



Willaston Parish Council

Minutes of the Meeting Held on Tuesday 26th November 2024 at 7:15PM

Present: Councillors: Emma Angier, Craig Bailey, Frank Morton, Simon Newton, Wayne Salisbury (Chairman), Keith Ward

In Attendance: Jack Rowlett - Clerk to the Council

Part I

1: Apologies

Apologies were received from Cllr Brazier, Cllr Cutts, Cllr Kirby, and Cllr Lane.

2: Declarations of Interest

The Chairman declared an interest in Item 12A as a payee listed for reimbursement.

3: Minutes of the Previous Meeting

RESOLVED: To approve the minutes of the meeting held on 29th October 2024 as a true and accurate record.

4: Public Participation

There were no members of the public present.

5: Policing Report

The Chairman gave an update on the Council's meeting with Sergeant Burns and PC Jones on the 6th November. He conveyed appreciation for the Police's time and noted that the dialogue was constructive.

The Clerk read out a policing report sent by PC Jones which included the following key points:

- Anti-Social Behaviour (ASB) seems to have decreased on Lettie Spencer playing field, with no current reports regarding problem youths in this area.
- Colleys Lane was identified as the main hotspot for police reports, though this was primarily attributed to care home-related incidents and missing person reports from the facility. Speed monitoring was conducted on Colleys Lane using Tru-Cam equipment, with no vehicles found to be exceeding the speed limit.
- For the period 1st-26th November 2024, there were 28 total incidents reported, comprising 9 domestic incidents, 6 crimes, 4 ASB incidents, 3 missing person reports, 1 Police generated incident, 1 suspicious activity, and 3 concern for safety incidents.
- The ASB incidents included two girls becoming locked in the park on Wybunbury Road (resolved with public assistance), and two separate reports of youths playing "knock and run" at residents' doors.

- Police are currently investigating a report regarding a possibly dangerous dog/XL Bully.

The Chairman commented that the Council was unaware of the incident involving girls locked in the park and indicated that he would feed this back to the security company responsible for closing the playing field.

6: Cheshire East Borough Councillors' Reports

No borough councillors provided reports or attended the meeting.

Cllr Bailey acknowledged the attendance of Cllr Gage and Cllr Coiley at the Willaston Remembrance Service. He also noted that the trees have been cut back on the bypass, improving visibility of road signs.

Cllr Bailey also remarked that he was impressed with the Highways response to unauthorised works on Cheerbrook Road/Cheney Close, where unsafe conditions for pedestrians had been reported. The works were stopped promptly until proper permits and traffic management plans could be put in place.

7: Planning Applications

The Council considered one planning application:

Reference: 24/4354/DSC

Address: Store All, Cheerbrook Farm Newcastle Road, Willaston, Nantwich, Cheshire East, CW5 7EL

Proposal: Discharge of conditions 3, 6 and 7 on approval 24/1035N: Expansion of existing self-storage business to provide additional 10000 sq.ft. (930 sq.m.) of self storage accommodation with associated infrastructure and ancillary facilities.

RESOLVED: No comments on the application.

8: Playing Field and Open Spaces

Lettie Spencer Playing Field

- The Chairman updated that the new signage for the playing field has been ordered. The pole now needs measuring so that the correct size clamps can be obtained.
- The Chairman further shared that work on the new solar panels is still outstanding pending a commencement date by the contractor.

The Spinney

- Cllr Bailey suggested that signage could be displayed at the Spinney to demonstrate ownership by the Council. He noted that this had been discussed previously.

Mike Heywood Green

- The Chairman updated that the winter beds have now been planted and attention will now turn to the Christmas lights.

War Memorial

- The Chairman stated that the sign post has now been removed and the ground made good, he further noted that the Remembrance Service had been well attended and was a success.
- Cllr Bailey suggested that a risk assessment be undertaken before next year's Service in order to manage pedestrian safety following the reopening of the adjacent road.

9: Mike Heywood Green Tree Work

The Clerk gave a summary of the quotes received for the removal of tree limbs hanging into properties neighbouring the green. In keeping with the Council's financial regulations for procurement in this price range, the Clerk attempted to source 3 quotes; however, of the 5 contacted, only 2 offered quotes in time for the meeting and 1 declined to quote. The Clerk noted that online research suggested that the average cost for work of this type is between £400-800.

