

Willaston Parish Council

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Minutes

of a meeting of the Council held at
 St Luke's Church, Coppice Road, Willaston, CW5 6Q
 on

Tuesday 19th August 2025 at 7.00pm

Present Councillors Angier, Bailey, Brazier, Cutts, Kirby, Newton and Salisbury (Chairman)

In Attendance C Coventry - Clerk to the Council

1. Apologies for Absence

Cllrs Morton, Morris

2. Declarations of Interest and Dispensation Considerations

- a. Cllr Angier declared a Pecuniary interest in item 11 as a payee.
- b. Cllr Angier declared an interest in item 12 as an allotment holder
- c. There were no dispensations granted prior to the meeting.
- d. Cllr Angier has requested a standing dispensation to forgo the need for a declaration to be made, in respect of her interest in the allotments, as allotment holder, at every meeting, to last until the parish council elections in May 2027. Resolved

3. Minutes of the Previous Meeting

To resolve that the minutes of the previous meeting of the council held on Tuesday, 29th of July, are a true and correct record.

A query was raised under item 7, Borough Councillors Report, the last sentence stating there was an appendix to the minutes of the communication sent to the press, but it was not included. It was proposed that we accept the minutes as a true record with an amendment made to item 7, deleting the last sentence. **RESOLVED**

4. Police

- a. No police were present, but it was agreed that if the police were to send a written report Cllr Kirby could share that in the future.

b. Cllr Kirby had circulated a report in advance of the meeting, Cllr Angier suggested these reports are summarized to include information only related to the village.

Cllr Kirby is generally really pleased with how the police are beginning to respond and communicate compared to where they were a few years ago. Most of his involvement, currently, is to do with the community Speedwatch and there's a lot of effort in terms of putting together a plan which will be in place before the end of August, with potential training sessions for volunteers in September. This is to be done in conjunction with the Parish Council and Cllr Kirby stating that the proposal for Speedwatch will come to council at the September meeting.

He also reported that the police are prepared to visit local groups, such as book groups, so issues can be raised. It was noted the emphasis is on Speedwatch. In the context of other issues it was asked if the Police can share a summary of the feedback from the anonymous questionnaires completed at the recent White Star event

It was emphasised communications with the police need to be shared between liaisons and if possible additional information obtained from the police on reported incidents.

Cllr Angier raised the issue of damage caused at the allotments and the ongoing investigation by the police regarding the use of e-bikes, and that Nick Jarvis has said they would like information from the public but wanted to know how much we should divulge from our social media.

5. There was no item 5 on the agenda.

6. Public Participation

No members of the public were in attendance.

7. Borough Councillors Reports

The Clerk confirmed no reports had been received from Cheshire East Councillors.

Cllr Bailey asked that the lack of attendance be minuted. Cllr Alan Gage absent for 17 meetings,

Cllr Alan Coiley 15 meetings and Cllr Margaret Simon 21 meetings.

It was requested that the Clerk make enquiries about attendance at the meetings of other Parish Councils and that a further letter be written to the leader of the Council when we have received their responses.

Cllr Brazier reported that in a statement issued by the leader and the deputy leader of Cheshire East they talk about how their Councillors are local leaders, how they are champions, how they bridge the gap between residents and local governments, but we are not seeing that.

Discussions about putting a press release on the Council website took place and the possibility of attending the next Council meeting of Cheshire East on October 15th, raising the issue of non-attendance during the open forum. This will be an agenda item for September.

8. Planning Applications

None

9. Playing Fields and Open Spaces

Cllr Angier detailed the actions taken over the reported lock-in. She received a phone call from a resident after 9pm that there were 3 youths on the field, including the banned individual, after it had been locked. She rang 999 to report this and had a return call saying the police hadn't got the resources to follow it up. Security, in the meantime, had been back to release them. Nick Jarvis has said he looked into the matter but the police will not take any further action as there was no damage, therefore we did not isolate the CCTV footage. In future it should be reported as nuisance, not trespass to make it criminal and not a civil matter.

Members were informed that the father of the banned individual has failed to contact the council since the Community Resolution Order was issued on 28th June. It was queried if therefore the Community Order is now void due to the conditions not being met. Cllr Salisbury will make PC Talbot aware of this to clarify what further action can be taken.

We have been made aware by a member of the public that a picnic table has been moved. Cllr Salisbury to ask the contractor to check for damage.

Nothing to report on The Spinney, War Memorial or Mike Haywood Green.

