

Willaston Parish Council

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Minutes of the meeting of the Council held on Tuesday 23rd August 2022

Attendance:

Parish Councillors: Craig T Bailey (Chairman), Shirley Brazier, Anna J Cutts, Nigel Lane, Colin F Todd (Vice-Chairman), Wayne Salisbury, Keith Ward.

Sue Togay (Clerk), Cheshire East Borough Councillor Allen Gage.

73. To receive apologies for absence

Apologies were received from Parish Councillors Emma Angier, Nigel Keegan, Frank R Morton, Julie Webb, Cheshire East Borough Councillor Margaret Simon.

74. Declarations of interests

Councillor Bailey with reference to item 14. Authorisation of Payments as a payee.

75. To Approve the Minutes of the previous meeting held on Tuesday 26th July 2022

RESOLVED: that the minutes of the meeting held on 26th July be approved as a correct record and signed by the Chairman with the following amendments:

Item 63: amended to 'The letters to tenants whose plots are uncultivated is not yet completed.'

It is noted that when draft minutes are distributed to Councillors that there is an opportunity for them to point out any minor amendments required before the final draft is presented for signature at the meeting.

Matters Arising

Councillor Brazier mentioned the paragraph at the beginning of the minutes relating to a reminder to Members of conduct and the debate at the June Meeting. She believed that a complaint had been made against her and stated that if she has a problem with someone, she speaks to them directly and in her 30 years on the Council she has never had a complaint lodged against her. The Chairman and Clerk assured her that no complaint had been received relating to her or any other Councillors.

Councillor Ward referred to the pathway between John Gresty Drive and Victoria Mill Drive which he had raised at the last meeting. This had been reported to Cheshire East who had now contacted the Clerk stating, 'to be actioned as soon as operationally possible'. Councillor Todd mentioned that as no action had yet taken place, this may be due to the 'nesting' period when hedges/overgrowth cutting back is not carried out. This period was however at an end by the beginning of September.

76. Policing Report

No officers in attendance.

77. Public Participation

There were no questions from members of the public.

78. Cheshire East Borough Councillors' Reports

Cheshire East Borough Councillor Allen Gage gave a report on the following issues:

Magpie Lane: A dispute had arisen as it had been pointed out by a resident that in relation to Planning Applications 19/1860N and 16/4870N for 2 and 3 bedroom houses that these properties were being advertised as 6 bedroom which was not within the planning permission granted. This matter has been brought to the attention of Planning Enforcement.

Park Road: A planning dispute was taking place regarding the removal of a hedge between 2 properties which had not been agreed on the planning approval. Councillor Gage was involved, and the matter has been referred to Planning Enforcement.

Wells Green: There are utility works currently taking place due to gas leaks which are of no imminent danger but need to be remedied. Twice daily inspections are taking place. Although not within the Parish it was felt relevant given the distribution.

Peacock Road crossing: There was no progress at present.

Cheerbrook Roundabout: The acoustic fencing will be improved and existing footpath behind will be removed and seeded. Although not within the Parish it was felt relevant given the proximity to the boundary.

Electric vehicle charging points in car parks: There are none planned for Willaston, but Councillor Gage stated he was keen to have a safe charging facility in the area as part of an infrastructure project being carried out at present.

Valuation and information gathering regarding idling vehicles outside schools: At present Cheshire East is working on this aspect and researching good practise and pitfalls with other councils as a forerunner to delivering any enforcement.

Domestic refuse collections: There had been some missed collections of domestic waste bins which was due to staffing issues. At present ANSA has a recruitment drive for more HGV drivers.

Cheshire East Ward budget: At present, there was a £4,000 per annum budget available for use on highways issues. Councillor Gage had bid for 4 speed tables at the roundabout on eastern Road as there was no visual deterrent in place.

Moorfields: Signage had been requested for the last two years and further evaluation had been done regarding the tree at the entrance to Moorfields with negative response. Councillor Gage asked for confirmation of ownership of the small triangle of land opposite Mike Heywood Green which the Chairman confirmed does belong to Cheshire East.

Allotment Policy: Councillor Gage enquired if an allotment tenant was allowed more than one plot. The Clerk confirmed this is allowed under the present terms and conditions of Willaston Parish Council.

Road markings at the junction of Cheerbrook Road/Green Lane/Wybunbury Road: Councillor Lane had brought this to the attention of the Council at the last meeting which had been referred to the Cheshire East Ward Councillor. Councillor Gage explained that this had been reported to Highways and will be added to the February list.

