

## Willaston Parish Council

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**Willaston**  
Parish Council

### **Minutes of the meeting of the Council held on Tuesday 29<sup>th</sup> November 2022.**

#### **Attendance:**

Councillors: Craig Bailey (Chairman), Emma Angier, Shirley Brazier, Anna Cutts, Rubina Green, Nigel Keegan, Nigel Lane, Frank Morton, Colin Todd (Vice-Chairman), Wayne Salisbury.

In Attendance: Sue Togay (Clerk), Cheshire East Borough Council Ward Councillor Allen Gage.

#### **134. Apologies For Absence**

Apologies were received from Parish Councillors Keith Ward and Julie Webb.

#### **135. Declarations of Interest**

Councillor Craig Bailey in respect of Item 15 Authorisation of Payments as a payee.

#### **136. Minutes of the Previous Meeting**

RESOLVED: that the minutes of the meeting held on 25<sup>th</sup> October 2022 be approved as a correct record and signed by the Chairman.

#### **137. Policing report**

There were no officers in attendance, however the Chairman had attended the local Police & Crime Commissioner meeting with Town and Parish Councils. Items discussed at the meeting were delegated responsibilities for the maintenance of highways, a new policy in relation to the deployment of SIDS, inconsiderate parking on Derwent Drive, the allocation of a new PCSO to Willaston and an update on the trial scheme of average speed camera use by local councils.

#### **138. Public Participation**

There were no members of the public in attendance.

#### **139. Cheshire East Borough Councillors' Reports**

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

- Bypass between Peacock and Cheerbrook Roundabouts – maintenance of signage and cut back of foliage should be completed imminently.
- Inconsiderate parking at Derwent Drive – this was being addressed by local Police officers.
- There was now an amended highway policy regarding 'idling' vehicles near schools. Enforcement will be strict.
- Bayley Croft Issues – the developers were not compliant with what was required regarding lights and signage and the opening of the playpark.

- Cheerbrook Gardens – The signage was not sufficient and as it was not yet adopted then it is the responsibility of the developers. Councillor Gage would look again at the dumping of rubbish in the fenced area and would report back as this may be a fire hazard.
- Benches on Mike Heywood Green - enquiries with Cheshire East Officers had not established any formal legal agreement regarding the responsibilities of the Borough and Parish Council for this area such as maintenance of grass, benches, fences and planter which was carried out by the Parish Council even though it was owned by Cheshire East. The Council discussed the potential of asset transfer of the Green to Willaston Parish Council.
- 84 Bus Service –correspondence had been received from a bus user to the Council and Councillor Gage regarding the bus service which was being diverted from running through the village due to inconsiderate parking which hindered access. Councillor Gage had met with Crewe & District Bus Users and the Head of Highways who has agreed to come up with a solution. It is imperative that Willaston does not lose its bus service.
- Advertising Hoarding at roundabouts – It was pointed out that there is considerable signage at both Peacock and Cheerbrook without permission. Historical permission is only in existence for hoardings outside Richmond Village and The Peacock on Crewe Road and any other was therefore without permission.

Thanks were expressed to Councillor Gage for his actions and involvement in matters within the Parish.

#### **140. Report of The Chairman**

The Chairman gave his report which included the following items:

- Death of Mrs Judy Heywood, wife of the late Chairman Mike Heywood.
- Attendance at the ChALC AGM on 27<sup>th</sup> October 2022.
- Attendance at the Cheshire Police & Crime Commissioner Town & Parish Council Meeting on 17<sup>th</sup> November 2022.

#### **141. Report of The Clerk**

The Clerk presented her written report which included an update on work being carried out on the playing field gates, street name plate on Moorfields, benches on Mike Heywood Green, Rospa Safety Inspection for play equipment, grass cutting quotes for 2023, tree cages for memorial tree, and mobile goal posts.

#### **142. Planning Applications**

22/4292N 35 Moorfields, Willaston, CW5 6QY

Demolition of rear single storey extension. New 2 storey rear/side extension plus ancillary works

Consultation Deadline: 25<sup>th</sup> November 2022 Details circulated and no objections received.

RESOLVED: No objection comment submitted.

22/4346N 61 Park Road, Willaston, CW5 6PL

Render to front of property

Consultation Deadline: 28<sup>th</sup> November 2022

RESOLVED: Objection submitted based on original criteria for application to be approved that the building be of brick finish not rendered.

