

**WILLASTON PARISH COUNCIL
ANNUAL COUNCIL MEETING
23rd MAY 2017**

Present : Parish Councillors C T Bailey, S Brazier, A J Cutts, J M Flackett, R Greenwood, A Jones, M R Jones, D W Lewis, F R Morton & C F Todd.

Apologies : Parish Councillor K Ward.

Cheshire East Councillor S Pochin.

1 CHAIRMAN

RESOLVED : that Councillor M R Jones be appointed Chairman for the ensuing year.

2 VICE CHAIRMAN

RESOLVED : that Councillor C F Todd be appointed Vice Chairman for the ensuing year.

3 DECLARATION OF INTERESTS

There were no declarations of interest.

4 MINUTES

RESOLVED : that the minutes of the meeting held on 25th April 2017 be approved as a correct record and signed by the Chairman and that the minutes of the Annual Parish Meeting held on 25th April 2017 be approved as a correct record and signed by the Chairman.

Matters arising :- it was reported that the Civic Service on Saturday 13th May was a great success and thanks go to those councillors involved in the organisation of the event. It was agreed that an item should be included on the September agenda to discuss a similar event next year.

5 OPEN FORUM

No matters were raised by members of the public.

6 POLICING ISSUES

Councillor Todd reported that there had been a recent clampdown on motoring offences and a significant number of fixed penalty tickets had been issued for both speeding and driving whilst using a mobile phone.

7 CHESHIRE EAST COUNCILLORS REPORT

No Cheshire East Councillors were available to attend the meeting on this occasion, but the clerk reported that Borough Councillor Simon had agreed to take up the issue of the grass verge on Colleys Lane which has not been trimmed for some considerable time, and which is becoming very overgrown.

8 PLANNING APPLICATIONS

17/2460N - Proposed conversion of the old stores turnery into dwelling house, The Old Stores Turnery, Wistaston Road

No objections

Cheshire East Council decisions

16/6027N - Outline application for proposed dwelling, 207 Crewe Road - **approved**

17/0248N - New dwelling for nursery manager, 209 Crewe Road - **approved**

16/6153N - Variation of condition 2 on approved application 16/3233N - demolition of existing dwelling and construction of 4 detached dwellings with access to fields at rear, 158 Wistaston Road - **approved**

17/1494N - Change of use of the unit into a workshop to comprise of an MOT station, workshop and office to coincide with the current business in Crewe, Back unit, Tricketts Lane - **approved**

The Moorfields development was also discussed, following the decision of the Supreme Court to allow the planning approval to stand. A question was raised about the design and make up of the proposed houses backing on to existing properties on Moorfields. The Chairman advised that the site currently only had outline approval and that the housing mix and design was something to be considered at the reserved matters stage.

9 NEIGHBOURHOOD PLAN

The Chairman advised that the plan was being finalised, with the inclusion of photographs, and Councillor Todd advised that it is planned to submit it to Cheshire East Council later this week. The council also has the opportunity to have a stall at the Worm Charming event in order to publicise the plan and the forthcoming referendum. However, volunteers will be required to man the stall and members are requested to contact the Chairman with their availability.

The next meeting of the Neighbourhood Plan Committee will be held on Tuesday 6th June.

10 APPOINTMENT OF COMMITTEES

RESOLVED : that Committees be appointed consisting of the following members :-

- Britain in Bloom Committee – C T Bailey, D W Lewis & K Ward.
- Village Fete Committee – J M Flackett & D W Lewis.

11 WYBUNBURY UNITED CHARITIES

The AGM of Wybunbury United Charities was held on 18th May, at which Willaston was awarded a sum of £305.31 for distribution. Ideas were requested as to how these funds should be distributed and Councillor Greenwood requested a copy of the criteria to look into this. It was also suggested that the local vicar should be asked if he had any suggestions and an approach should be made to the primary school.

12 VILLAGE FETE 2017

The last meeting of the Village Fete Committee was held on 4th May. The fete is to be held on the Lettie Spencer playing field on Sunday 16th July and an article advertising the event is to be placed in the Nantwich Link. Judging for the Rose Queen was held last Sunday and a Rose Queen and two assistants has now been nominated. Several popular forms of activity and entertainment have already been booked, but there is a need for more stalls. Catering will be by Mick the Chip on the playing field and hot drinks will be provided in the methodist chapel.

