

Willington Parish Council

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Parish Council Minutes of Willington Parish Council Held on Tuesday 14th January 2025 at The Old School, Castleway, Willington

Present: Cllrs P. Allsopp (Chair), J. Houghton, T. Bartram, I. Hudson, M. Bartram, A. Davenport, R. Titley and C. Harrison.
Member of the public.
Rachel Male (Clerk).

010125/1 To Receive Apologies for Absence

Apologies received from Cllrs. C. Mead, I. Walters and County Councillor M. Ford.

010125/2 Variation of Order of Business

Not required.

010125/3 Declaration of Members' Interests

None.

010125/4 Public Speaking, including County, District and Police Representation.

a) Members of the public raised several concerns:

The lighting work on Castleway is now complete. However, despite confirmation from Highways that, in line with policy guidelines, all silver-painted control boxes would be repainted green, this has yet to be done. The Clerk will follow up on this.

It was raised that broadband service in the Castleway area is very poor. A discussion followed about whether anything can be done to improve the situation.

District Cllr. Ian Hudson suggested that the concerned parties send him an email with details of the issues, and he will look into the matter further.

A resident raised a concern about the land behind the doctor's surgery, which has been fenced off, preventing public access. The Council clarified that this land is private property, and unfortunately, no further information is available at this time.

b) County Councillor Martyn Ford was absent from the meeting however he sent the following report:

Despite earlier positive discussions the Government financial settlement has fallen well short of what was expected, this, combined with the effects of the N.I. Increases in the budget will impact the council services by millions of pounds, both with direct council employees, where a previous commitment to councils to cover this cost has now been reduced to a "Contribution" which again falls short, and sub-contractors to the council, especially care service providers, as covering these extra increases will have a significant cost running into several millions of pounds.

Regarding the recent White Paper on Local Government Reform, the Gov't is keen to see unitarization which means Districts and Boroughs will, in effect, cease to exist in their current form, being absorbed into redefined authorities with greater responsibilities for service delivery. This is a complex issue with lots of talk between local Leaders and Government trying to work out the right mix demographically and politically and will take time, we will get much more detail over time and a timeline for elections, reminding you that this years' County Council elections could be postponed for between 12 months up to two years, leading to formation of the new authorities and boundaries in 2027. The controlling group on Derbyshire County Council have expressed the opinion that a Whole County Unitary,

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less Derby City, which is already a Unitary Authority, is the best option to keep the county together and to be able to deliver improvement to services and also savings.

Following the recent flood events that closed the causeway, whilst any delay in re-opening the causeway can be inconvenient, inspections are required I'm afraid. Previous flood events have damaged culverts under the highway which needed repairs, the latest closure and inspection has identified damage to the pedestrian embankment which will require rectification at some point in the future. Thankfully the road surface is fine. Cadent have also got work to do after gas leaks have been located.

I enclose the latest update from Highways regarding the long-awaited refuge:

In respect of the Refuge, I have a planned meeting with Design and Construction Services to co-ordinate the delivery of legacy / outstanding schemes of which the Refuge on Twyford Road is one of these. Once this meeting has occurred in the next couple of weeks I will give you an update on its installation.

District Councillor (DC) Ian Hudson:

McDonalds application

The consultation period for the McDonald's appeal has now closed. Unfortunately, a traffic accident occurred at the junction shortly after, but this will not be considered as part of the appeal process.

Bittern View

Another meeting with Bittern View residents is scheduled for next month at the SDDC offices to discuss progress and potential next steps.

The next Area Forum meeting is scheduled to take place at Newton Solney Village Hall on 21 January 2025, and all are welcome to attend.

Just before Christmas, the Government issued a white paper proposing changes to Local Government structure. The proposal suggests the abolition of District and Borough Councils, with their responsibilities transferring to the top-tier County Council. It is currently unclear whether this would also involve a merger of Derby City and Derbyshire County Councils. No changes have been proposed for Parish and Town Councils.

If implemented, these changes could have significant implications, such as a possible delay to the County Council elections scheduled for May 2025. Should the proposals be upheld, they would take effect from 2026/27, leading to the dissolution of District and Borough Councils.

010125/5 To confirm and agree as a true record the non-confidential Minutes of the Willington Parish Council Meeting held on 10th December 2024

RESOLVED to agree and sign the Minutes as a true and accurate record.

010125/6 To note and agree the recommendations within the non-confidential Minutes of the Burial Committee held on 7th January 2025

RESOLVED to agree the Minutes as a true and accurate record. (FINANCIAL: AGREED that all fees be increased by 5% with effect from 15th January 2025. b) That the following option be added to the fees/policy from January 2024: • The option to purchase an extension to the Exclusive Rights of Burial for 25 years at a cost of £450.)

010125/7 To note the recommendations within the non-confidential Minutes of the Finance Committee Meeting held on 7th January 2025

RESOLVED to note the Minutes as a true and accurate record.

