp@parliament.uk	0207 219 7172
Ray Radford	(Devon County Council)	ray.radford@devon.gov.uk	820000
Richard Chesterton	(MD Dist Councillor)	rchesterton@middevon.gov.uk	07768 526946
Bob Evans	(MD Dist Councillor)	revans@middevon.gov.uk	01884 824082
Barry Warren	(MD Dist Councillor)	bwarren@middevon.gov.uk	07971 808423
<b>Parish Council</b>	<b>Parish Council Website</b>	<b>www.willand-pc.org.uk</b>	
Keith Grantham	(Councillor)	keith.grantham@willand-pc.org.uk	840780
Stephen Little	(Councillor)	stephen.little@willand-pc.org.uk	07795821476
Paul Major	(Councillor)	paul.major@willand-pc.org.uk	07942 273939
Lisa Mastrolacasa	(Councillor)	lisa.mastrolacasa@willand-pc.org.uk	07816 024489
Richard Phare	(Councillor)	richard.phare@willand-pc.org.uk	07496 113135
John Sellick	(Councillor)	john.sellick@willand-pc.org.uk	07865 570755
Bill Tobin	(Councillor)	bill.tobin@willand-pc.org.uk	821571
Barry Warren	(Council Chairman)	barry.warren@willand-pc.org.uk	07971 808423
Frances Wilcox	(Councillor)	frances.wilcox@willand-pc.org.uk	07748 557107
Andrea Glover	(Councillor)	andrea.glover@willand-pc.org.uk	07908 734368
Nick Bartlett	(Councillor)	nick.bartlett@willand-pc.org.uk	07920 014407
Barbara Bodkin	(Parish Clerk)	clerk@willand-pc.org.uk	07920 014407

## MEDICAL

Bramblehaies Surgery	33536
College Surgery Partnership - General Enquiries	831300
Gables Road Pharmacy	32604
N.H.S. DIRECT	111
National Blood Service (Donors) Glenda Frost	820641
Out-of-Hours GP	111
Royal Devon & Exeter Hospital (24hr A & E)	01392 411611
Urgent Care Centre (Currently open 08.00-20.00 7 days a week)	01884 235400
Willand Surgery	821878

## TRANSPORT

National Rail Enquiries	03457 484950
National Express Coach Services	0371 781 818
Traveline	0871 200 2233
Stagecoach Devon	01392 427711
Devon Bus (All bus timetables are displayed outside the Post Office)	01392 382800
Culm Voluntary Car Scheme	07546 525683

## EMERGENCY TELEPHONE NUMBERS

CHILDLINE	0800 1111
CITIZENS ADVICE BUREAU, TIVERTON	03444 111 444
CRIMESTOPPERS	0800 555111
DEVON COUNTY COUNCIL	0345 1551015
ENVIRONMENT AGENCY (24 HOUR)	0800 807060
FIRE, POLICE, AMBULANCE, COASTGUARD	999 or 112
GAS	0800 111999
INJURED WILDLIFE Exeter	01392 439898
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R.S.P.C.A.	0300 1234999
SAMARITANS	116 123
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TREE WARDEN - MRS DENNIS	01884 34050

**DEFIBRILLATORS** - Can be accessed outside the Post Office, the Pre School buildings and Pencarrie dial 999 to get the access code.

<b>MOBILE LIBRARY</b> - visits four weekly	Thursday	Townlands	10.35am - 11.20am
	Thursday	Willand Village Hall	11.25am - 12.25pm

## LATEST POSTAL COLLECTIONS

	Mon to Fri	Saturday
Post Office (01884 32430)	5.00pm	11.00am
<i>Currently a Priority Post Box on Sat and Sun.</i>		
Meadow Park	9.00am	7.00am
Station Road	9.00am	7.00am
Fir Close	9.00am	7.00am
Willand Moor Road	9.00am	7.00am

## COMMUNITY POLICE

NON EMERGENCY DIAL 101 or Email: 101\_p@devonandcornwall.pnn.police.uk  
Or Email: cullompton@dc.police.uk

**MAGAZINE** Gerri Taylor 01884 821528 Editor: willandparishmag@gmail.com

## WILLAND WEBSITE

[www.willandmatters.org.uk](http://www.willandmatters.org.uk)

Printed by Brightsea Group, Exeter. Tel: (01392) 360616



Happy New Year to you all, a new year and a new addition to the magazine can you spot it? A contribution from a new resident for those who enjoy a puzzle.

**NEIGHBOURHOOD PLAN**

We think it is very important for local people to have as much say as possible in the way Willand develops, and are working to achieve this through a Neighbourhood Plan. This is a formal way that villagers views can be given more weight in future decisions about our village. It gives a particular opportunity for residents to express what they want the character of Willand to be going forward. We are very grateful for all the feedback you have given us so far.

We are holding three open meetings in the Village Hall Club Room over the next few weeks to look at three of the topics which we know matter to a lot of people in Willand. If you have any opinions about one or more of these issues, please come if you can.

The Topics are

- **Traffic** on Thursday the 3<sup>rd</sup> February at 7pm
- **Pathways and Cycleways** on Thursday the 3<sup>rd</sup> March at 7pm
- **Housing** on Thursday the 31<sup>st</sup> March at 7pm

We really want to hear your opinions.

If you can't make a meeting but have something you feel you want to say on these or any other things we would welcome an email at [npg@willand-pc.org.uk](mailto:npg@willand-pc.org.uk)

We intend to display a first draft of what a plan might contain, based on what villagers have told us, over the Jubilee weekend at the beginning of June. Please keep an eye out for that too, and give us your response and feedback.

