

**Parish Council Minutes of Willington Parish Council  
Held on Tuesday 8th October 2024 at The Old School, Castleway, Willington**

**Present:** Cllrs P. Allsopp (Chair), J. Houghton, C. Harrison, R. Titley, I Hudson, and A. Davenport.  
County/District Cllr. M. Ford.  
Member of the public.  
Rachel Male (Clerk).

**071024/1 To Receive Apologies for Absence**

Apologies received from Cllrs. I. Walters, M. Bartram and C. Mead.

**071024/2 Variation of Order of Business**

Not required.

**071024/3 Declaration of Members' Interests**

None.

**071024/4 Public Speaking, including County, District and Police Representation.**

a) A member of the public expressed ongoing concerns about speeding traffic along Twyford Road and inquired about any updates on the Speed Indicator Devices (SIDs). The Council responded that they are currently awaiting information from the Police Crime Commissioner regarding potential new funding opportunities.

b) County Councillor Martyn Ford reported as follows:

*Willington Bridge repairs*

The works to reinstate Willington Bridge following the concrete blocks temporary works to make safe the damage from an RTC with the stone parapet does remain one of the priority works to still be undertaken in the area. At this moment in time the current options available are realistically as follows:

- One set of quotes for the removal of the stone from the river, followed by additionally getting subsequent quotes for utilising any of the recovered fallen stonework on the bridge and potentially mixing with other sourced stonework to make repairs.
- One set of quotes for sourcing new stonework to make the repairs, leaving the fallen stonework in the river.
- One set of quotes for sourcing new stonework to make the repairs, plus additional quotes for removing and then either safe disposal or repurposing elsewhere the fallen stonework.

It is suspected that the floods from last year moved some of the fallen blockwork elsewhere in the River Trent or away from the central piers and into much deeper waters. Plus, considering current team resources I am now feeling that the second option may be the most practical to undertake and would only need to factor in timeframes on sourcing stonework and planning ahead for a likely temporary road closure period for working on the bridge.

*Lighting columns on Castleway*

There was a meeting last week with Enerveo who are carrying out the works, they confirmed their works are fully complete with only the National Grid connection left to be completed, this connection will be going ahead on the 16<sup>th</sup> October. Enerveo confirmed all their barriers have been removed from site except a few remaining, these are around the feeder pillar and protecting the hole for the electrical connection, National Grid will be carrying out their own permits for their works and on completion of NG works all barriers will be removed.

*Removal of Gate/Posts on Meadow Lane*

The gate has been removed; however, the posts are still in place. The responsible party has been contacted

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regarding their removal, but no action has been taken. Derbyshire County Council (DCC) is now obtaining a quote to remove the posts and will charge the responsible party for the work.

### *Derbyshire Public Library Consultation 2024*

Derbyshire Public Library Consultation, open from 12th August to 2nd November 2024. The consultation seeks public feedback on proposed changes to library services aimed at keeping all library buildings open while creating a more modern, agile, and sustainable service. These changes are designed to meet budget savings, address shifting library usage patterns, and maintain accessibility and efficiency across the county.

### *Changes to Derbyshire Household Waste Recycling Centres*

Update on upcoming changes to Derbyshire's household waste recycling centres was received, effective from 19th September 2024. Changes include revised operating hours, with specific adjustments to the opening times at the Bretby site.

### *Draft Council Plan 2025 to 2029 consultation*

DCC are developing a new Council Plan for 2025-2029, which will outline their priorities and direction for the next four years. The draft plan is now available, and they invite public, employee, and stakeholder feedback to help shape the final version. This plan is being developed amid ongoing challenges, including increased service demand, inflation-driven costs, and financial pressures in areas like social care. The consultation will close on 3 November 2024.

### District Councillor Ian Hudson reported as follows:

#### *Chesterfield - Willington Grid upgrade*

The stage 1 consultation is now closed. The stage 2 consultation will start this time next year, when we should have a definitive route to consider for the new 400kV line. There continues to be a lot of concern shown from some more rural parishes.

#### *SDDC Local Plan (Part 1) Consultation*

The SDDC Local Plan is under review and Part 1 is now issued for comment. SDDC are expected to build a significant number of new houses, the proposal is to add 2 new strategic housing policies to the current Local Plan, these are STR1 and STR2. These are big, proposed changes, that should have little impact on Willington.

#### *Willington Power Station*

SDDC have had some contact with the Willington Power Station owner, via a consultant. the site owner is 'looking to sell the site rather than develop the site themselves'

**071024/5 To confirm and agree as a true record the non-confidential Minutes of the Willington Parish Council Meeting held on 10th September 2024**

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

**071024/6 To confirm and agree as a true record the non-confidential Minutes of the Willington Parish Council Extra Ordinary Meeting held on 23rd September 2024**

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

**071024/7 To consider a resolution to close the meeting for public participation under the Public Bodies (admission to meetings) Act 1960.**

Not required.