010125/8 To consider a resolution to close the meeting for public participation under the Public Bodies (admission to meetings) Act 1960.

Not required.

010125/9 Clerks Report

Noted and attached.

010125/10 To approve the 2025/2026 Budget and Precept

RESOLVED to approve the budget as set out (attached) and increase the precept by £2,908 to £61,075.

010125/11 Planning Applications

a. DMPA/2024/1548 - The erection of two storey and single storey rear extensions at 4 Bethany Close, Willington, Derby, DE65 6RN

Noted.

b. DMPA/2024/1582 - Erection of a single storey rear extension and part conversion of the garage into living accommodation at 16 Sealey Close, Willington, Derby, DE65 6EP

Noted.

010125/13 Neighbourhood Development Plan

The group has now completed the full analysis of the feedback received from the questionnaire. Relevant comments will be incorporated into the document, which will then be sent to SDDC for further review. Once SDDC has provided their feedback, the revised document will be presented back to the village for final approval.

010125/14 Twyford Road proposed community hall and changing rooms

Meetings with the Football Association (FA) are still pending to discuss potential grant opportunities.

010125/15 Play area inspections

a. Hall Lane Play Area

The green mesh fencing has now been removed. **RESOLVED** to leave the area as it now stands, with no replacement.

b. Trent Avenue Swing Replacement

DEFERRED to next month.

010125/15 SDDC Summer Holiday Provision 2025

RESOLVED to go ahead with Summer Holiday Provision with a budget set at £1600 maximum spend which is the proposed spend budgeted for 25/26.

010125/16 Website Renewal

RESOLVED to accept the website renewal which includes the Annual Website License, Hosting and Support For Period: 1st Mar 2025 - 28th Feb 2026, Domain Renewal and email accounts at a cost of £670 + VAT.

010125/17 Payroll services fee increase

RESOLVED to acknowledge the payroll service fee increases from SDCVS, effective 1st April 2025, and to approve the signing of the updated contract for the 2025/26 financial year. The changes include:

- Year-End Fee: Increased by £5 (now £45)
- Monthly Employee Fee: Increased by 50p (now £8.50)

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010125/18 Finance – Income and payments to 14th January 2025

To approve the income and payments to 14th January 2025. (attached). All invoices were available for inspection prior to the Meeting.

RESOLVED that all income and payments as submitted be agreed.

010125/19 To confirm and agree the accounts to month ending 31st December 2024

RESOLVED that the accounts and bank reconciliation to month ending 31st December 2024, as submitted, be agreed.

010125/20 Meeting close

The meeting closed at 20.08

Signed:.....

Date:.....

Clerks Report January 2025

FULL COUNCIL MEETING 11TH JANUARY 2022		
	110122/15 Village Green Application – Twyford Road Playing Fields	RESOLVED for the Clerk to investigate how we can protect the playing field if the Village Green application is unsuccessful. Clerk is in discussions with Field in Trust.
	110122/19 Young Tree on Beech Avenue and Oaks Road	The tree has a TPO attached to it, planning permission to prune has been requested. RESOLVED to accept a quote of £100, Clerk to check with Contractor the exact work he plans to undertake. Clerk has a site visit with DCC on 11th May to be considered. Permission now granted – to decide at the meeting when work is to be carried out. RESOLVED to carry out the work at the end of the year (it was reported it appears to have already been done). Clerk has requested the work to be carried out by another contractor.
Full Council Meeting – 11th October 2022		
	111022/29 Correspondence a) Canal Marina out of date map (email from resident)	The map at the marina is out of date (pharmacy at its old location) RESOLVED that the Clerk will investigate replacing. Being investigated.
Other outstanding matter for Council’s information:		
<u>Graffiti</u> - please report any graffiti to the Clerk. Findern side of the railway bridge – reported to SDDC.		
<u>Hall Lane play area</u> Minute ref 130623/16 -_It was discussed whether the green fencing to the left of the footpath should be removed or replaced. RESOLVED to replace should the cost be £300 or below and the Clerk will go ahead if this is the case. Update: Awaiting contractor site visit. Update: quote received to replace fence link and posts approx. £2080. Other options to be investigated. 141123/19 a) <u>Hall Lane play area – chain link fence replacement</u> RESOLVED to accept a quote received for £688.13 + VAT to replace. Contractor instructed. Work should be done by the end of May. Contractor chased. Sept 24: Cllr. Houghton to investigating another contractor. The new contractor’s quote was significantly higher than expected. The Clerk will consult with the Groundsman to explore the possibility of removing the green wire fencing in the mean time for safety reasons. AGENDA ITEM January Meeting.		
<u>160724/14 Village Maintenance</u> The Clerk informed the Council of the number of concerns raised recently around the condition/maintenance of some areas of the village and these have been reported to either our grounds contractor or the relevant authority. The Clerk informed the Council she aims to publish a map of the village with who is responsible for which verges/open spaces/hedges and publish on the website within the next 2-3 months. Clerk to action.		