**Stephen Little**

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**SODUKO No1 – this is the same as SUDOKU, but with letters instead. Each line column and square must have each letter once.**

Letters used GHILNSTUY

Clue to middle line: "Not pretty to look at"

The solution is further into the magazine but no cheating now!

*Points to ponder – Why is Tarzan always clean shaven? Why does Superman stop bullets with his chest, but duck when something is thrown at him?*

## **WILLAND PARISH COUNCIL CHAIR - COMMENT & REPORT**

Christmas has been and gone and we are nearly halfway through January 2022 as I write this. I hope that you all managed to enjoy Christmas in one form or another. My wife and I made it to Wales to join our daughter and her family this year and so that was a nice change. For those of you who were alone for one reason or another let us hope that as the year progresses circumstances will change for the better. If you are alone there are organisations within the village who can help. You only have to ask. We are keeping the Parish Helpline [01884 35455] active although it is little used at the moment.

The Christmas lights were on display in the village again this year and the cost to the Parish was reduced as the result of generous donations from local companies and organisations. They are:

**Co-op**

**Pall-Ex South West**

**Stoneman Engineering**

**Willand Community Composting Scheme**

**2 Sisters Food Group**

**PenCarrie**

**Victoria Windows**

**Willand Rovers Football Club**

**On behalf of the Parish and its residents I express our sincere thanks to you all.**

The Parish Council meet on the second Thursday of the month and our agenda and minutes appear on the notice boards around the village and on the Website. At our January meeting a new Parish Councillor, Mr Nick Bartlett was co-opted. Nick used to be a Parish Councillor some time back but had to step down for business reason. He will be a welcome asset on his return.

We are in the process of finalising the budget for the Parish which will allow the District Council to set the precept for our portion of the Council Tax. We have tried to be prudent and still maintain our standard of service for the work we carry out in keeping our Village looking clean and tidy. Inflation is affecting all our contractors prices and there is also a wage rise being negotiated for local authority worker. If all goes to plan the Parish portion of your council tax will still be a few pence over £1 per week and our projected rise will be about 2p per week for each Band D house (proportionate for other bands). What DCC, MDDC, Fire Authority and Police and Crime Commissioner do we have no control over.

You will note that there are new signs around the village on the play areas and some of the public open spaces which have play equipment in them. This is as the result of Mid Devon District Council [MDDC] making a Public Space Protection Order [PSPO] for the control of dogs in relevant areas. There was a full public consultation and this is as the result. The signs are self explanatory and set out all the details. Please make sure that you read them if you are a dog owner/walker as non-compliance could lead to owners/walkers receiving a fixed penalty notice. If they are not paid then a Court case could be a lot more costly.

Approval has been given for the 125 houses to be built off Meadow Park. The Parish Council, and me with my District Council Planning Committee member hat on, tried to get some improvements made and also proper protection of trees and the like but we were getting little progress. Of the 11 members on the Planning Committee only 3 voted in favour of approval, 2 voted against and the other six members, of whom I was one, abstained as we felt there was insufficient detailed information and safeguards to give approval at that time. Hopefully there should be financial benefits to the village for improvement at the Primary School [DCC Education to receive £250,000]; £125,000 to the Parish Council to provide 'teenager' facilities – BMX/Skate facilities; £52,500 towards the Gables site of Willand Health & Community Centre and £100,000 towards improving public transport. There should also be the widening of the narrow section of the footpath along Silver Street by the woods which will hopefully make it a bit safer for residents of Ash Close and Rowan Lea taking children to and from school. There will be a footpath connecting to the new site as well. All of these benefits were fought for in negotiations in 2018 by myself, as Parish Council Chairman, Richard Chesterton and Bob Evans as District Councillors and Ray Radford as County Councillor. You can rest assured that we will continue to work as a team to see that it happens. The Parish Council, together with help from interested residents, will be watching the developers to ensure that they comply with conditions to protect the trees, maintain the public footpath and ensure that construction traffic causes as little disruption as possible.

MDDC is reviewing the Parish Boundaries following on from the Boundary Commission report on District Council Ward Boundaries. Willand and Uffculme Parish Councils have been making representations to have the area of Halberton Parish to the East of the M5 shared between their two Parishes as the developments at Hitchcocks Farm, Mid Devon Business Park, Langlands Business Park, and the new housing now at Lucombe Park have more effect on Willand and Uffculme than they do on Halberton. The committee does include Councillor Richard Chesterton who is one of our Lower Culm Ward Councillors so make sure that he is aware of your views and you can of course respond to the consultation yourselves via the MDDC website. Our DCC Councillor Ray Radford is also on the committee but as he is the Ward Councillor for Halberton on MDDC and I am sure he will be 'batting' for the Halberton view. If you do not make your voice heard there is no point in complaining about it afterwards.

Please continue to participate in village groups and functions. Please look after your hedges and gardens and make sure that they do not interfere with the wellbeing of others. We hope to see some form of celebration in the village for the forthcoming Jubilee so please look at the posts and information from the group(s) organising any event(s).

Don't forget your Councillors and Clerk are only at the end of an email or telephone if you need help or advice. **Barry G J Warren**

*I call my dog 'Blacksmith'. When I tell him off, he makes a bolt for the door!*

## **EXCELSIOR ATHLETIC DEVELOPMENT CLUB**

“Many people think they lack motivation when what they really lack is clarity.” James Clear. One of the benefits of joining a club is that the coach helps provide clear direction and support to help you achieve your goals. The other main benefit is training with like-minded people who help support, encourage and challenge you to get better. No App can do this.