#### **071024/8 Clerks Report**

Noted and attached.

#### **071024/9 Planning Applications**

a) DMPA/2024/1079 - The erection of a single storey rear extension, redevelopment of conservatory into flat roof extension, replacement windows and other associated alterations at 16 Hall Lane, Willington, Derby, DE65 6BZ.

**Noted.**

b) DMPA/2024/1022 - Part retrospective alteration to first floor roof terrace (amended scheme to DMPA/2021/0884) at 1a The Castle Way, Willington, Derby, DE65 6BT.

**Noted.**

#### **071024/10 South Derbyshire Draft Local Plan 1 Consultation**

Cllrs. J. Houghton, R. Titley, and I. Hudson were appointed to review the South Derbyshire Draft Local Plan 1. They will present a proposal for the council's response at the November meeting.

#### **071024/11 Derbyshire County Council Draft Council Plan 2025-29 Consultation**

Cllr. C. Harrison was appointed to review the Derbyshire County Council Draft Council Plan 2025-29 and will present a proposal for the council's response at the November meeting.

#### **071024/12 Neighbourhood Development Plan**

Cllr. J. Houghton circulated the survey results, with 88 residents responding. The majority of responses were either "agree" or "strongly agree" which is positive.

##### **Next Steps:**

- **Oct/Nov 2024:** The Committee will evaluate the comments and findings from both the public consultation and statutory consultees. The Clerk will reapply for available funding to complete the NDP. The Committee will also identify errors in the NDP documents and seek enhancements based on feedback.
- **December 2024:** The Committee will work with the planning consultant to finalize the document, which will then be reviewed by Willington Parish Council for approval. Planning for the referendum will commence.
- **January 2025:** The referendum on the plan will be held.
- **February/March 2025:** The outcome of the referendum will be forwarded to South Derbyshire District Council (SDDC) for adoption within Local Plan Parts 1 and 2.

#### **071024/13 Twyford Road proposed community hall and changing rooms**

Cllr. J. Houghton provided an update on the status of the Twyford Road project. The Council has approximately £250k–£300k in allocated reserves and S106 funds. The estimated total cost of the project, including additional works required by planning, is around £500k (or £600k if VAT is payable).

##### **Potential Grant Opportunities:**

- **Severn Trent:** Up to £200k, with a grant application deadline of November 2024.
- **Football Association:** £150k–£200k for the cost of the changing facility.
- **Lottery:** £50k, along with other smaller grants totalling around £50k.

Cllr. Houghton emphasised that the Council cannot commence any building work until 100% of the funding is secured, as funders may assume that the project does not need their financial support if work begins prematurely. The earliest realistic start date for construction would be summer 2025, with an estimated six-month build.

**Plan:**

- A Funding Assistant has been appointed on a contract basis as of Tuesday, 8th October, to help advance the project.
- Key objectives include:
  - Obtaining legal and accounting advice on VAT rules for the new build.
  - Clarifying the legal structure required for the facility.
  - Creating a business plan, separating the changing facilities and community room, as this will form the basis of funding applications (an outline has been prepared by Cllr. J. Houghton).
  - Developing a timeline for available grants and key requirements.
  - Requesting an extension from the Diocese for the preschool, potentially up to summer 2026.
  - The Funding Assistant will begin applying for grants and establishing a project timeline.
  - Evaluating all quotes to ensure accurate costing and a "like-for-like" comparison of quotes.

**071024/14 Willington Youth Group**

Willington previously had a volunteer-run youth club, which closed during COVID and has not reopened. The village has felt the loss of this facility. Cllr. Hudson is interested in re-establishing a youth group and recently visited Repton to observe their youth club, which operates successfully in their village hall through a third-party provider.

A youth group would offer significant benefits to the community, supporting the well-being of young people and potentially strengthening grant applications for the new community building. The youth group would require dedicated time and space in the new community building once available, as the current village hall is at capacity, and the Old School is closing. Limited storage would also be needed. Ideally, this facility would be provided at no cost to the group.

An important advantage of using a third-party provider is that they take on all responsibilities for running the club, including DBS checks and staffing, meaning no local volunteers would be required. Operating one evening per week during term time for up to 30 children would cost approximately £4,000-£5,000 annually (about £120 per week).

The Police and the local vicar have also expressed interest in supporting the return of a youth facility, and possible grants may be explored. Currently, no action can be taken due to a lack of space, but this will be revisited once the new community building is available.

**071024/15 Christmas Celebrations**

The Events Working Group will meet on Thursday evening to discuss further plans. **RESOLVED** to approve a budget of £500 for this year's Christmas celebrations, enabling the group to proceed ahead of the next meeting. The Events Working Group will report back to the Council next month with finalised plans.

**071024/16 Play area inspections**

The Council reviewed and the latest inspection reports for the play areas.