Willington Parish Council Draft Budget 2025/26

	24/25 Budget	24/25 Actual to 31.12.24	24/25 total Forecast y/e	Variation	25/26 Budget
Clerk+admin Salary+ NI/Pension and mileage	£ 18,500	£ 12,186.74	£ 17,200	£ 1,300	£ 19,000
				£ -	£ 250
Audit Fee	£ 650	£ 424.95	£ 425	£ 225	£ 650
Accountancy - xero	£ 420	£ 346	£ 445	£ -25	£ 450
				£ -	
Office Admin - post, stationery	£ 300	£ 129.38	£ 300	£ -	£ 300
Training	£ 500	£ -	£ 250	£ 250	£ 500
Subscriptions (DALC + Cem)	£ 1,250	£ 130.00	£ -	£ 1,250	£ 1,250
Insurance	£ 2,500	£ 1,741.87	£ 1,742	£ 758	£ 2,000
Room Hire	£ 750	£ 403.22	£ 750	£ -	£ 1,250
Websites/Email/Office	£ 1,250	£ 13.71	£ 700	£ 550	£ 750
Newsletter Costs	£ 2,500	£ 1,188.01	£ 1,800	£ 700	£ 2,000
Bank Charges	£ 120	£ 53.40	£ 120	£ -	£ 140
Misc Computer Costs	£ 200	£ -	£ -	£ 200	£ 200
				£ -	
VAT				£ -	
				£ -	
Election Costs	£ -	£ -	£ -	£ -	
Total Admin	£ 28,940	£ 16,617	£ 23,732	£ 5,208	£ 28,740
Donations/S137 Grants	£ 2,000	£ 2,010.00	£ 2,010	£ -10	£ 2,250
Litter/ Dog Waste Collections	£ 5,000	£ -	£ 4,000	£ 1,000	£ 4,500
Litter Bin Maintenance/Replace	£ 250	£ -	£ 250	£ -	£ -
				£ -	
Footpath Group Maintenance	£ 500	£ -	£ 500	£ -	£ -
Planters	£ 2,500	£ 2,144.80	£ 2,145	£ 355	£ 4,000
Green Clock	£ 200	£ -	£ -	£ 200	£ 200
Sports Mobile	£ 1,500	£ 1,450.00	£ 1,450	£ 50	£ 1,600
Station Garden	£ 250	£ -	£ 250	£ -	£ 750
Grounds Maintenance	£ 15,000	£ 9,863.94	£ 15,000	£ -	£ 16,000
Allotment Maintenance	£ 500	£ -	£ 500	£ -	£ 500
Play Area Inspection	£ 1,500	£ 1,243.00	£ 1,500	£ -	£ 800
Playground Repairs	£ 3,500	£ 620.00	£ 2,000	£ 1,500	£ 3,500
Bus Shelter Maintenance	£ 1,000	£ -	£ -	£ 1,000	£ -
Xmas Tree and Decorations	£ 500	£ 413.32	£ 1,000	£ -500	£ 1,000
New Bins	£ 1,500	£ -	£ -	£ 1,500	£ 1,000
Neighbourhood Plan Group	£ 2,500	£ 1,897	£ 3,480	£ -980	£ -
Event committee	£ 1,000	£ -	£ -	£ 1,000	£ 1,000
Total Concurrent Expenses	£ 39,200	£ 19,642	£ 34,085	£ 5,115	£ 37,100
					£ 30,605
TRPF Utilities/Elecs	£ 2,000	£ 610.29	£ 1,000	£ 1,000	£ 1,000
Cemetery Maintenance	£ 500	£ 60	£ 250	£ 250	£ 500
Mowing of TRPF	£ 2,500	£ 2,175.88	£ 2,500	£ -	£ 2,750
Misc Repairs	£ 1,000	£ -	£ -	£ 1,000	£ 500
Bowls Club Utilities	£ 500	£ 330.78	£ 500	£ -	£ 400
COMMUNITY BUILDING	£ 5,000	£ 1,515.00	£ 3,000.00	£ 2,000	£ 6,750
Sports Facilities	£ 500	£ -	£ -	£ 500	£ 500
Council Tax Tennis Courts	£ 400	£ 256.43	£ 300	£ 100	£ 325
Allotment Utilities	£ 500	£ -	£ -	£ 500	£ 250
Council Tax Cemetery	£ 550	£ 390.56	£ 450	£ 100	£ 500
Fire Extinguisher (Bowls Club)	£ 300	£ 145.40	£ 145	£ 155	£ 180
Asset Register Maintenance	£ 1,000	£ 100.00	£ 500	£ 500	£ 4,250
Facilities Expenditure	£ 14,750	£ 5,584	£ 8,645	£ 6,105	£ 17,905
					£ 3,061
Allotment Rent	£ 820	£ 181	£ 960	£ 140	£ 820
Football Club Rent	£ 200	£ -	£ 200	£ -	£ 200