We are taking a squad of weightlifters to compete in Gloucestershire on 6 March this will be their first competition of the year and the first non-club for most. We have a dedicated band of supporters who will be coming to cheer them along too.

As the weather improves, our strength and coordination sessions will involve more running, jumping and throwing. This will then lead to our weekly athletic training sessions and our regular visits to Exeter Arena for specialist coaching. Finally, our gymnasts are preparing for a long-awaited display. We have not had one for two years now. The parkour enthusiasts will be doing various stunts and tricks in addition to the group displays by our younger boys and girls.

If anyone would like to improve their health, wellbeing and physical prowess, then new members are welcome. **James Marshall**

## **WILLAND COMMUNITY SPEED WATCH (WCSW)**

By the time villagers read this, we may well have launched **WCSW**.

And, it is badly needed according to the latest data from the VAS box on Silver Street (data kindly supplied by Parish Councillor Paul Major). Between 1 and 31 December, a total of 8,049 vehicles travelled at 35mph or above along Silver Street in the direction towards the Co-op, Would you believe 2 vehicles were clocked at between 70 and 75mph? 61 vehicles were between 50 and 75mph.

The volunteer team have been waiting since October for the local police team to process the paperwork to approve the sites where the volunteer team propose to stand. I hasten to add that this is not the fault of local PC, Adrian Legg, who is very supportive of **WCSW** but, is down to the lack of resource in our local police team.

However, really good news - Devon & Cornwall Police have now invested in the **CSW** central team and have recently recruited 2 enforcement officers (one for each county). I met with both of them on 11 January and we all walked the village to look at our proposed sites, which were agreed, and the officers have committed to process the paperwork by the end of this week.

So, fingers crossed, we will go live by the end of January and I will post the definite go live date on WoW when it is confirmed. Please watch your speed in the village - we want to deter people, not catch them.

**David Marrow, WCSW** Group Co-ordinator

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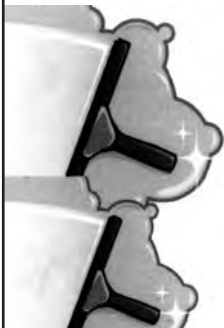
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Tuesday 6:30 - 7:30pm Pilates  
@ Halberton Village Hall

Wednesday 10am - 11am Pilates  
@ Sampford Peverell Village hall

Wed 6:15 - 7:15pm Intense Interval Training  
@ Uplowman

Thursday 8:45 - 9:45am Ladies Fitness Class  
@ Uplowman

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29 Lower Town, Sampford Peverell - Surgery and Dispensary  (01884) 820304

Cullompton can offer late appointments Monday-Thursday and  
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Thursday evenings and will be at our Cullompton Centre.

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## Annual Parish Meeting

Thursday 10th March 2022 at 7pm  
Willand Village Hall Club Room

Parish organisations and residents are invited to attend (subject to change nearer to the time dependent upon scientific advice).

Village groups are invited to submit a written report on their activities for the year to the Clerk which can be later published on the Parish Council website.

## WILLAND THEATRICAL SOCIETY (WITS)

It's that time of Year again "Panto Time" This year it will be performed on 25<sup>th</sup> and 26<sup>th</sup> February 2022

This a brand new Panto written especially for WITS with lots of new faces, scenery and costumes a great live theatre experience for all the family. There will be banners, Posters around the Village also check out the flyer inside this magazine. "Cinderella



What Happened Next" Tickets can be obtained from Willand Post Office, Willand Pharmacy or online at [ticketsource.co.uk/willandtheatricalsociety](https://ticketsource.co.uk/willandtheatricalsociety).

**Don't miss out. Sam Fincher**

## CULM VALLEY METHODIST CHURCH

Just over 100 shoeboxes were collected from Culm Valley for distribution in Eastern Europe by the charity Link to Hope. This amount far exceeded our original goal of 80 so a massive "Thankyou" to everyone who helped in any way. We have started planning for next year and ask you all, please save any shoeboxes you get.

It was a disappointment that we could not hold the village Carol Service this year, we felt it was much better to be cautious. However the church was able to continue with our Carols by Candlelight and Christmas Eve Communion even though our singing was behind masks.

We have shared in being in receipt of the generous donation of daffodil bulbs so we are looking forward to not just our path being brightened up but also the whole village.

Our schedule of activities continues to be restricted at the moment, although everyone is welcome to our worship, and we are happy to hire our rooms out.

**Paul Booth**

## **WILLAND TENNIS CLUB**

Willand Tennis Club is a friendly club, located beside the Village Hall, and always keen to welcome new members. A special offer 'winter rate' of £40 for new adult membership is available until end of March 2022. Junior membership is also available at a very competitive price.

All 4 courts are available to book for member and public use all year for 'Pay & Play', up to 48 hours before the session. You can cancel your booking up to 24 hours before and obtain a full refund. For more details and to book a court, please look at our website: [www.clubspark.lta.org.uk/WillandTennisClub](http://www.clubspark.lta.org.uk/WillandTennisClub)  
Booking and payment is only available online.

Junior level coaching with our club coach, Nigel Little, takes place on Tuesday and Wednesday afternoons (term time only). Minimum age for these sessions is 3 years. Adult coaching is also available either as a group or 1:1. Please contact Nigel on 07951140974 for more information.

**Helen Richardson. Willand Tennis Club Secretary.**

## **WILLAND GARDEN CLUB**

At our December meeting, we appointed a new Chairman, Sylvia Statham, who is also heavily involved with the Allotments Group, so we are looking forward to a bumper number of entries to our Flower Show on Saturday, 13th August.