Highways Engagement: There had been a relaunch of 'Highways Engagement' and Councillor Gage had submitted ten priorities for his ward. Parish Council should be receiving emails from Highways with respect to this.

Footpath near Wistaston Hall: Clarity was sought regarding the newly laid bark footpath on the triangular field between Willaston Hall and Peacock Roundabout. This had been laid but in no way affected the existing right of way.

The Chairman thanked Councillor Gage for his attendance and the information provided.

79. Report of the Clerk

The Clerk provided a written report which confirmed that the bank mandate was now in place and banking facilities could now be accessed. Work continued on the uncultivated sites identified at the allotments and the reletting process. There had been some complaint with reference to the standpipes, but Councillor Todd informed the Council that this was being repaired.

PCSO Jolley had contacted the Clerk in response to a request to the Police regarding engagement in the community. It was agreed that PCSO Jolley be invited to a future meeting of the Council. The fencing at Willaston Academy had been altered and prevented access to the Willaston Noticeboard. The Chairman is liaising with The Head Teacher/Site Manager to remedy this.

80. Planning Applications

22/0198N - Erection of a detached house and ancillary works at 35 Moorfields, Willaston
A letter had been received from the Local Planning Authority in relation to this application, as an interested party, to attend the Southern Planning Committee Meeting on 31st August. It was presumed this application had been called in.

22/2271N – 2 storey side and rear and single storey rear extension(s) to dwelling
53 Colleys Lane, Willaston, CW5 6NS
Consultation Deadline 8th September
Comments to Clerk by 7th September via email.

The Clerk would update the log of planning decisions and provide to Councillors.

81. Willaston Events Committee

a. Report on the work of the Events Committee

Councillor Cutts stated that there had been no further meetings, but a survey had been posted on the Willaston Events Facebook page and distributed to every household in the Parish. The deadline for response is 11th September. Results would be considered by the Committee to inform the way forward for its activities.

b. To consider a transfer of surplus funds from the Queen’s Platinum Jubilee Committee to the Willaston Events’ Committee

RESOLVED: that a surplus amount of £194.91 resulting from the budget of The Queen’s Platinum Jubilee Committee be transferred to the Willaston Events Committee.

82. Playing Field and Open Spaces

A request had been received from Pawprints to Freedom for the use of a section of Lettie Spencer Playing Field on a rescheduled date of 24th September 2022.

Their previous request had been agreed by Council but had to be cancelled due to the fire in the area. The grass had now recovered, and the Clerk would request relevant insurance documents/risk assessments etc and a fee of £1 from them to allow the event to go ahead.

Councillors Keegan and Lane would be proceeding with the repair of the basketball board and hoop as soon as a date could be identified.

83. Play Equipment Safety Inspection

Quotes had been received from Playsafety and ANSA for the annual safety inspection.

RESOLVED: That Playsafety are instructed to carry out their standard annual inspection at a cost of £240. The normal reduced rate inspection would be applied for in April 2023.

84. Allotment structures

The request for the erection of a greenhouse measuring 14ft x 9ft or two 6ft x 5ft on plot 91/92 was considered.

RESOLVED: that permission be given to erect the above structure on Plot 91/92.

85. Budgetary Control Review

The amended expenditure against budget review for the first quarter of the financial year had been distributed. The method for calculation had been confirmed by working with the previous Clerk.

RESOLVED: that the Expenditure against budget Review for the first quarter of the financial year to end of June be approved.

86. Authorisation of Payments

RESOLVED: it was resolved that the accounts totalling £20, 911.89 as detailed in the attached schedule be approved for payment.

87. To note the date of the next meeting of the Council

Tuesday 27th September 2022.

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

**WILLASTON PARISH COUNCIL
SCHEDULE OF ACCOUNTS
23rd August 2022**

Details of Payment	£	£	Cheque No
S Togay Clerk - Salary to July 27 th 22 to August 23 rd 22		538.80	102876
HMRC		134.60	102877
Society Local Council Clerks – Qualification Fee Cilca		410.00	102879
Cllr Craig Bailey – Clerk’s Mobile		8.74	102878
Water Bill 15 June to 14 July 2022		91.75	102880
Crewe Road Nurseries – Willaston in Bloom		9,378.00	102881
Mike Webster & Son -grass cutting August		350.00	102882
Total	Total	10,911.89	

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