RESOLVED: To accept Border Tree Care's quote of £550 + VAT for the required work to Mike Heywood Green.

10: Clerk's Report

The Clerk gave a summary of his report, highlighting the successful delivery of the Remembrance Service, the completion of administrative tasks following Cllr Newton's co-option, updates to the Dignity at Work Policy, work to obtain quotes for tree management at Mike Heywood Green, and matters relating to allotment renewals and waiting lists. He noted that one planning decision had been approved for 57 Eastern Road.

11: Budget 2025-2026

A. The Chairman gave a summary of the draft budget which members then discussed.

Cllr Ward left the meeting at 20:56.

RESOLVED: To approve expenditure of £6870.00 for the Administration cost centre for the financial year 2025-2026.

RESOLVED: To approve expenditure of £4590.00 for the Allotments cost centre for the financial year 2025-2026.

RESOLVED: To approve expenditure of £490.00 for the CCTV cost centre for the financial year 2025-2026.

RESOLVED: To approve expenditure of £1575.00 for the Civic cost centre for the financial year 2025-2026.

RESOLVED: To approve expenditure of £4800.00 for the Community Projects cost centre for the financial year 2025-2026.

RESOLVED: To approve expenditure of £2800.00 for the Events Committee cost centre for the financial year 2025-2026.

RESOLVED: To approve expenditure of £14,250.00 for the Playing Field and Open Spaces cost centre for the financial year 2025-2026.

RESOLVED: To approve expenditure of £14,674.00 for the Salary Costs cost centre for the financial year 2025-2026.

RESOLVED: To approve expenditure of £10,700.00 for the Willaston in Bloom cost centre for the financial year 2025-2026.

RESOLVED: To approve total expenditure of £60,749.00 for the financial year 2025-2026

The 2025-2026 budget can be seen from page 3043.

B. The Council considered the precept request of £56,572.00 in the draft budget. It was noted that this was a £35.60 precept for Council Tax Band D, a 7.19% increase of £2.39 on the previous year.

RESOLVED: To request a precept of £56,572.00 for the financial year 2025-2026.

C. RESOLVED: To make no appropriation from reserves for the financial year 2025-2026.

12: Authorisation of Payments

A. Cllr Bailey reported on the payment schedule and requested the Council's approval.

The Chairman noted he would be abstaining due to being listed as a payee for reimbursement.

RESOLVED: To approve accounts totalling £1869.93 as detailed in attached Schedule for Payment (see Page 3040).

B. The Council considered a draft annual approved payments for 2024-2025 list in accordance with section 6.6 of the Financial Regulations.

RESOLVED: To approve the Annual Approved Payments list for 2024-2025 (see Page 3041).

13: Carols on the Green

The Chairman gave an update on the Carols on the Green event. He confirmed that the event will start at 6:30 and that he will contact the relevant person to lead the carols.

Cllr Bailey informed the Council that the usual provider will once again provide refreshments.

14: Meeting Dates for 2025

RESOLVED: To approve the attached meeting dates for 2025 (see page 3042) with a 7pm start.

15: Exclusion of Press and Public

It was noted that a motion to exclude the press and public was not required due the lack of attendance by any members of the press or public.

Part II**16: Pay Scales - Local Government Services Pay Agreement 2024**

The Council noted that the Clerk's salary would be increasing in line with the NALC Local Government Services Pay Agreement 2024-2025. This increase is in accordance with the Clerk's contract and is backdated for hours worked since the 1st April 2024. This will be reflected in December's salary payment, which will be listed on the January schedule of payments.