Our first meeting of 2022 will be on Wednesday, 9th March, at 7.30 in the Club Room at the Village Hall. The programme is not yet finalised, so we are not sure who is speaking yet. Subscriptions are just £5 per person, which entitles members to attend all meetings, have subsidised outings and subsidised Annual Club meal. It also entitles you to a 10% discount on all garden items at The Old Well Garden Centre.

We will be having a coffee morning at the Hall on Saturday, 19th March from 10 – 11.30 and we hope to see you there.

If you would like to know more about the Club, please do not hesitate to contact me. **Carol Allan. [cbarwa@icloud.com](mailto:cbarwa@icloud.com) 01884 33828**

## **MID DEVON DISTRICT COUNCILLOR REPORT**

There are a couple of local issues I want to make a comment on as I'm sure they will be forming parts of some conversations as you read this.

Firstly: the planning application for 125 dwellings that is adjacent to Meadow Park and Silver Street is still receiving comments on social media, some quite frankly are a little alarming. Why anyone thinks it's OK to trot out the now very old and dated quote on "brown envelopes" Seriously?

As a reminder the original application was refused by MDDC Planning Committee, the developer won their permission via an Appeal and an Inspectors decision. At the early January Planning Committee meeting the development was on the agenda for Reserved Matters approval. I would agree the meeting was a very strange affair - I watched via Zoom. Committee members were

seemingly attempting to alter what had already been agreed which wasn't the way to go. I have never witnessed a vote such as this – three for, two against and six abstaining. As I have said the application was already agreed via an appeal and the dwellings will be built.

There seemed to be further confusion as questions were asked around the Section 106 Agreements and the early release of money for some schemes. For the sake of clarity: The Section 106 Agreements are binding. The possible early release of money for the school project is something that was negotiated separately by myself and others. This agreement is with Devon County Council Officers NOT the developer.

Secondly, I would like to make a request please:

I understand there is some disquiet amongst Willand residents on empty council owned properties. I have not received any of these queries myself, some reach me via Parish Council Members. As Cabinet Member for Housing and Property Services I am best placed to help with any queries you may have. My contact details are at the end of this article.

There are many reasons why a property can be empty for weeks and sometimes months. The pandemic obviously has an effect, Mid Devon staff are not immune from the effects and restrictions of Covid-19. Some instances are complex and require the intervention of the Court; some properties need work to be undertaken prior to being reallocated – this can range from a simple decorating job to new kitchens or major structural work.

My teams are also undertaking a programme of extensive decarbonisation. You will be aware of the Net Zero Carbon Emissions target. A good time for much of this work to be undertaken is when a property becomes vacant. Decarbonisation requires a far greater time to complete but is vital in trying to meet our targets.

All work costs money and we always seek to do things in the most cost-effective way. We have to balance leaving a property empty (and reducing rent income) against moving someone into a property and back out again. This can raise the cost by many thousands of pounds given the council must cover all the moving costs/resettling and out of pocket expenses.

In conclusion what may be seen as simply an empty house, flat or bungalow always has an agreed plan and we are always looking to get any property back in use as soon as possible in the most cost-effective way.

Moving on to the immediate and future plans for Housing. I acknowledge the need for more social and affordable housing which is exactly the reason I have introduced an extensive modular home building programme planned for the next five years – Providing much needed homes for local families.

By the time you read this I hope that we will have at least two planning applications agreed and have received further correspondence from Homes England who myself and my team are talking to on grant funding.

On a personal note and something that is important for me to reiterate here. I am an experienced Senior Manager, having spent decades in the demanding world of service industry. In my time as an MDDC Councillor I have found our officers are amongst the most dedicated and professional I have worked with. Some unfortunate comments made sadly even by Members do them a great injustice and one I am happy to counter.

As always if there are any issues you wish to discuss or any assistance needed in connection to the Council, please do not hesitate to contact any of your three elected Councillors. My details are on the web pages or you can call me on **07975905782 / 01884 824082** email: **revans@middevon.gov.uk**  
**Bob Evans** Lower Culm Ward Deputy Leader of the Council, Cabinet Member for Housing & Property Services.

### **WILLAND VILLAGE HALL** Happy New Year

Let's hope that this year sees the end of this pandemic. Most of our hirers have now come back to their regular sessions at the hall and are following COVID safety rules. Fortunately, we have not heard of any cases arising from using our facilities.

Please make sure that the car park is available for hall users, who are paying for the facility. It is not for use by people using the school, apart from dropping off and picking up children.

There is not much more news at the moment. We are still waiting for some quotes for our toilet refurbishment and outside painting.

We have recently had some bookings by our regular users cancelled with very little notice, sometimes just a couple of hours. As our caretaker has to go and open up and the heating has to be turned up in advance, this does cause some inconvenience. In future, bookings cancelled at such short notice may be liable for part of the hire charge. Changing booking details does cause problems for both our Bookings Secretary and Treasurer, so please try and keep to your originally booked times.

As we have so many bookings, which are handled by Frances, our Booking Secretary, please check our online calendar before you contact her to see if the date and time you want is available. Frances is a volunteer and also has a full time job, so this would make it easier for her. Please send in your booking forms promptly, as provisional bookings will only be held for a short while.

Please visit our website, [www.willandvillagehall.org.uk](http://www.willandvillagehall.org.uk), to check the calendar for future bookings. The email for booking is:

**Bookings@willandvillagehall.org.uk. Carol Allan.** Village Hall Treasurer

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## **A Lateral View by Clare Mantanle**

Step off the steep ladder, the relentless climb,  
Go with a lateral flow.