22/3514N 15 Coppice Road, Willaston, CW5 6QA

Two storey extension to rear of dwelling

Consultation Deadline: 30<sup>th</sup> November 2022.

RESOLVED: that no objection be submitted but comment made that the west facing first floor window should be of obscured glass.

22/4454N Land Adj 207 Crewe Road, Willaston, CW5 6NE  
 Detached dwelling, access and parking arrangements  
 Consultation Deadline: 8<sup>th</sup> December 2022  
 RESOLVED: No objections.

22/4505N The Paddocks, Colleys Lane, Willaston, CW5 6NU  
 New dwelling with garage and associated landscaping  
 Consultation Deadline: 21<sup>st</sup> December 2022  
 RESOLVED: Objections submitted based on the Willaston Neighbourhood Plan Points H1:1 and H4.

### **143. Willaston Events Committee**

The Committee held a Working Group Meeting on 8<sup>th</sup> November in the evening, in order for members of the public to attend. Eight parishioners had attended and expressed wishes to volunteer. All were keen to hold the Garden Party in the Summer with positive support for events. Other expressions of interest had also been received outside the meeting.

### **144. Playing Field and Open Spaces**

#### **a) Playing Field**

Refurbishment of Gates - The Clerk had spoken to the local contractor and contact was now to be made with Councillor Salisbury.

At a previous meeting Councillors were asked to consider the interpretation and enforcement of Byelaw 4 (b) in relation to The Dogs Act 1871 and the Dangerous Dogs Act of 1991 and the difference between 'under control', 'under proper control' and its interpretation. The Clerk had gained expert advice from ChALC to clarify the responsibilities of the Council. In the first instance to address the Council's responsibility, it was agreed that updated information should be displayed on noticeboards, the Parish's social media platforms and future Spring Newsletters. The Chairman to provide suggested wording for approval by Councillors.

It was felt that the rules/opening hours sign in the Playing Field was not in a suitable place. The Clerk to investigate moving it to a more appropriate position.

#### **Mike Heywood Green**

The Council had resolved at the meeting held on 27<sup>th</sup> September 2022 to spend an amount of £3,000 for the procurement and installation of two benches. However, the Clerk had been requested to approach Councillor Allen Gage regarding whether Cheshire East Borough Council, who owned the land, would replace them. As previously mentioned in Item 139, there was no formal agreement in place and after discussion with Councillor Gage it was agreed that Willaston Parish Council would go ahead and procure two benches from Glasdon at a cost of £740 each. The Clerk to request a quote from Steve Willis Brothers (Cheshire East Council approved contractor) to remove the present benches and install a hard standing surface for installation. The Clerk to liaise with Councillor Gage and Councillors Lane and Keegan regarding timings.

Further to these discussions and lack of any responsibility shown in recent years for this area by Cheshire East Borough Council, the Council requested that Councillor Gage have a conversation with appropriate officers at Cheshire East Borough Council regarding an asset transfer of Mike Heywood Green to the Council considering cost, timescale and liability. Councillor Gage to inform the Clerk of the contact at Open Green Spaces in order for the Council to notify them of replacement of benches. Research was also to take place in archived documents in relation to any historical agreement recorded within minutes.

Decision on the installation of a street name plate for Moorfields to be deferred until the January Meeting.

Councillor Salisbury reported that Christmas lights had now been installed at the Green and the Carols on the Green would take place on Thursday 15<sup>th</sup> December at 6.30pm.

#### **b) Memorial Tree and Plaque**

Councillors considered the installation of a memorial tree and plaque in memory of Queen Elizabeth II. Councillors agreed that the tree be substantial and planted on 6<sup>th</sup> February with attendance by the local school children.

RESOLVED: That a budget of £500 + VAT be allocated to the purchase of a substantial tree and appropriate plaque.

#### **145. Tree Works at Huntsbank Council Allotments**

A quote had been received in response to a complaint sent to Cheshire East Highways regarding overgrown trees which were sited on the allotment boundary. This covered cutback of trees in the bus shelter area and overgrown trees/hedges in the Sandylands Park area.

RESOLVED: that the quote for £600 + VAT be accepted and payment made.

#### **146. Budget 2022/23**

As the present Clerk did not wish to take part in the Council's Pension Scheme, it was discussed whether the amount allocated to the 'Pension Line' of the 2022/23 Budget be reallocated to the 'Employee Training Line'.

RESOLVED: That the £2000 at present allocated to the 'Pension Line' of the 2022/23 Budget be reallocated to the 'Employee Training Line'.

