

Willington Parish Council

ANNUAL REPORT

Year to

31 March 2016

Welcome to Willington Parish Council's Annual Report for 2015/16. The following pages contain details of the Council's activities throughout the year, financial statements, and other relevant Council information.

CHAIRMAN'S REPORT

(by the Chairman of the Parish Council, Councillor John Grimshaw)

1. Background

As a result of a Community Governance review carried out by Cheshire West and Chester Council (CWaC) where the option of retention and expansion of Willington Parish was supported by the majority of respondents, the Parish of Willington came into being on 1st April 2015.

On 7th May an election was held to elect five parish councillors. In the event only four residents put their names forward, but a fifth was subsequently co-opted to the Council at our June Council meeting.

I see the main advantage in this development being the fact that the whole of Willington is once more almost the size of the long standing Civil Parish and administered as a whole. Rather than half being in Delamere Parish, and the other in Tarvin Parish.

We have been most fortunate to secure the services of a very experienced Clerk in Mike Hassall who is also Clerk to Tarvin P.C.

Our first Council meeting was held at Willington Hall on the 26th May 2015 and subsequent meetings have been held there on the fourth Tuesday of the month excluding December when Council didn't meet.

We hope the residents that have attended our meetings found them interesting.

We are indebted to Willington Hall for providing this venue.

2. Main Achievements

- **Willington Corner Defibrillator**

The AED (Automated External Defibrillator) is now installed in the ex BT-Telephone Kiosk at Willington Corner. Its presence is identified by the AED signage and a flashing light in the evening. The AED is a portable device designed to be used by members of the public. It delivers a high-energy shock to the heart in some types of cardiac arrest and may restore a more stable heart rhythm. By the 12th April 2016 forty local residents will have received training not only in its use, but also in effective CPR (Cardio Pulmonary Resuscitation). The training venue was provided by Willington Hall FOC for which we are most grateful.

- Three Quarterly Newsletters produced and delivered
- An Information booklet on the history of the Parish and available services produced and delivered to all residents.
- A Parish Website will be available in April 2016.
- Compliance with all necessary legislation
- Maintaining the same Precept for 2016/17

The Parish Plan Questionnaire of 2014 indicated that residents were most concerned about:-

Speeding traffic – Now 30 MPH limit on Chapel Lane.

Speed review on Willington Rd still resulted in a 40 mph limit.

Junction signage installed for Willington Corner.

White lines awaited at junctions and numerous bends.

Litter -

Litter is collected regularly, and we thank those who give of their time for this.

Dog fouling -

Many notices posted bringing dog owners attention to this nuisance.

Free bags held at Winsors Farm Shop.

Waste bins labelled as such. The bin by the Boot Inn now on the collection schedule.

Environment - With regard to the condition of our footways, and we only have one along Willington Rd between Willington Corner and South View (now our boundary to the North). We have been trying to get some sense from the CWaC Street Scene department but still await a schedule of annual work that we can expect for our taxes. Their work to date is not of the required standard, but we will persist!

With regard to the environment generally, which is what most people appreciate (we think?) about Willington, Councillors and concerned residents have helped to eradicate Himalayan Balsam from Boothsdale, and a working party has been scheduled for the 23rd April for numerous tasks identified in the latest Newsletter.

Planning – During the period when CWaC did not have an approved Local Plan and before Willington PC came into being, six properties were approved on Chapel Lane. One is completed and two are near completion.

Planning applications put before this Council have totalled five. Only one at Montana, Chapel Lane is new build. Rockside, Roughlow is a complete re build and the

remaining two on Waste Lane significant alterations. An equipment store was approved off Willington Road.

Now that CWaC have an approved Local Plan, and have a five year housing land supply, development is again restricted in the Parish.

Community Engagement- A Spring lunch has been proposed at Willington Hall in May and arrangements made to join with Utkinton for a Fete at Tirley Garth in June. The driver for this proposal being the fact that Tirley Garth is now in Willington Parish. Our approaches to the Utkinton Fete committee have been well received. We will continue with our proposed events, and hope that our residents will support us in developing a community identity.

Council decided not to enter The Best Kept Village this year due to the considerable amount of housing development.

Finally, I would like to thank all Councillors for their sound common sense and enthusiasm which has made my job as chairman relatively easy.

PARISH COUNCIL COMMITTEES

Planning Committee – All Councillors.

GENERAL MATTERS

Financial Matters

How We Spend Your Money – The Statement of Accounts

| | Year to 31st March 2016 £ | See Note No |
|--------------------------|---------------------------------|-------------|
| Balances brought forward | 0 | 1 |
| Plus Annual Precept | 4,255 | 2 |
| Plus Other Receipts | 4,486 | 3 |
| Less Staff Costs | 2,031 | 4 |
| Less Other Payments | 2,540 | 5 |
| Balances carried forward | 4,170 | 6 |

Notes

1. Balances brought forward means Cash in the Bank Accounts. As Willington is a new Council the balance brought forward is nil
2. Precept is the money the Parish Council receives from the Council Tax to carry out its duties.
3. Other Receipts covers all other income received by the Council. It comprises of a grant of £1,788 to enable Council to meet the requirements of the Local Government Transparency Code, an amount of £1,985 received from two other Parish Councils as a result of the Community Governance Review, New Homes Bonus of £712, and Bank Interest £1
4. Staff Costs are the payroll costs of the one employee of the Council. (NB The Councillors are all volunteers and do not receive payment for their work)

5. Other Payments cover all other expenditure incurred by the Council. This includes the cost of a computer, printer, website, insurance, training, printing, and general maintenance within the Parish.

6. Balances carried forward means cash in the bank accounts. Parish Council Policy for the first three years of the newly created Council is to aim to hold between a minimum of six and a maximum of twelve months of the most recent precept plus an estimate of any known likely fluctuations. The six and twelve month figures will be reviewed annually to ensure that Council does not build up an unnecessary high bank balance.

Parish Council Meetings

- All Parish Council meetings are open meetings and members of the public are most welcome to attend and listen to the debates.
- If you want to come along to a meeting but don't want to stay until the end that is not a problem. Come and join us and then leave when you wish to do so. All we ask is that you come and go quietly.
- Meetings are normally held on the 4th Tuesday evening each month, apart from August and December, at Willington Hall.
- The first 15 minutes of each meeting is a public forum where anyone can have his or her say on any local matter. The allocated time may be increased under certain circumstances
- An agenda for each meeting is placed on the Council's noticeboard.
- All approved minutes can be found on the Parish Council website

Website - Our website address is www.willington.org.uk

Parish Councillors and their Contact Details

Willington Parish Council is comprised of the following 5 Councillors – their contact telephone numbers, all dial code 01829, are in brackets

Cllr John Grimshaw – Chairman (752177),
Cllr Pat Tyson-Jones – Vice Chairman (751757)
Cllr Jane Lowthion (751454)
Cllr Andrew Nicholas (752029)
Cllr Roy Penk (751866)

Our Cheshire West and Chester Councillors and their Contact Details

Cllr Hugo Deynem (01829 751830) Cllr John Leather (01829 752558)

To contact the Parish Council:

Write to: Mike Hassall,
Clerk to Willington Parish Council,
Roy Cottage,
Townfield Lane,
Tarvin
Chester
CH3 8EG
E-mail ClerkWillington@aol.com Telephone 01829 741075

Published by Willington Parish Council May 2016.