Look left and right, see pathways that might  
Lead to places you'd not thought to go.

Quieten your mind, take time to unwind,  
Away from the frenetic chatter,

And the vista's insight will shine a searchlight  
Onto things that really matter.

The pandemic pause has many dark flaws  
Where bereavements and losses abound,  
But within this mess can be time to assess  
Just where we would like to be found.

The ladder can feel like a hamster's wheel,  
Exhaustion with no end in sight,

But if we can pause, and the choice is just yours,  
A new path may emerge that is right.

It might seem there's no end and you just need a friend,  
To tell them how tough it has been.

There are people out there who really do care,  
You matter, you're heard and you're seen.

So step out of the wheel, then see how you feel,  
Be brave and make a connection.

Though this step seems quite small, send that text, make that call,  
We can walk in a new direction.

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## **DCC COUNTY COUNCILLOR REPORT JANUARY 2022**

This time of year sees all Authorities struggling with the budgets. Currently and we have a few more months to go, we are over budget, this is not unusual at this point during the year. We have always brought it back in line by the end of the year and we will do the same this year. We do not want to dip into our reserves. By law we have to produce a balanced budget.

This report outlines the financial position and forecast for the Authority at month 9 (to the end of December) of the financial year. At month 9 it is estimated that budgets will overspend by just over £8.3 million, an increase of £1.3 million from month 6. The Dedicated Schools Grant projected deficit, relating to Special Educational Needs and Disabilities (SEND), is forecast to be £39.0 million. In line with Department of Education guidance this deficit will not be dealt with this financial year but carried to future years. Central government has continued to provide a number of grant funding streams this year to help support Local Authorities during the pandemic. The confirmed additional funding Devon County Council is expecting to receive directly this financial year is currently £50.7 million, in addition to the £25.6 million carried forward from 2020/21. Adult Care and Health services are forecast to overspend by just over £5.1 million, a reduction of £71,000 from month 6. This position includes £3.2 million of budgeted savings. Adult Care Operations is forecasting to overspend by just under £5.4 million, this is a mix of price and volume pressures. Within Learning Disabilities and Autism higher demand has continued into this year with client numbers in these areas being 142 more than the budgeted level of 3,569. Older People is also experiencing significant pressures, mainly due to price pressures on residential and increase in the number of nursing placements which are 36 more than the budgeted level of 516. Adult Commissioning and Health and Mental Health is forecast to underspend by £230,000. Revenue Expenditure Children's Services are forecasting an over spend of £9.1 million an increase of £1.8 million from month 6. However, this figure does not include the projected deficit of £39.1 million on Special Education Needs and Disabilities (SEND).

Part of my duty is to serve on the Devon & Somerset Fire & Rescue Service (DSFRA). I thought you might like to know what they have been up to during the pandemic crisis. Firefighters from across the five south west fire and rescue services are to continue to provide vital life-saving support alongside the ambulance service. Since the early stages of the pandemic, firefighters have been working with ambulance crews from South Western Ambulance Service (SWASFT) to assist during medical emergencies. The partnership has led to countless lives being saved and received praise from government and royalty. The shared crews have so far attended in excess of 30,000 calls, more than half of which are within the highest two priority calls, which are to people in life-threatening or serious conditions. With the current winter pressures on the NHS and surge in Omicron cases, this arrangement has been extended and will now continue until April 2022. Strong partnerships between fire and ambulance services aren't new. Fire crews are often called upon to gain entry to houses so

that paramedics can see to patients and some fire stations have staff who are trained to give basic life support to people until the arrival of an emergency ambulance. Under the agreement, fire officers will continue to work alongside ambulance staff by driving vehicles and assisting clinicians to provide patient-focused care. Lee Howell, Chief Fire Officer of Devon and Somerset Fire and Rescue Service, said: “I couldn’t be more proud of the firefighters who when the call came, put their hands up to step outside of their normal duties and come to aid of our partners and our communities. Their dedication, selflessness, and resolve has been, and continues to be, exceptional.”

In adult social care in Devon right now:

We currently serve around 11,000 people and the majority of our spend is on working age adults. We commission 34,000 hours of personal care each week in people’s homes and the same amount again of enabling care helping to promote people’s independence. We are supporting over 100 more-older people in nursing care from last year which may be reflective of increasing complexity of need. We are seeing unprecedented requests for care, and when we receive those requests they are from increasingly poorly people, with increasingly complex needs, that requires complex care from more people. We continue to struggle to meet assessed need for personal care and in any week we have around 6,000 hours of care that we are unable to supply. This relates to approximately 460 people who will have their needs met in a different way including extra support from family members, other voluntary sector services or some other support to keep people safe. Nobody is left without some support and teams are constantly monitoring the risk and targeting the care we can source to the most needy and urgent cases. Alongside the growing requests is a stretched workforce, between Aug to Oct 2021 there were 3081 care worker vacancies, a rise of 86% on the same period in 2019. The supply of staff is extremely challenging and putting a huge strain on those in the caring workforce. Nurse shortages in nursing homes is leading to some homes having to cancel their registration to provide nursing care.

I am hoping very much that the majority of the disruptions caused by Gigaclear installing broadband in our area has decreased somewhat. Nevertheless, we have set up a working group to investigate what really is going on, particularly the harder to reach areas. I believe what is happening is broadband providers are cherry picking and the harder to reach areas are suffering, we intent to find out.

