

**MINUTES OF A MEETING OF WILLINGTON PARISH COUNCIL HELD AT WILLINGTON HALL
ON TUESDAY 24th SEPTEMBER 2024**

PRESENT:

Councillor James Abbott
Councillor Stuart Ingram (Chairman)
Councillor John Lindsay (Vice-Chairman)
Councillor Andrew Nicholas
Councillor Janet Smethurst

IN ATTENDANCE: R Winterbourne – Clerk to the Parish Council, Borough Councillor Tom Cooper, Borough Councillor Ted Lush, a representative of the Beeston & Tarporley Station Reopening Group.

24/053 APOLOGIES – None.

24/054 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST, DISCLOSABLE PECUNIARY INTERESTS AND DISPENSATIONS

24/054.1 New Written Requests for Dispensations

There were no new requests.

24/054.2 Declarations of Interest

Members were invited to declare any Disclosable Pecuniary or other Interest in any item of business on the agenda and if necessary, leave the meeting prior to discussion of that item. None were declared.

24/055 OPEN FORUM

RESOLVED: that the Council meeting be adjourned for the Open Forum.

24/056 PARISH COUNCIL MEETING

RESOLVED: that the Council meeting be reconvened.

24/057 REPORT ON OPEN FORUM – Chris Willcocks of the Beeston & Tarporley Station Reopening Group provided an update on the project which will provide a station at Beeston on the Crewe to Chester railway line.

24/058 MINUTES OF MEETINGS

Minutes of the meeting of the full Council held on 30th July 2024

RESOLVED: that the minutes of the meeting be signed by the Chairman as a correct record.

24/059 REPORT ON ACTIONS ARISING FROM THE MEETING ON 21st MAY 2024

24/059.1 iTravel on demand - Councillors Ingram and Cooper provided an update.

24/059.2 Ownership of the Green – Councillor Nicholas provided an update; there has been no further response from CWaC. Councillor Cooper will again chase CWaC on the PC's behalf.

24/059.3 Fast Fibre Provision - Councillor Ingram provided an update.

24/060 PLANNING MATTERS

24/060.1 New Planning Applications – none.

24/060.2 Previous Applications - the status of outstanding applications and of recently approved/refused applications was noted.

It was noted that a 'No Comments' response was submitted to CWaC on behalf of the Council on 22nd August 2024 regarding application 24/01258/FUL – Oakfield, Waste Lane, Kelsall CW6 0PE.

24/060.3 Notes – the e-mail received from the owner of Roughlow Farm regarding their planning appeal was discussed.

RESOLVED: that the Clerk write to the owner summarising the discussions.

24/061 COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT

24/061.1 Countryfile Charity Ramble on Sunday 13th October 2024 – Councillor Abbott provided an update. Preparations are well underway.

24/061.2 Remembrance Sunday 2024 - Councillor Abbott provided an update; the event will take place on The Green on Sunday 10th November. The poppy display will be installed on 1st November.

24/061.3 Carols on the Green – was discussed. Councillor Nicholas will purchase a new set of carol sheets as previously agreed.

RESOLVED: that the event be held on the afternoon of Sunday 8th December.

24/061.4 VE Day Celebrations on Thursday 8th May 2025 – Councillor Abbott provided an update; the formal tribute will be on Thursday 8th May 2025 at 21:30 on The Green and the annual village picnic will be themed around VE day and held on Sunday 11th May, also on The Green.

RESOLVED: that fifty pounds is made available from PC funds for items for the event.

24/061.5 Open Gardens 2025 – Councillor Abbott provided an update; the event will be on Sunday 8th June.

RESOLVED: that fifty pounds is made available from PC funds for items for the event.

24/062 ROAD SAFETY

24/062.1 Hedges and Trees Obstructing Footpaths and Highways – the current issues with overgrown hedges, verges etc were discussed. It was noted that:

- residents are ok for the Task Force to remove branches/hedging that are obscuring road signage or paths
- if issues cannot be resolved locally, the Council will refer them to CWaC Highways

24/062.2 Condition of the road between the entrances to Willington Hall; an e-mail from a Kelsall resident was discussed.

RESOLVED: that the Clerk formally raise the issue of potholes and silted up passing places on the section of Willington Lane in question with CWaC Highways.

24/063 COMMUNITY COMMUNICATION

24/063.1 Community Notice board - Councillor Lindsay provided an update. The board has been installed as agreed.

24/063.2 Delivery of paper newsletters – a revised schedule was provided by the Clerk.

RESOLVED: that the revised schedule be adopted for the November 2024 newsletter.

24/063.3 Maintenance of the PC Notice Board – was discussed.

RESOLVED: that Adam Nicholas' kind offer to temporarily remove the board, and clean and reseal the woodwork free of charge be accepted.

