

Willaston Parish Council

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Willaston
Parish Council

Minutes of the meeting of the Council held on Tuesday 25th October, 2022.

Attendance:

Councillors: Craig Bailey (Chairman), Emma Angier, Anna Cutts, Rubina Green, Nigel Keegan, Nigel Lane, Colin Todd (Vice Chairman), Wayne Salisbury, Keith Ward, Wayne Salisbury.
In Attendance: Sue Togay, Clerk.

115. Apologies For Absence

Apologies were received from Parish Councillors Shirley Brazier, Frank Morton and Cheshire East Councillor Allen Gage.

116. Declarations of Interest

Councillor Craig Bailey in respect of Item 18 Authorisation of Payments as a payee.
Councillor Wayne Salisbury in respect of Item 18 Authorisation of Payments as a payee.

117. Minutes of the Previous Meeting

RESOLVED: that the minutes of the meeting held on 27th September 2022 be approved as a correct record and signed by the Chairman with the following amendments:
Item 97: Councillor Cutts not Councillor Lane to refurbish the 'No Ball Games Sign'.

Matters Arising

Item 99: A budget had been allocated for replacement of the benches on Mike Heywood Green even though the land belonged to Cheshire East Borough Council and the existing benches were their property. It was considered a priority Health & Safety matter as a small child had an accident at the Proclamation Ceremony as the wooden laths were rotten and had collapsed causing the child to fall. The Clerk was requested to contact Ward Councillor Allen Gage as a matter of urgency to request speedy replacement of the benches by Cheshire East and to ascertain a time scale to further consider replacement direct by Willaston Parish Council.

118. Policing report

There were no officers in attendance and no items to report.

119. Public Participation

There were no members of the public in attendance.

120. Cheshire East Borough Councillors' Reports

Councillor Gage had sent his apologies but had supplied notes on the following items:

Bayley Croft Estate: issues had been reported regarding landscaping and lack of signage. A request had gone to Planning Enforcement which is now underway related to the discrepancies over planting and the failure to install traffic lights on Crewe Road after the required number of occupancies.

Cheerbrook Gardens: Councillor Gage will speak to the developers in relation to the fence and signage.

Road Markings: The markings on Wybunbury Road/Green Lane have been requested from Highways and should be delivered along with the marking of the speed tables. A request would also be submitted to include Victoria Mill Drive/Gresty Drive Junction.

The house on Magpie Lane has been considered. The advertised floor plans match those which were agreed at planning. It is assumed that some rooms have now been repurposed as bedrooms. All floor space was calculated at the time of determination, and it is that figure which counts towards CIL contributions.

The Clerk was asked to contact Councillor Gage relating to the following issues:

The highways signage between the Peacock Roundabout and the Cheerbrook Roundabout on the bypass was heavily obscured.

There was considerable fly tipping at the lay-by on Eastern Road. The Clerk to ascertain if it was in highways ownership.

121. Report of the Clerk

The Clerk presented her written report which included an update on work being carried out on allotments, markings outside the Playing Field Gates, information on street name plate replacement for the Moorfields sign at Mike Heywood Green, procurement of Parish Online , Playground safety inspections and proposal grass cutting quotes be obtained for 2023.

Further actions to be taken are:

Parish Online – Use of this system was discussed, and Councillors Bailey and Greenwood plus the Clerk are to be designated as initial administrators of the system. Any training available was to be offered to all Councillors with access to be expanded once initial population of the Parish information was carried out.

Grass Cutting 2023 – The Chairman to provide an outline specification in order to request quotes from relevant contractors.

The Playground Inspection Company to be chased up again.

122. Planning Applications

The following application had been due for comment on 24th October and therefore consideration could not be given at a Parish Council Meeting. The application had been distributed via email and no objection received. On behalf of Councillors, the Clerk had submitted no objections.

RESOLVED: that the above planning application had been given due consideration and Councillors approved of the comments submitted on their behalf.

123. Willaston Events Committee

Councillor Cutts presented her report and had provided The Events survey results, Events Committee minutes and proposed Garden Party budget for 2023 to all Councillors prior to the meeting.

Consideration was given to the following:

Our Neighbourhood Plan section 4.1 states that “By 2030 Willaston will be a thriving and distinctive community located within the green gap which as a community will evolve and grow in a sustainable way and will be a place where people can live, retire, work, and play and enjoy a high quality of life.” The Events Committee is working towards delivering this vision.

A resident survey was open between 20th July and 11th September and results of the survey was provided. The Events Committee used the survey information to inform their discussion at the Committee meeting at which it was resolved that a Garden Party event should be held in 2023. The total budget for this event of £7450 was based on the actual 2022 figures, of which **£6150** is to be requested from the Council.

Other events agreed for 2022/23 were:

- Carol Singing – budget **£300** to reflect increased number of attendees.
- Coronation event – budget **£300** for a small event on Mike Heywood Green similar to the Jubilee Launch Event in 2022.

In addition, the Committee resolved to budget **£250** which would be used to seed other events during the year e.g. hire hall, provide refreshments. Potential events could be Litter Pick group, Christmas tea party for older residents & young people.

The Events Committee resolved to request an amount of £7000 from Council in the 2023/24 Budget.

The Committee resolved to set up an Events working group of residents which will take place on Tues 8th Nov at 7.30 in The Lamb Conservatory. This is advertised in the October Newsletter currently at the printers – all councillors are invited.

