

**WILLASTON PARISH COUNCIL  
COUNCIL MEETING  
24 AUGUST 2021**

Present : Parish Councillors C Bailey, E Angier, S Brazier, A J Cutts, N Keegan, N Lane, W Salisbury, C F Todd & K Ward.

Apologies : Parish Councillors R Greenwood, F R Morton & J Webb.  
Cheshire East Councillor : M Simon.

**50 DECLARATION OF INTERESTS**

There were no declarations of interests.

**51 MINUTES**

RESOLVED : that the minutes of the meeting held on 20 July 2021 be approved as a correct record and signed by the Chairman.

**52 OPEN FORUM**

No matters were raised by members of the public.

**53 POLICE MATTERS**

PCSO Bowman is currently on sick leave. The Chairman referred to reports from a resident regarding anti-social behaviour on Wybunbury Road by the A500 which has been reported to the police. An incident which occurred on Park Road last week has also been reported to the police. It was also noted that someone has pulled all the books off the shelves in the book box in the last couple of days.

**54 CHESHIRE EAST COUNCILLORS REPORT**

There were no Borough Councillors present at the meeting but the Chairman reported that he had written to Councillor Gage regarding the following matters :-

- There have been further reports of double parking by the Nag's Head which had prevented buses from getting through. Councillor Todd agreed to take this up with the police.
- A resident had reported near misses at the junction of Cheerbrook Road and Wybunbury Road due to the faded road markings which are now barely visible.

**55 PLANNING APPLICATIONS**

21/3942N – Single storey rear extension, 12 Boden Drive

No objections

21/3838N – Variation of condition 2 on application 21/0459N – Construction of a ground and first floor rear extension, loft conversion, front elevation works and full external renovation, 61 Park Road

It was considered that the proposed variation effectively reverted the plans back to those submitted under the original application 21/0459N and therefore the council's objections to those original plans still applied to this proposed variation

21/4063N – Demolition of existing garage, sun room, kitchen and outbuilding. Rear two storey and side single storey extensions to form new bedroom, kitchen diner and utility room, 26 Green Lane

No objections

21/4152N – Installation of telecoms shelter at the entrance to Willaston Allotment site

No comments to be submitted at this stage

21/4284N – Two storey and single storey rear extension with minor internal alterations, The Cottage, Newcastle Road

No objections

21/4371N – Ground floor roof conversion from pitched roof to flat roof raising eaves height, 16 Cheerbrook Road

No objections

### **Cheshire East Council decisions**

21/2102N – Single storey extension with porch, garage conversion, and single and part double storey extension, 7 Greenbank Close – **approved**

21/1151N – Rear extension to detached garage and loft conversion and dormer to main house, 2 Brassey Way – **approved**

### **56 S106 FUNDING AND RESURFACING OF THE CHILDREN’S PLAY AREA**

The resurfacing of the children’s play area, the basketball court and the entrance path to the playing field has now been completed, as have the line markings on the basketball court and the children’s floor games in the play area. All of the s106 funding has now been utilised, with the final amount outstanding of £656.06 to be offset against the cost of the path resurfacing. Councillor Salisbury reported that there had been very positive feedback from residents about the work carried out and as a final step he is to seek some costings for replacing the basketball nets.

### **57 EXTERNAL AUDIT REPORT FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31<sup>st</sup> MARCH 2021**

The clerk presented the external audit report for the year ended 31<sup>st</sup> March 2021 which concluded that the return was in accordance with proper practices and there were no matters giving cause for concern.

**RESOLVED** : that the external audit report be approved and accepted.

### **58 REQUEST TO ERECT A TELECOMS SHELTER AT THE ALLOTMENT SITE**

A request has been received from VX Fiber Ltd to erect a telecoms shelter on land behind the bus shelter at the entrance to the Willaston allotment site. The Chairman, Vice Chairman and clerk met on site with representatives of VX Fiber Ltd last week to discuss their requirements. The widening and re-tarmacking of the allotment drive was discussed, as was the potential for an annual rental payment to be made to the council for the use of the land. A few hours prior to this meeting an email was received from VX Fiber Ltd with some initial proposals.

**RESOLVED** : that the Chairman, Vice Chairman and clerk be appointed to liaise with VX Fiber Ltd on behalf of the council and to report back to the September meeting.

### **59 THE ALLOTMENT PADLOCK**

There continues to be periodic problems with the allotment padlock and both the clerk and Councillor Todd have had to visit the site on numerous occasions recently to meet with tenants whose keys would no longer work in the lock. With more than 90 plots on site the padlock gets a great deal of use and can be damaged by people trying incorrect keys in the lock, or by the use of inaccurately cut keys. The issue of several notices to tenants asking them to take care with the lock and not to get their own copies of the key cut has not resolved this problem.