Because of Covid-19 I have not been able to attend Parish Council meetings as I would have liked, it is worse now than it ever has been, I hope this will improve as the omicron virus recedes, I hope. I am always around if there is something I can help with. Regards, Ray Radford Devon County Councillor Willand & Uffculme Division. **Email: [ray.radford@devon.gov.uk](mailto:ray.radford@devon.gov.uk)**

*Why do people say “slept like a baby” when babies wake every two hours and cry?*



## **WILLAND HISTORY GROUP**

Back in December, the History Group held another successful meeting. Amongst many items discussed, it was decided that rather than holding meetings on an ad hoc basis, they should be fixed on the third Tuesday of every other month. Our next meeting, therefore, will be on Tuesday, 15 February 2022, at 7.00pm in The Annex room of Willand Village Hall. We are keen to get more people involved, you don't need to be a member, but you would be more than welcome to come along and see what we we're up to – or feel free to get in touch for more information.

In parallel with Devon History Society's 'Devon in the 1920s' project, research has been started into Willand and district during the 1920s, placing what happened here into the broader county and national context – covering topics such as agriculture, housing, transport and 'rural life'. For example, one subject is the 'decline' of big country estates – for various reasons large portions, if not whole estates, were sold after the First World War, often being outlying farms that were bought by the sitting tenants. In this context will be looking at the March 1919 sale of a significant part of the nearby Bradfield estate, owned by the Walrond family, under whose sphere of influence Willand effectively fell. A total of 1,840 acres was sold off over several parishes and including ten farm holdings, one of which was Dye House farm in Willand. Consisting of 105 acres, Dye House was described in the sale catalogue as a 'very rich & productive farm' with 'a large and convenient farmhouse' with farm buildings, yard and two tied cottages. The estate auction was held at the Palmerston Hotel in Tiverton on 6 March 1919, and Dye House was bought by Willand farmer, William Rowe, who lived at The Elms, in Willand 'old village', and who had been renting Dye House since at least 1914. If you're interested in helping with such research, please get in touch, or you would be welcome at our next meeting.

We have also been planning for our 2022 Exhibition, scheduled for the Queen's Platinum Jubilee weekend, 2-5 June, although we await to see how plans for Willand's community celebrations crystallise before fixing the finer details. As well as looking at Willand in the 1950s, and the changes that have occurred in the parish over the last 70 years, we hope to display some of the posters, programmes and photos from the Willand's 1953 Coronation celebrations, as well as for the Jubilees in 1977, 2002 and 2012. Do you have any photos from any of these events? We only have a few from the Jubilees, and none from the Coronation. Any photos would be copied and returned, and of course appropriate accreditation would be given if they are used in the exhibition.

For example, does anyone have any memories or photos of Willand's Silver Jubilee celebrations in 1977? There were official community events organised across the Jubilee weekend, including a children's fancy dress parade (from Townlands to the school), church services, a sports and fete, barbeques, dances and discos. I was present in the Village Hall on the Monday of that Jubilee weekend to receive one of the Jubilee mugs presented to the children of the parish. I can't remember much, though, as I was only ten days old, the



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youngest baby in the village, but I'm sure I must have been proud! There were also several lively unofficial street parties. The Somerlea street party was held on the green next to Spearings, along the main road – the environs were festooned with bunting, and trestle tables were splendidly laid out for the residents' Jubilee tea. There was even a Somerlea bar set up in a caravan, which certainly helped the party go with a swing well into the night – especially the notorious home-made punch, which was spoken about, usually with a shake of the head, for years to come.

**James Morrison, 01884 250057 jamorrison235@gmail.com**

### **ST MARY'S WILLAND**

As the New Year begins it is often a time for reflection and taking stock. If you would appreciate the time to think about some of life's big questions about who Jesus was and whether he is still relevant to our lives we will be running a course starting in the near future. The course, "Hope Explored", is perfect for those who are thinking about what they believe or would value a "refresher".

As the new term begins there are a range of groups organised by St Mary's in the Church Hall from Rockers (baby and toddler group) on a Monday from 9.15am, Coffee and Chat on the second Friday of the month from 10.30am, Cream Teas on third Wednesday from 2.30pm. There is no need to book any of these events and a warm welcome is waiting for anyone who would like to come along. **Rev Simon Talbot. Rector, St Mary's Willand**

**Tel: 01884 562570 email: simon@thetalbots.org.uk**

### **MOBILE LIBRARY - four weekly on a Thursday, Starting Jan 20**

**The new times are: Townlands 10.35 – 11.20 WVH 11.25 – 12.25**

### **MID DEVON SINGERS**

The MiDS have been busy preparing for our Christmas and January events at Burlescombe, Willand, Uffculme and Halberton - making sure that rehearsals are safe and fun. On Sunday 5 December, we were delighted to lead the Christmas Candlelight celebrations at St Mary's, Burlescombe, where other instrumentalists (trumpet, organ and harp) and vocalists joined us in a lively concert to raise funds for the Church. We were joined by the capacity audience in robustly sung carols and seasonal songs – no dirges - before we were all treated to supper at this very atmospheric and enjoyable community event.

We were looking forward to performing for Willand Ladies' Cameo Group and Uffculme WI in early January but postponed these events, to a future date, because of the Omicron virus - it's better to be safe than sorry. Sadly, our own Christmas Concert and party were also cancelled for the same reason. We hope our spring Concert at Halberton will go ahead on Saturday 26 March.