10. Clerks Report

The Clerk had submitted a report to the council in advance of the meeting, giving a brief update of work undertaken, planning decisions and communications received from the public. There was nothing further to add to the report.

11. Payments

RESOLVED. The schedule of payments for August correctly states the invoices presented and that £1571.91 is approved to be paid and £21.00 has been paid to avoid late payment or due to being a resolved regular payment. (as detailed on page 4031)

12. Allotments

a. Cllr Angier reported 2 plots have changed hands, meaning immediate lets. A lot of new tenants are making amazing progress and our Facebook page shows photos of this and is getting a high number of views.

She intends to get back to those who do not appear to be making much progress. The waiting list has 1 Willaston resident and 6 out of Parish. The online sign-up is working well.

The hire of the skips resulted in rubbish being removed from the worst 5 plots, so we need to have a think about clearing other rubbish from around the site.

The drone survey achieved positive results.

An Ash tree has been felled due to die back.

Initial enquiries into waterless toilets have been made.

It would be nice to mark the centenary of the allotments, possibly with a new sign and open days.

A new noticeboard is required.

It was decided not to make any awards this year.

b. RESOLVED: to accept the quotation of £350, from Border Tree Care, for maintenance of the boundary hedge to the right of the entrance gate, cutting back the hedge to give a clear path, and taking away the green waste. The cost will be taken from general maintenance.

c. RESOLVED: to accept the quotation of £318 for the reinstatement of the boundary hedge, to the left side of the gate.

d.e.f. RESOLVED: to approve the addition of structures, in the locations detailed, on Plot 15 (Shed), Plot 76 (Greenhouse) Plot 51 (shed)

13. Standing Orders

RESOLVED: that Standing Order 35. B. iii is amended as follows “At the next meeting of the Planning Committee/Council the comments submitted shall be noted and minuted”

14. Banking.

RESOLVED: that the funds of £12,922.52 in the Barclays account are transferred to the Unity Trust Account by cheque. That the Barclays Community Account 4125 and the Barclays Business Premium Account 5673 are now closed.

15. Next Meeting

Tuesday the 30th of September.

16. Exclusion of Press and Public

No members of the public were in attendance.

17. Pay Scales

It was noted that following the Local Government Services Pay Agreement 2025, the contractual increase has been applied to the Clerks Salary. Back Payment from 1st April has also been calculated for both the current and previous Clerk.

18. Land Tenancy

RESOLVED: To issue the 2025-26 rent invoice (£245.00) along with a letter to issue notice of increase to £450.00, along with raising other points discussed. To instruct Hibberts draft a new tenancy agreement with a working budget of £1,500.

The meeting closed at 8.49 pm

Signed as a true record by authority of the Council

Chair:

Date: **30th September 2025**

Willaston Parish Council

Schedule of Payments

19th August 2025

Date of Debit	Recipient	Purpose	£	£	Power of expenditure	Scribe	Rembursal
	HMRC	Employer Tax and NICs	254.56		LGA 1972 S112		
	Claire Coventry	August Salary inc SCP Increase Back Pay	701.32		LGA 1972 S112		
	Amazon	Stationery for allotment use	8.73	571.72	LGA 1972 S111		Emma Angier
	Amazon	Stationery for allotment use	7.99		LGA 1972 S111		Emma Angier
	AP Skip Hire	Allotment Clearance skips x 2	370.00		Smallholding and Allotments Act 1908 S23		Emma Angier
	AP Skip Hire	Allotment Clearance skips x 1	185.00		Smallholding and Allotments Act 1908 S23		Emma Angier
	Jack Rowlett	Back Pay - SCP Increase 01/04/25 to 16/05/25	40.81		LGA 1972 S112		
	The Works	Stapler and Staples	3.50		LGA 1972 S111		Claire Coventry
Total			1571.91				

Payments made as authorised by the Approved Payments List, Meeting Resolution, and to avoid late payment							Rembursal
Date of Debit	Recipient	Purpose	£	£	Power of expenditure	Scribe	
							N/A
12.8.2025	GiffGaff	CCTV Data Bill - Aug 2025	15.00		Crime and Disorder Act 1998 S17		Jack Rowlett
31.7.2025	Unity Trust Bank	Unity Trust Service Charge July 2025	6.00		LGA 1972 S111		
		Total	21.00				

Clr - Proposer - Sign & Date

Clr - Seconder - Sign & Date