	24/25 Budget	24/25 Forecast y/e	25/26 Budget
Total Admin	£ 28,940	£ 23,731.82	£ 28,740.00
Total Concurrent Expenses	£ 39,200	£ 34,084.80	£ 37,100.00
Facilities Expenditure	£ 14,750	£ 8,645.40	£ 17,905.00
Total Expenditure	£ 82,890	£ 66,462.02	£ 83,745.00
Total Income	£ 85,680	£ 106,295.00	£ 83,838.35

PRECEPT INCREASE OF £2908.35
TOTAL PRECEPT REQUESTED FOR 2025/26 = £61,075

Precept 24/25 = £58167

Council Tax Support Scheme £ 4,392 Not getting this, this year

Bank Account Balances 31.12.24 £ 344,767.03

£ 344,767.03

7,115

Twyford Road Community Building	£ 30,000.00
PA System	£ 3,500.00
Neighbourhood Plan	£ 5,500.00
Earmarked Reserves for Cemetery/Land Adoption Costs	£ 5,000.00
Earmarked Reserves for Car Park set up costs	£ 5,000.00
Earmarked Reserves for Tennis Court Improvements	£ 1,500.00
Election earmarked	£ 2,000.00
Bus shelter	£ 2,500.00
Play equipment	£ 4,000.00
New bins	£ 1,500.00
TOTAL EARMARKED RESERVES	£ 60,500.00

If 50% of Expenditure to be held in General Reserves as per guidance = £ 41,872.50

Minute Number 241120/7 Earmarked Reserves for upgrading S106 Monies £100,000.00
50,000

14,443

Total Reserves £ 252,372.50

Bowls Club Rent	£ 150	£ -	£ 150	£ -	£ 200
Burials	£ 3,000	£ 4,342	£ 5,000	£ 2,000	£ 4,000
Advertising Newsletter	£ 720	£ 1,160	£ 2,000	£ 1,280	£ 1,500
Concurrent Functions	£ 15,631	£ 15,943	£ 15,943	£ 312	£ 15,943
VAT	£ 2,500	£ 5,848	£ 5,848	£ 3,348	£ -
Precept	£ 58,167	£ 58,167	£ 58,167	£ -	£ 61,075
Council Tax Support Scheme	£ 4,392	£ 4,392	£ 4,392	£ -	£ -
Locality Grant		£ 3,480	£ 3,480	£ 3,480	£ -
Interest	£ 100	£ 10,155	£ 10,155	£ 10,055	£ 100
S106 Income	£ -			£ -	
DCC Minor Maintenance Grant	£ -			£ -	
Total Income	£ 85,680	£ 103,668	£ 106,295	£ 20,615	£ 83,838

£ 2,908.35 5% increase

£ 2,627

£ 102,815

£ 21,992

Payments to approve				
Date	Name	Description	VAT	
	John Houghton	Xero invoice (December)	£ 6.60	£ 39.60
	Clerk	Mileage		£ 35.10
	Old School	Room hire		£ 64.20
	Newsletter Editor	Jan/Feb 2025 Edition		£ 356.50
	SDCVS	Top up for December invoice (inv. 12753)		£ 45.36
	Contractor (GM)	Grounds Maintenance (invoice 17)		£ 300.00
	Contractor	Mowing of bridleway 11	£ 39.00	£ 234.00
	SDDC	Play area inspections and repairs (December- Inv. 81127193)	£ 21.86	£ 131.16
	Cuttlefish	Annual website license, hosting + suport, domain renewal + emails	£ 134.00	£ 804.00
From Unity Trust Bank Statement				
27.12.24	Eon	Twyford Road changing rooms electric		£ 74.11
30.12.24	Eon	Bowls Club Electric		£ 40.34
30.12.24	SDCVS	Clerk's Salary November (including SDCVS charges and HMRC monies owed)		£ 1,242.75
30.12.24	Contractor (BP)	Groundsmaintenance		£ 563.52
31.12.24	Unity Bank	Service Charge		£ 6.00
02.01.25	SDDC	Business rates - Cemetery		£ 41.00
02.01.25	SDDC	Business rates - Tennis courts		£ 28.00
		Total	£ 201.46	£ 4,005.64
Income 11.12.24 - 14.01.25				
11.12.24	Burial Income			£ 136.00
12.12.24	Burial Income			£ 42.00
23.12.24	Burial Income			£ 922.00
07.01.25	Burial Income			£ 315.00
14.01.25	Burial Income			£ 1,470.00
		Total		£ 2,885.00