The meeting closed at 21:41

Willaston Parish Council
Schedule of Payments
26th November 2024

Date of Debit	Recipient	Purpose	£	£	Power of expenditure
1	Jack Rowlett (Clerk)	Clerk's November Salary	790.92		LGA 1972 S112
2	Jack Rowlett (Clerk)	Clerk's Homeworking Expenses - November	26.00		LGA 1972 S112
3	HMRC	Employer Tax (November)	4.54		LGA 1972 S112
4	Mike Webster & Son LTD	Grass Cutting Allotments - September 2024	110.00		Small Holdings and Allotments Act 1908
5	Mike Webster & Son LTD	Grass Cutting Allotments - October 2024	110.00		Small Holdings and Allotments Act 1908
6	Alpha Omega	Security Close at Playing Field (1.10.2024-31.10.2024)	558.00		LGA 1972 S111
7	WaterPlus	Allotments Water Bill (8.10.2024-7.11.2024)	50.31		Small Holdings and Allotments Act 1908
8	Margaret Penaluna	Room Hire - St John's Church - 6.11.2024	10.00		LGA 1972 S111
9	NGL Technology LTD	Antivirus - 1 Year License	21.60		LGA 1972 S111
10	HFE Signs (Reimbursal to Cllr Salisbury)	Riveted Rear Rails for Playing Field Signage	38.56		Open Spaces Act 1906 S9
Total			1719.93		

Payments made as authorised and to avoid late payment

Date of Debit	Recipient	Purpose	£	£	Power of expenditure
11/11/24	Stephen Atherton	Bugle Player + PA for Remembrance 2024	150.00		LGA 1972 S145
Total			150.00		

Original	Recipient	Notes	£

Minute Reference

Cllr - Proposer - Sign & Date

Cllr - Secorder - Sign & Date

Proposed Meeting Dates - 2025

The following is a list of proposed Council meeting dates for 2025. As usual, the dates are the final Tuesday of each month unless this is impacted by a public holiday.

- Tuesday 28th January
- Tuesday 25th February
- Tuesday 25th March
- Tuesday 29th April
- Tuesday 20th May
- Tuesday 24th June
- Tuesday 29th July
- Tuesday 19th August
- Tuesday 30th September
- Tuesday 28th October
- Tuesday 25th November

							RESOLVED BUDGET
2024 - 2025							2025 - 2026
Community Development		Receipts		Payments			Payments
Code	Title	Budget	Forecast	Budget	Total	Forecast	Budget
53	Benches						
	SUB TOTAL						0
							RESOLVED BUDGET
2024 - 2025							2025 - 2026
Community Projects		Receipts		Payments			Payments
Code	Title	Budget	Forecast	Budget	Total	Forecast	Budget
40	Sundries Including Donations			250.00	150.00	304.00	250
41	Burial Grounds			300.00		300	300
42	Parish Newsletter			250.00		200	250
43	Benches			1,000.00	400.00	400.00	0
44	Fingerposts						
45	Dog Fouling Campaign & Equipment			400.00		300	500
86	Defibrillator			1,000.00		1000	0
87	Mike Heywood Green Asset Transfer			2,000.00			
88	War Memorial Resurfacing			3,000.00		4000	
	Boundary Signage						2000
	Christmas Lights						750
	Christmas Lights Installation						750
	SUB TOTAL			£8,200.00	£550.00	£6,504.00	£4,800.00
							RESOLVED BUDGET
2024 - 2025							2025 - 2026
Events Committee		Receipts		Payments			Payments
Code	Title	Budget	Forecast	Budget	Total	Forecast	Budget
36	Garden Party			8,835.00	7,369.03	7,369.03	2000
37	Coronation Event						
38	Carols On The Green			400.00		400	400
39	Seed Events						
54	Litter Pick						
85	Commemorative Events			350.00	200.40	200.40	400
	SUB TOTAL			£9,585.00	£7,569.43	£7,969.43	£2,800.00
							RESOLVED BUDGET
2024 - 2025							2025 - 2026
Playing Field and Open		Receipts		Payments			Payments
Code	Title	Budget	Forecast	Budget	Total	Forecast	Budget
10	Maintenance - Playing Field			1,500.00	19.50	519.50	1500
11	Maintenance - Other open spaces			500.00	120.00	370.00	500
12	Grass Cutting - Playing Field			1,500.00		138	1750
13	Grass Cutting - Other Open Spaces			750.00	1,849.98	2,263.98	
14	New Play equipment & Repairs			2,500.00		2000	2500
15	Playground Inspection			120.00	110.00	330.00	500
56	Gate Refurbishment						
60	Tree				400.00	400.00	500
62	Posters						
64	Bench						
76	Security - Playing Field			3,120.00	1,275.00	4,005.00	6000
	Grass Cutting - Mike Heywood Green						500
	Grass Cutting - The Spinney						500
	SUB TOTAL			£9,990.00	£3,774.48	£10,026.48	£14,250.00
							RESOLVED BUDGET
2024 - 2025							2025 - 2026
Salary Costs		Receipts		Payments			Payments
Code	Title	Budget	Forecast	Budget	Total	Forecast	Budget
16	Clerk's Salary			10,188.00	4,660.11	9,846.11	12000
17	Pension						
18	Training Courses - Employee			200.00		200	400
19	Expenses - Employee						312
28	Members - Training Courses			1,000.00		200	500
29	Members' Expenses - General			100.00		100	100
47	HMRC Tax Employee				73.00	73.00	
48	Employer NICS						
51	Staff Salary ML						
52	Employee Salary						
63	Tax and Employer NICS				921.13	921.13	1050
65	Clerks Expenses			150.00	220.07	376.07	312
	SUB TOTAL			£11,638.00	£5,874.31	£11,716.31	£14,674.00