24/063.4 Community communication channels – were discussed.

RESOLVED: that Willington PC website be used as means of communication of village news and events in parallel with the current Facebook and WhatsApp channels.

24/063.5 Review of provider of the Willington PC website and PC e-mail service – Councillor Smethurst outlined the options and costs for a new website and e-mail solution for the Council. The findings were discussed.

RESOLVED: that JKE Parish Council Websites are engaged to design, build, migrate and host the Willington PC website. They will also be asked to run the Council e-mail accounts, potentially migrating to gov.uk.

24/064 WILLINGTON ENVIRONMENT AND TASK FORCE

24/064.1 Produce Exchange - Councillor Lindsay provided an update; the ‘exchange’ is being painted and will shortly be ready for assembly on The Green.

24/064.2 Putting stones on the Green parking areas.

RESOLVED: that an additional £508.80 is provided from Parish Council ‘Project’ funds for the materials to complete the work.

24/064.3 Moving tables, benches and the bin on the Green - Councillor Lindsay provided an update; the work is complete.

24/064.4 Installation of a bench at the top of Little Switzerland – was discussed. Following feedback from the landowner, Councillor Lindsay will discuss the idea with a nearby householder.

24/064.5 Decoration of the Openreach ‘green boxes’ on the triangle – was discussed.

RESOLVED: that the Clerk contact Openreach and Tarporley PC to better what understand the processes are to agree the work.

24/065 CLIMATE CHANGE ACTION PLAN - Councillor Nicholas provided an update; there has been little interest in joining a working party. Councillor Nicholas will attend three webinars provided by the Centre for Sustainable Energy.

24/066 ACTION PLAN – the action plan was discussed. The Clerk will update it as necessary.

24/067 SCHEDULE OF COUNCIL DOCUMENTS AND REGULATIONS

RESOLVED: that following a review by the Clerk, the documents below require the noted changes.

Policy	On OneDrive (Y/N)	On website (Y/N)	Date Agreed	Date Last Reviewed	Next Review	Recommended Action
Co-option procedure	Y	Y	-	Oct 2023	Sept 2025	No changes required.
Volunteer Policy	Y	Y	-	Jul 2024	-	Review the risk assessment element to simplify the process.

24/068 CLERK’S REPORT/CORRESPONDENCE

E-Mail Correspondence. The following have been forwarded to Councillors via e-mail and are not elsewhere on the agenda; listing these items provides Council with the opportunity to comment.

- a. Cheshire Association of Local Councils e-bulletins
- b. Cheshire Police Alerts
- c. Vision ICT web analytics for www.willington.org.uk website
- d. Various invitations to consultations, conferences, training sessions and briefings
- e. Neighbourhood Watch National Newsletter
- f. Police and Crime Commissioner bulletins.

24/069 FINANCIAL MATTERS.

24/068.9 Payments between meetings.

RESOLVED: that the following payments made since the Council Meeting on 30th July 2024 be confirmed:

Payee	Supplier and Detail	Amount Paid
R Winterbourne	Clerk salary August 2024	£239.31
R Winterbourne	Clerk Allowance for August 2024	£26.00
VISION ICT	Email a/c for JS to end 2024	£8.00
NMC D&P	August 2024 Newsletter Printing	£32.00
R Winterbourne	Clerk Expenses September 2024	£917.96
John Grimshaw	Carpark surface expenses Sept 2024	£139.20

24/069.2 Cheque Payments – the following payments were approved:

Payee	Detail	£ Amount to be Paid
ChALC	Induction training course	£25.00
John Lindsay	September expenses for purchase of notice board and 'produce exchange'.	£926.88

24/069.3 Direct Debits

It was noted that the following payments have been made by direct debit:

- Sage One Payroll – August 2024. Paid 15th August 2024 - £12.00
- Sage One Payroll – September 2024. Paid 16th September 2024 - £12.00

24/069.4 Management Accounts

RESOLVED: that the management accounts for FY 2024-25 to the end August 2024 be approved.

24/069.5 Review of the cash book and bank statements.

Councillor Abbott has reviewed the cash book and bank statements for July and August 2024. No issues were found.

24/069.6 CIL Return to CWaC for 2023-24 – was reviewed. No issues were raised.

24/069.7 Budget 2025-2026 – Councillors were asked to provide any items for the 2025-2026 budget to the Clerk by 31st October. The draft budget will be reviewed at the PC meeting on 19th November and agreed at the meeting in January 2025.

24/070 ITEMS OF INTEREST FOR NEXT AGENDA

- Installation of bird & bat boxes in the village.

24/071 DATE OF NEXT MEETING

RESOLVED: that the next meeting be held on Tuesday 19th November 2024 at 19:30 at Willington Hall.

END OF DOCUMENT

Chairman's Signature Dated.....

Chairman's Initial