After discussing the issue with Holdfast Security Systems they have suggested a potential solution which involves the use of a restricted access padlock. This is designed so that it is not possible to insert an incorrect key into the lock and it is not possible to get duplicate keys cut anywhere other than at the issuing locksmiths, who will not provide any cut keys without first obtaining approval from the council. A register would be kept of all the keys issued, which would be numbered and assigned to a specific person.

The initial cost of implementing such a system would be £877.15 + VAT to cover the cost of two new padlocks and 110 keys. The bulk of the cost would be in the keys which would normally cost £10 each, but Holdfast have agreed to a significant discount and will provide the initial stock of keys at £6.63 + VAT each.

The proposal would be to increase the deposit taken from tenants to £10 per key, which would involve asking existing tenants for an additional deposit of £5 per key.

RESOLVED : that the above proposal be approved.

## **60 REMEMBRANCE SERVICE 2021**

The annual Remembrance Service will take place at the war memorial on Colleys Lane on Sunday 14<sup>th</sup> November and, as things currently stand, will be an open event. The Chairman will make the usual arrangements with the bugler and invited attendees, and will check with the road management company that they are able to arrange the usual road closure on similar terms as in previous years.

## **61 THE QUEEN'S PLATINUM JUBILEE**

The Chairman proposed the forming of a Queen's Platinum Jubilee Committee to organise events to mark the Queen's Platinum Jubilee in 2022, under terms of reference circulated prior to the meeting.

RESOLVED : that a Queen's Platinum Jubilee Committee be formed with the Chairman and Councillors Brazier, Cutts, Angier and Salisbury appointed as members and that Mrs Edith Ridgway be appointed as Honorary President.

## **62 WILLASTON IN BLOOM**

The Chairman reported that the beds and planters were now in full bloom, although there had been some damage to the plants in the Wistaston Road bed. Also some of the beds have not been weeded recently, which the Chairman will speak to the contractor about.

There has also been some feedback from a resident about the overgrown nature of the land by the railway crossing and Councillor Todd will speak to a contractor about the potential of spraying the area with weed killer.

The Allotment judging took place earlier this week.

## **63 MEMORIAL TO PAST CHAIRMAN MAURICE JONES**

A dedication ceremony will take place on the morning of Saturday 25<sup>th</sup> September to mark the renaming of the Maze area as Maurices's Maze and formal invitations will be sent to various dignitaries as well as the family. There will be a few brief speeches made and it is anticipated that the ceremony will last for approximately 30 minutes. The place sign has been ordered and the family have requested the planting of a tree with good Autumn colour. Volunteers will be required to weed and mulch the area prior to the event.

**64 RECRUITMENT OF THE CLERK**

The Chairman reported that interviews had taken place last week and that the interview panel recommended the appointment of Hannah Marr to the position of Clerk and Responsible Financial Officer with a start date of 13<sup>th</sup> September.

RESOLVED : that the interview panel recommendation be approved.

**65 ChALC ANNUAL MEETING**

RESOLVED : that Councillors Bailey and Todd should attend the Cheshire Association of Local Councils Annual Meeting as the representative of this council.

**66 REPORT OF THE CLERK**

The clerk presented his usual written report.

**67 PAYMENT OF ACCOUNTS**

RESOLVED : that the accounts totalling £1,819.27 as detailed in the attached schedule be approved for payment.

**68 DATE OF NEXT MEETING**

This was confirmed as 28 September 2021.

**Chairman..... Date.....**

## WILLASTON PARISH COUNCIL

## SCHEDULE OF ACCOUNTS

24 AUGUST 2021

Details of Payment	£	£	Cheque No
M Langhorn - August net salary	562.12		
- Petty cash	<u>6.61</u>	568.73	102761
H M Revenue & Customs - tax on salary		140.40	102762
Rope Parish Council – clerical services		50.00	102763
CWC (East Cheshire & Staffs) – weed spraying		96.00	102764
J Mountford – Grass cutting in the village		270.00	102765
Northwich Town Council – disposal of benches		117.60	102766
PKF Littlejohn LLP – external audit fee		240.00	102767
SLCC Enterprises Ltd – vacancy advertisement		258.00	102768
Water Plus Ltd – water at allotment site		78.54	102769
<b>Total</b>	<b>Total</b>	<b>1,819.27</b>	

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