							RESOLVED BUDGET
		2024 - 2025					2025 - 2026
Willaston In Bloom		Receipts		Payments			Payments
Code	Title	Budget	Forecast	Budget	Total	Forecast	Budget
33	Summer Campaign			8,250.00	7,810.67	7,810.67	8500
34	Winter Campaign			1,000.00	193.00	1,093.00	1200
35	WIB - Miscellaneous			500.00	9.98	259.98	1000
	SUB TOTAL			9,750.00	8,013.65	9,163.65	£10,700.00
		2024 - 2025					2025 - 2026
Income		Receipts		Payments			Payments
Code	Title	Budget	Forecast	Budget	Total	Forecast	Budget
66	Income Allotments	1,925.00	1,128.20				
67	Income Playing Field	2.00	2				
68	Income Willaston In Bloom Sponsorship	1,350.00	1000				
69	Income Events Committee	2,500.00	1,847.00				
71	Bank Interest	350.00	335.79				
72	VX Fibre	500.00	500.00				
73	Income Garden Party						
74	CIL Payment						
75	VAT Refund						
89	Field Rent						
	SUB TOTAL	6,627.00	£4,812.99				
		2024 - 2025					2025 - 2026
Precept		Receipts		Payments			Payments
Code	Title	Budget	Forecast	Budget	Total	Forecast	Budget
70	Precept	52,209.00	52,209.00				
	SUB TOTAL	52,209.00	£52,209.00				
TOTAL		58,836.00	57,021.99	£64,836.00	39,970.21	£68,982.70	£60,749.00

Willaston Parish Council
Precept Calculation 2025-26

1572.12	Tax Base
£ 52,209.00	Precept Requirement (£) 2024-25

1589.29	Tax Base
£ 56,572.00	Precept Requirement (£) 2025-26

Precept Difference	£ 4,363
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Band	DIS	A	B	C	D	E	F	G	H
Precept 2024-25	£ 18.45	£ 22.14	£ 25.83	£ 29.52	£ 33.21	£ 40.59	£ 47.97	£ 55.35	£ 66.42
Precept 2025-26	£ 19.78	£ 23.73	£ 27.69	£ 31.64	£ 35.60	£ 43.51	£ 51.42	£ 59.33	£ 71.19
Increases									
Per Yr	£ 1.33	£ 1.59	£ 1.86	£ 2.12	£ 2.39	£ 2.92	£ 3.45	£ 3.98	£ 4.77

7.19%

Precept History	Band D	% on LY
2024-25	£ 33.21	33.48%
2023-24	£ 24.88	18.70%
2022-23	£ 20.96	23.08%
2021-22	£ 17.03	0.00%
2020-21	£ 17.03	6.84%
2019-20	£ 15.94	2.31%
2018-19	£ 15.58	3.04%
2017-18	£ 15.12	0.00%
2016-17	£ 15.12	