As we restarted in late January, we capped our numbers at 40 to ensure we keep safe. Our new programme, includes three versions of *Sing* (by Pentatonix,

Gary Barlow and The Carpenters) and *You Raise Me Up*. It is precondition of joining our friendly, but non-cliquey, social and musical group, that members are fully jabbed and having LF tests. There are no auditions for our inclusive, all-age, mixed choir that includes starters, teenagers and experienced singers from across the district (and from Halberton) and beyond. We meet on Fridays (good for young singers); it's free for them. We sing a little of everything - all styles from past to present. It's a great time to try us; contact our membership Secretary Stephanie to see if there's space, through [singers@halberton.org](mailto:singers@halberton.org) or Facebook or me. **Terry Payne (Chairman and Musical Director)**  
**01884 820081 / 07973 890947**

## **WILLAND HEALTH & COMMUNITY CENTRE**

**Coffee/Tea and Chat – The 1st Thursday of every month 9.30-12.00.**

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**[www.facebook.com/groups/cvu3a](http://www.facebook.com/groups/cvu3a)**

## **CULM VALLEY U3A**

During the last Monthly Meeting, before Christmas, we were all highly entertained by “The Corkscrew Murder” game. Nick, a member, writes...

The game “The Corkscrew Murder” is a murder mystery, but with a difference. A murder mystery usually involves participants dressing up in character and acting out play or drama, reading from a prepared script and asking questions. At the end everyone tries to guess the murderer. It can be great fun if you like acting out, but trickier for those less happy in the limelight. And not great for involving a large group of people.

So, when our u3a revealed that our Christmas meeting would feature a Murder Mystery which involved us all, but no-one was required to play a role, I was intrigued but relieved!



The difference was that we played the Corkscrew Murder with small teams, sitting round tables at our monthly meeting. No pressure then, just natural competitive spirit to be the team to crack the murder mystery.

Each team was provided with a pack of information, including envelopes we opened when prompted describing the background to the murder and an overview of the characters.

Our Chair led us through the whole game, drip feeding us with more facts and handing out 'Suspect Statements', evidence documents and timelines to add to our complete confusion!

Our challenge was to plough through this wealth – dare I say mountain – of information including maps, newspaper cuttings and other facts relevant (or were they?) to the crime, before the demon buzzer interrupted our discussions with a series of NEWSFLASHES delivered at intervals by one of our committee. It showed me what a real murder investigation must be like and how easy it must be for the police to drown in all the information they gather in.

At the end of the afternoon, by dint of good teamwork and a few leaps of faith, some of the teams (but not mine!) miraculously identified the murderer whilst others made credible but wrong guesses. But that didn't matter because we all had fun and what more do you want? **Barbie Bradbury and Margaret Chumbley**

## **COLDHARBOUR MILL**

**OPENING TIMES:** until April the **Museum, Shop and Cafe** are all open to the public on **Thursdays**, 10.30am-3.30pm (last entry 2pm).

*Come and enjoy a Production Day. You will experience the buzz of the lively factory floor as our volunteers and production manager work on our heritage machinery. They might be spinning yarn, or weaving rugs or tartan cloth, all giving you a feeling for what it was really like to work in the Mill in the past - plus the yarn and textiles they produce are on sale in the Shop. You will also be able to discover the rest of our exhibitions and the Steam Complex.*

### ***GROUP VISITS for adults and schools***

The Mill will continue to be open for pre-booked school sessions and group tours for adults 7 days a week. Please see 'Visits' page on our website, then Education or Group Visits, or email us at **visitorservices@coldharbourmill.org.uk** to book or find out more.

### **VOLUNTEERING AT THE MILL**

Our volunteers make Coldharbour Mill special, with each person helping to keep the Mill running, preserving it for future generations.

Volunteers will support the Mill over the winter closure and we have lots of opportunities to get involved. [www.coldharbourmill.org.uk/volunteer](http://www.coldharbourmill.org.uk/volunteer) to see all the opportunities or you can email or phone, and we can tell you more about

volunteering with us, and arrange taster sessions and training. Even if you can only spare a few hours a week, we'd love to talk to you.

Email: [info@coldharbourmill.org.uk](mailto:info@coldharbourmill.org.uk) or phone: 01884 840960.

This year there will be opportunities to support the Café & Shop, Factory Production, Steam, Curatorial, Grounds and Maintenance Teams. No matter what your interests or skill set we will have an opportunity which is right for you, and there are always opportunities to start something new.

### **FRIENDS OF THE MILL**

The Friends Annual General Meeting will take place on Wednesday 30 March 2022 at 2.00 for 2.30 pm (with coffee & cake). Members and prospective members welcome.

For those of you who don't already know, the Friends raise money to support Coldharbour Mill Trust. Subscriptions and fundraising events enable the Friends to donate several thousand pounds a year to the Trust to assist with the upkeep of the historic buildings and the development of the Museum. Membership comes with generous discounts on admission and on the cafe and shop.

**Susan Wasafi**

### **WILLAND COMMUNITY COMPOSTING SCHEME (WCCS).**

A belated Happy New Year to you all from the Composters!

**OPENING TIMES** Wednesdays and Sundays only - 10.00 am - 12 Noon.

These Times are COVID dependent – if we have to close – notices will be displayed.

A reminder that the material we accept is listed and displayed on the gates but if you still have a Christmas tree we can accept it providing all decorations are removed and the trunk and branches are no more than 1" in diameter.

We don't accept - Cordyline or palm leaves as they do not compost down and cause havoc in the shredding process.

We have been receiving an inordinate number of stones mixed in the leaves that have been deposited with us. Our normal process is that we use a lawnmower to chop up the leaves so that they compost faster. We have experienced damage to our machinery and some near misses with personal injury, caused by stones. Can we ask that some care is taken to ensure that stones are not mixed in the leaves that are deposited.