**071024/17 Finance – Income and payments to 8th October 2024**

To approve the income and payments to 8th October 2024. (attached). All invoices were available for inspection prior to the Meeting.

**RESOLVED that all income and payments as submitted be agreed.**

**071024/18 To confirm and agree the accounts to month ending 30th September 2024**

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**RESOLVED that the accounts and bank reconciliation to month ending 30th September 2024, as submitted, be agreed.**

**071024/19 External Audit Report**

**RESOLVED** to note the completion of the 2023/24 Limited Assurance Review.

The notice of conclusion has been published on the notice board at Station Garden for a period of 30 days.

**071024/20 Parish Council Insurance**

**RESOLVED to renew at a cost of £1741.87.**

**071024/21 Exclusion of the Press and Public RESOLVED that pursuant to Section 1(2) of the Public Bodies (Admission to Meetings) Act 1960, the press and public be excluded from the Meeting due to the confidential nature of the business to be transacted.**

All members of the public left the meeting.

**071024/22 NatWest Bank Account**

Further to the account becoming dormant, NatWest are finally ready to transfer the funds with £2709.78 In back dated interest and have offered compensation at the value of £7445 for the delay in transferring. The Council **RESOLVED** to accept this.

**071024/23 Meeting close**

The meeting closed at 20.26.

**Signed:**.....

**Date:**.....

**Clerks Report October 2024**

FULL COUNCIL MEETING 11TH JANUARY 2022		
	110122/15 Village Green Application – Twyford Road Playing Fields	<b>RESOLVED for the Clerk to investigate how we can protect the playing field if the Village Green application is unsuccessful.</b> 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. <b>RESOLVED</b> 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 considered. Permission now granted – to decide at the meeting when work is to be carried out. <b>RESOLVED</b> 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		
	<b>111022/29 Correspondence</b> <b>a) Canal Marina out of date map (email from resident)</b>	The map at the marina is out of date (pharmacy at its old location) <b>RESOLVED</b> that the Clerk will investigate replacing. Being investigated.
<b>Other outstanding matter for Council’s information:</b>		
<b>Graffiti</b> - please report any graffiti to the Clerk. Findern side of the railway bridge – reported to SDDC.		
<b>Centre of the village – zebra crossings</b> Faded lines have been reported to DCC. Clerk continues to chase.		
<b>Hall Lane play area</b> Minute ref 130623/16 -_It was discussed whether the green fencing to the left of the footpath should be removed or replaced. <b>RESOLVED</b> 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) Hall Lane play area – chain link fence replacement <b>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.</b>		
<b>October 2023 Meeting Actions:</b> - Look into repair on cemetery gate. <b>Repaired and invoice paid.</b>		
<b>160724/14 Village Maintenance</b>		

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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.**

<b>Payments to approve</b>				
<b>Date</b>	<b>Name</b>	<b>Description</b>	<b>VAT</b>	
	John Houghton	Xero invoice (October)	£ 6.60	£ 39.60
	Clerk	Mileage, ink ,stationery, and cable ties	£ 4.32	£ 91.51
	Contractor (GM)	Grounds Maintenance - Inv. 08		£ 640.00
	Contacto (BP)	Grounds Maintenance (Plant watering) - Inv. 1066		£ 116.67
	Contractor (AL)	Mowing of Twyford Road (2 cuts September - Inv. 4767))	£ 48.68	£ 292.08
	Village Hall	Room hire - Inv. 8136		£ 60.00
	PKF Littlejohn	External audit 2023/2024	£ 63.00	£ 378.00
	SDDC	Play scheme August 2024 Inv. 81120915	£ 290.00	£ 1,740.00
	SDDC	Play area inspections (September - Inv. 81121304)	£ 21.86	£ 131.16
	Source for Business	Cemetery Water Bill (09.02.24-31.08.24)		£ 149.84
	Contractor	Straightening cemetery gate		£ 60.00
	Zurich	Annual Council Insurance		£ 1,741.87
	Cuttlefish	New email account for funding assistant	£ 2.74	£ 16.45
<b>From Unity Trust Bank Statement</b>				
29.09.24	Eon	Twyford Road changing rooms electric		£ 74.11
30.09.24	Eon	Bowls Club Electric		£ 40.34
30.09.24	SDCVS	Clerk's Salary September		£ 1,242.75
30.09.24	Contractor (BP)	Groundsmaintenance		£ 563.52
30.09.24	Unity Bank	Service Charge		£ 18.00
01.10.24	SDDC	Business rates - Cemetery		£ 41.00
01.10.24	SDDC	Business rates - Tennis courts		£ 28.00
		<b>Total</b>	<b>£ 437.20</b>	<b>£ 7,464.90</b>
<b>Income 01.09.24 - 07.10.24</b>				
13.09.24	SDDC	Concurrent Expenses (2023-2024)		15943.45
26.09.24	Natwest	Backdated interest		£ 2,709.78
		<b>Total</b>		<b>£ 18,653.23</b>