Considerable discussion took place regarding the pros and cons of the proposed activities and budget. It was advised that as in previous years the request for the Events Committee budget is to be included for resolution at the Full Budget Meeting in November when separate resolutions are taken on various itemised projects.

124. Playing Field and Open Spaces

a) Various Issues were discussed in relation to our playing field and open spaces:

Playing Field

A wooden boundary fence on the Cheerbrook side had now been erected and was sited flush to the Parish Council fence avoiding a ‘no man’s land’ area and giving privacy to the adjacent house.

Playground equipment which required attention had been anonymously repaired to an acceptable standard.

It was felt that the memorial tree needed additional protection from the dogs on the playing field. The Clerk to obtain quotes for consideration.

The football pitch will require seeding and it was advised that this should take place in February/March. In order to alleviate the problem of turf damage in the goal mouths, it was suggested that mobile goal posts could be used.

The basketball court was being well used.

Mike Heywood Green

Street Name Plate – the ‘Moorfields’ street name plate was in very bad condition, and it was noted that it took considerable time for Cheshire East to replace these items. The Clerk to report to ‘Fix My Street’ and report back on progress at the November meeting in order for further consideration on direct procurement by the Parish Council.

b) Councillors were asked to consider the interpretation and enforcement of Byelaw 4 (b) Councillor Bailey had provided information obtained from a former dog warden and canine lecturers from University Centre, Reaseheath in relation to The Dogs Act 1871 and the Dangerous Dogs Act of 1991 and the difference between ‘under control’ and ‘under proper control’. Discussions took place in relation to interpretation of the Parish Byelaw and the due diligence required by The Council. Councillors requested that posters are produced and displayed on the Playing Field and the Clerk to contact Chalc to clarify the responsibilities of The Council.

125. Willaston Act of Remembrance

The Remembrance Service will be the same format as last year. Duttons were acting as our agents in relation to the road closure application to Cheshire East and their Public Liability Insurance and that of the Parish had been provided to Highways. In response to the new Events Procedure that Cheshire East required, information had been provided to the Cheshire East Event Safety Advisory Group for advice and approval. All criteria had now been met with the addition this year of the provision of First Aid Support. The Reverend Turnbull and Reverend Butcher had agreed to lead the service and invitations to organisations had been sent out. The PA and bugler had also been organised.

Councillors were informed that volunteer marshals would be needed on the day.

126. Carols on The Green 2022/23

Councillor Salisbury had been informed that the refreshment budget for Carols on the Green were not sufficient to cover costs and the 2021 event provision had cost more than the budget due to increased attendance. It was requested that the budget for 2022 be increased from £200 + VAT to £250 + VAT.

RESOLVED: that the budget for the 2022 Carols On The Green be increased from £200 to £250 +VAT.

127. Willaston Pre-School Proposed Funding for a Special Project

Councillor Salisbury had provided information from Willaston Pre-School in order to consider a donation from the Community Grant Fund to support funding for a special project. Discussions took place as to the method of procurement.

RESOLVED: That an amount up to £2450 inclusive of VAT be contributed to the Willaston Pre-School from the Community Grant Fund.

128. Willaston in Bloom

The Chairman had distributed the recent quote received for winter bedding which was within the proposed budget for the year. No objections had been received.

RESOLVED: that the quotation for winter bedding at cost of £660 (exclusive of VAT) be accepted.

129. Bank reconciliation

Councillor Ward reported that he had checked and verified the Bank Reconciliation as of 30th September 2022.

130. Budgetary Control Review 2022/23

The expenditure against budget review for the second quarter of the financial year to the end of September 2022 had been distributed for review.

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

131. Budget 2023/24

A revised baseline budget to include amendments made at the September meeting and the expenditure against budget up to end September had been provided. Review and discussion of this version of the draft baseline budget line by line, took place and additional items were included. The Clerk to provide a final draft baseline budget to include all suggestions from Councillors in preparation for resolving the full Budget at the November meeting of the Council.

The information of the Parish Precept and taxbase arrangements had been received from Cheshire East and distributed for information.

132. Authorisation of Payments

RESOLVED: that the accounts totalling £1963.18 as detailed in the attached schedule be approved for payment.

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

Tuesday 29th November 2022.

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

**WILLASTON PARISH COUNCIL
SCHEDULE OF ACCOUNTS
25th October 2022**

Details of Payment	£	£	Cheque No
S Togay Clerk - Salary		538.80	102894
HMRC		134.60	102895
S Togay – Stamps		13.60	102896
Cllr Craig Bailey – Clerk’s Mobile		8.74	102897
Water Bill 15 August to 14 Sept 2022		47.51	102898
Mike Webster Grass Cutting Inv 2309 Sept 23		340.00	102899
Mike Webster Grass Cutting Inv 1910 Oct 19		300.00	102900
Cropper Grounds Maintenance Ltd – QPJ Line marking		180.00	102901
Cllr W Salisbury - newsletter printing - Mixam	94.35		
Microsoft 365 Annual License	79.99		
Stablepoint - Domain Name .org.uk	5.99		
Stablepoint – Web Hosting	<u>46.80</u>	227.13	102902
Parish Online Annual Subscription (20% reduction)		172.80	
Total	Total	1963.18	

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