The next meeting of the committee will be held on Thursday 25th May.

13 BRITAIN IN BLOOM

The latest meeting of the Britain in Bloom Committee was held yesterday. All of the beds and tubs have now been stripped for the new season, but need topping up with soil and compost. Some of the plants have been replanted in the border at the back of the village green. Mountfords will plant up the contracted out beds and Ken Dentith has volunteered to plant up the other beds and tubs. The seats at the war memorial and village green have also been re-painted.

Four new planters have been ordered to be sited at stores corner, the maze, and to replace the two old planters at the end of Ashlea Drive. All the planters will have new transfers applied in gold lettering stating “North West in Bloom Gold Award Winners.” Two new banners are also to be obtained for display around the village and it was agreed that these should include the Willaston logo and the wording “Gold Award Winners.”

Councillor Bailey is producing the portfolio for the NWIB judges, although the judging date has not yet been notified.

14 INTERNAL AUDIT REPORT FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31st MARCH 2017

The clerk presented the internal audit report for the year ended 31st March 2017 which concluded that the council’s systems of internal controls in place was adequate for the purpose intended and effective.

RESOLVED : that the internal audit report be approved and accepted.

15 PARISH COUNCIL INSURANCES

The clerk advised that renewal papers had now been received for the Zurich Municipal insurance policy quoting a premium for the coming year of £793.27, compared to £772.73 for the current year. However, the increase is almost entirely due to the increase in Insurance Premium Tax. A schedule of the cover provided by the policy was made available to members.

RESOLVED : that the Zurich policy provides adequate insurance cover in all relevant areas and the quotation of £793.27 should be accepted.

16 WAIN HOMES OFFER OF FUNDING TOWARDS PLAY EQUIPMENT

Wain Homes as the developer of the Cheerbrook Road housing development has made an approach via Ansa offering some funding towards the installation of some new play equipment at the Wybunbury Road playground. They are also seeking agreement for access to be allowed to the playground from the Cheerbrook Road development. Whilst any funding would be welcome, serious concerns were expressed by all members about the potential for the reoccurrence of anti-social behaviour if another access point to the playground was opened up.

RESOLVED : that the council would be willing to accept any s106 funding which may be available, but that agreement should not be given to the provision of an access gate from the Cheerbrook Road housing development on to the Wybunbury Road playing field.

17 CHRISTMAS LIGHTS IN 2017

Councillor Lewis reported that he had met with a representative of the Highways Department who had agreed to install a timer in the lamp post by the village green at no cost to the parish council. The Christmas lights can then be powered from the street light with meter readings being taken at the beginning and end of the Christmas period, and this council just paying for the electricity used. He also advised that there would be no Health & Safety implications in displaying the lights at a lower level across the green as they were last year.

18 ANNUAL INSPECTIONS

RESOLVED : that the annual inspections will take place on Tuesday 20th June at the following times – 6.30pm at the Playing Field and 7.00pm at the Allotment Site.

19 REPORT OF THE CLERK

The clerk presented his usual written report and made particular mention of the offer from Highways to make a presentation and answer questions within a parish council meeting. It was agreed that the clerk should invite them to attend one of our meetings.

The Chairman also advised that he had submitted an application form to enter the “Village of the Year” competition and was awaiting a response.

20 PAYMENT OF ACCOUNTS

RESOLVED : that the accounts totalling £3,483.63 as detailed in the attached schedule be approved for payment.

21 DATE OF NEXT MEETING

This was confirmed as 27th June 2017.

Chairman..... Date.....

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WILLASTON PARISH COUNCIL

SCHEDULE OF ACCOUNTS

23rd MAY 2017

Details of Payment	£	£	Cheque No
M Langhorn - May net salary	517.48		
- Petty cash	<u>29.34</u>	546.82	102426
H M Revenue & Customs - tax on salary		129.40	102427
JDH Business Services Ltd - Internal audit fee		187.20	102428
Zurich Municipal - Annual insurance premium		793.27	102429
C F Todd - Travel & print expenses		370.54	102430
Chris Mountford - grass cutting in the village		194.00	102431
Amberol Ltd - purchase of planters		1,262.40	102432
Total		3,483.63	

Chairman..... Date.....