- **COMPOST SALES:**

We offer two types of compost: -

**Sieved** (with next to no twigs) compost is £2.00/bag.

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that when dug in and left to winter it improves the soil quality. **PLEASE, return your empty bags they will be gratefully received.**

In the meantime, we continue to ask you to recycle garden waste- either by composting yourself, or, deposit down here at the site. Finally, you could use either, the - MDDC garden waste collection scheme (there is a charge) contact 01884 255255 or, deposit at the DCC Ashely, Bickley, Recycling Centre.

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## **WANTED: QUALITY CATERERS OR ENTREPRENEURS IN WILLAND AREA!**

Quality caterers or entrepreneurs in the Willand area – would you like to join the mission to revitalise Tiverton Pannier Market?!

The historic venue is looking for a forward-thinking operator to run the market café. The market enjoyed a renaissance in 2021, with a plethora of new traders, events, promotions and features raising the venue's profile locally and further afield. It is hoped the launch of a new café will help to stimulate the revival, increase visitor numbers and provide a boost to the town and area generally. Jim Bray, market manager, said: "There is great potential for the right person or business, bearing in mind the central location with indoor and outdoor space and guaranteed footfall from general markets every Tuesday, Friday and Saturday, monthly farmers markets and other events." "I'm sure there are one or two quality caterers or entrepreneurs in the Willand area who are up for the challenge!"

For an application form or an informal chat, call Jim on 07815 791191 or e-mail him at [jbray@middevon.gov.uk](mailto:jbray@middevon.gov.uk).

The deadline for applications is midnight on Saturday 5 February.

## **CALLING ALL BUDDING GARDENERS AND GREEN-FINGERED**

**WHIZZES!** - Whether you have acres of rolling lawn, a tiny-yet-terrific town garden, a super shrubbery or pots of perfect perennials, you can be part of something special and join the Hospiscare Open Garden Campaign 2022.

- Maybe you and your neighbours could work together and hold an Open Gardens afternoon in your neighbourhood?
- Why not have a plant, craft or preserve stall at your gate, in your close or your cul de sac?
- Organise small group tours of your garden for family, friends and neighbours in return for a donation.
- Put out a donation tin or bucket for donations when people are able to enjoy a view of the garden when passing by

**Bloomin' marvellous – how can I get involved?** Simply email [fundraising@hospiscare.co.uk](mailto:fundraising@hospiscare.co.uk) or give us a ring on 01392 688020.

## **CAMEO**

Cameo had a busy run up to Christmas beginning with Christmas dinner at the Beambridge Hotel, where a secret Santa was enjoyed by everyone. The next week we were at our favourite venue, Petroc's Centre for Special Needs Students. As usual, they did us proud cooking and serving us a superb Christmas lunch, we were able to buy home made Christmas pudding's and cakes, we met and thanked the students and Sue who organises the whole event. A couple of days later the Singles Group had their Christmas get-together at Rhona's and we thoroughly enjoyed that. The Walking Group had a short walk around the lanes in Uffculme and then on to the Old Well for a Christmas tea. A group of members went to Exeter to the Christmas market and to see the festive lights. The Singles Group are going to the Halfway House for their New Year lunch later in January. The Walking Group had their first walk of the New Year around Kentisbeare followed by tea at the Old Well. On 6 January Peta welcomed the members who braved the awful cold and rain to come to the first Cameo meeting of the New Year. She outlined the really busy year the Committee have arranged for us and it looks like we are in for a very interesting and active year. We welcomed Brian Hancock to the meeting, from the Culm Valley Car Scheme, he told us that due to Covid , they had unfortunately had to make a few cuts to their service as they are short of volunteer drivers at the moment but all essential trips to Hospitals etc would still be maintained, several of our members have used this excellent service and we were very pleased to give him a cheque for £400 which, in spite of all the restrictions, we had managed to collect for this worthwhile charity. We then enjoyed a bring and share supper, the members as always, produced a lovely meal. It was a cracking start to our Cameo year. On February 3rd we are having a speaker telling us and warning us of computer scams which we all worry about and we hope this will include text and telephone scams which affect us all. Our first outing will be to The Old Well for a coffee morning on Wednesday 19th January on 16th February we are having lunch at Redwoods pub in Uplowman, Tuesday 1st March we are going for coffee at Fordmore Farm Shop near Cullompton, on 15th March we are off to the Oceans Leisure Centre In Exmouth for 10 pin bowling and lunch. Peta has got some ideas of how we can celebrate the Queen's 70th year on the throne, so we look forward to seeing what plans the committee will arrange for us. If you feel you would like to come along to our meetings we will be pleased to welcome you. We meet on the first Thursday, in the Village Hall, at 7p.m.(unless for some reason we can't have the Hall) belated New Year greetings to you all and let's hope it will be a healthy one and less disruptive to all of our lives. **Betty Penberthy.**

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We hope you have enjoyed this issue here is the solution to **Soduko No1**

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I	T	N	H	S	Y	L	G	U
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*A point to ponder – Why do people believe you when you say its raining, but always check if you say “That’s wet paint” Why When they check wet paint do they always stick their finger in the middle”*

**THE CUT OFF DATE FOR THE NEXT MAGAZINE IS 16 MARCH 2022**

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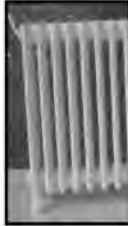
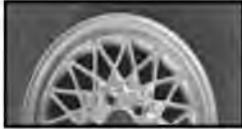
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