#### **147. Budget and Precept 2023/24**

Preparatory work for a baseline budget had taken place at the September and October meetings of the Council in order to inform the final approved budget for 2023/24. The Chairman requested that a last-minute amendment to the format of the budget provided be accepted to gain more detail on the Events Committee and Willaston in Bloom expenditure by separating them from the original Community Projects and Proposed Community Projects Sections.

RESOLVED: that the Council accept the amended version of the Budget as the working document for approval.

The Clerk had distributed documents relating to discussions on the budget which took place in September and October to provide clarity to the method plus notes on the 2022/23 Actuals Against Budget and 2023/24 Budget Figures to also include consideration of minimum running costs.

Councillors were asked to consider each section of the Budget for resolution:

RESOLVED: Allotments total expenditure - £1906 approved.

RESOLVED: Playing Fields and Open Spaces total expenditure - £7120 approved.

RESOLVED: Salary Costs total expenditure - £8600 approved.

RESOLVED: Administration total expenditure - £4930 approved.

RESOLVED: Members Expenses total expenditure - £1150 approved.

RESOLVED: Civic total expenditure - £1820 approved.

RESOLVED: Willaston in Bloom total expenditure - £9750 approved.

RESOLVED: Events Committee total expenditure - £8300 approved.

RESOLVED: Community Projects total Expenditure - £6150 approved.

RESOLVED: Proposed Community Projects total Expenditure -£50 approved.

RESOLVED : Total Expenditure for the 2023/24 Budget of £49,776 approved.

With reference to the Income section of the budget, the income for Willaston in Bloom was increased to £1350 to give a total Income of £4908 and a net expenditure of £44,868.

RESOLVED: Total Income for the 2023/24 Budget of £4908 approved.

In consideration of the precept required, an amount of £5000 was approved from Reserves

RESOLVED: that £5000 be appropriated from balances (Reserves) for the Year 2023/24.

RESOLVED: In consideration of the net expenditure required minus the £5000 from reserves, Willaston Parish Council approved a Precept Request of £39,868. This reflects an increase of £3.91 on a Band D Property now totalling £24.86 or an increase of 18.6%.

### **147. Authorisation of Payments**

RESOLVED: that the accounts totalling £4838.28 as detailed in the attached schedule be approved for payment.

### **Dates Of Meetings in 2023**

Tuesday 31<sup>st</sup> January 2023

Tuesday 28<sup>th</sup> February 2023

Tuesday 28<sup>th</sup> March 2023

Tuesday 25<sup>th</sup> April 2023

Tuesday 16<sup>th</sup> May 2023 (Annual Meeting)

Tuesday 27<sup>th</sup> June 2023

Tuesday 25<sup>th</sup> July 2023

Tuesday 22<sup>nd</sup> August 2023

Tuesday 26<sup>th</sup> September 2023

Tuesday 24<sup>th</sup> October 2023

Tuesday 28<sup>th</sup> November 2023

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

**WILLASTON PARISH COUNCIL  
SCHEDULE OF ACCOUNTS  
29<sup>th</sup> November 2022**

<b>Details of Payment</b>	<b>£</b>	<b>£</b>	<b>Cheque No</b>
S Togay Clerk - Salary November		538.80	102904
HMRC - November		134.60	102905
S Togay Clerk – Salary December		538.80	102906
HMRC - December		134.60	102907
Water Bill 15/10/22 to 14/11/22		49.38	102908
<b>Cllr Craig Bailey</b> – Clerk’s Mobile	8.74		
Mileage Claim for ChALC AGM 27/10/22 @ 45p/mile	12.60		
Mileage Claim PCC Meeting 17/11/22 @ 45p/mile	9.00		
Reimbursement for PA and sound engineer for Remembrance 13/11/22	<u>120.00</u>	150.34	102909
RBL Poppy Appeal for wreaths, crosses and lamppost poppies		120.00	102910
Dutton Traffic Management Services Ltd for Remembrance Service closure, site signage and letter drop		606.00	102911
<b>Willaston Pre-School:</b>			
Balancing Bikes Toddler	68.78		
Balancing Bike age 2-5	84.98		
Folding Storage Centre	1399.20		
Water Pump Trays	<u>292.80</u>	1845.76	102912
Border Tree Care – Tree Work Allotments		720.00	102913
<b>Total</b>	<b>Total</b>	4838.28	

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