

**DRAFT MINUTES**  
**SOUTH WILLINGAM PARISH COUNCIL MEETING**  
**THURSDAY 12 JANUARY 2017**

**Present:**

Councillor D Challenger

Councillor P Cutts (Vice Chair)

Councillor M Edmundson

Councillor P Elliott (Chair)

Councillor N Harris

Councillor N Spencer

Temporary Clerk S Asquith

Residents Forum: No residents attended.

**1 Apologies for absence:**

None

**2 Declarations of interest in any items on this Agenda:**

There were no declarations of interest.

**3 To agree the Minutes of the Meeting held on 10 November 2016:**

The Minutes were agreed as a correct record and signed by the Chairman.

**4 Matters arising from the Minutes held on 10 November 2016:**

Point 7: Co-option to the Parish Council of Nigel Spencer. **Action: Chairman to send completed forms to ELDC.**

Point 10: Best Kept Village Competition. **Action: Cllr Challenger to circulate report to all councillors.**

Point 14: Correspondence. (i) The application form for the phone box had not yet been received. (ii) The minutes and audit report had been put on the website. **Action: Chairman to complete application form to adopt the phone box when received.**

## **5 Financial Matters: Presentation of financial report and bank statement:**

November and December statements were circulated to Council. The Chairman had found a previously unknown savings account that was 4p in credit.

There were no payments required.

## **6 Finance Budget 2017/18**

The draft budget for the new financial year had been discussed at length the previous meeting and the Chairman recapped that it had been provisionally agreed as follows:

Insurance Premium	£160.00
Parish Hall Donation	£ 60.00
Churchyard Maintenance	£ 50.00
Church Clock Donation	£ 50.00
LIVES Donation	£ 50.00
Parish Website	£ 55.00
Admin Expenses	£ 25.00
Newsletter	£ 50.00
Best Kept Village	£ 15.00
Parish Clerk Wages	<u>£480.00</u>
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>£995.00</b>

The quote for the insurance premium had not been received so the previous year's amount was carried forward. It was agreed to keep the precept below £1000. No further expenses were known of. Cllr Challender had enquired about the newsletter, regarding a donation, but this was no longer being produced. Twelve hundred pounds was expected to be carried over to the new financial year, therefore Council saw no need to raise the precept. It was agreed to keep the precept at its current level. **Action: Chairman to liaise with the Parish Clerk to finalise the budget.**

## **7 Vacancy for Parish Councillor update**

Shirley Asquith had expressed an interest in the vacancy and had been invited to attend the meeting. Cllr Cutts said that he expected to stand down on the sale of his house.

## **8 Vacancy for Parish Clerk update**

Councillor Elliott had not yet advertised the vacancy. Shirley Asquith had expressed an interest in the role. Cllr Spencer advised that there could be no payment for the role of Parish Clerk if it was undertaken by a Councillor.

Council agreed to co-opt Shirley Asquith to both roles of Parish Councillor and Clerk without payment. **Action: Chairman to inform ELDC that a new Clerk has been appointed and provide contact details.**

## **9 Broadband Speed Update:**

All present agreed that the speed had deteriorated. Cllr Spencer said that he had received no further correspondence. He said was trying to meet Victoria Atkins MP to ask her to write to BT sending a copy to the County Council. There was discussion that some villagers were receiving a faster signal by paying to be in the 'new' BT cabinet at Hainton which was geared up to provide BT Infinity. **Action: Cllr Spencer to seek clarification of the situation with BT and to contact the MP.**

## **10 Village Tidy Up:**

Cllr Harris had not been able to confirm a date for this with ELDC but expected it to take place in March. **Action: Cllr Harris to confirm a date with ELDC.**

## **11 Planning Matters:**

There were proposals to build an extension at the Sycamores and for some low branch removal at Summerfield. These were considered and accepted. The Parish Council will not be submitting an objection, comment or expression of support for either application.

The Chairman circulated correspondence from ELDC regarding an expression of preference on the amount of streetlighting in the village. There was to be an upgrade to LED lighting, which would save money and, whereas payment had been mentioned in the past, there was no reference to a contribution in the current correspondence. No mention of a switch-off time, e.g. midnight, was made either. The deadline for a response to ELDC was 27<sup>th</sup> January and it was agreed that residents' views should be considered. The Chairman had received a phone call from Maureen Ferguson enquiring on progress with this matter. **Action: Chairman to write to ELDC exploring the possibility of retaining some lighting if payment was not expected.**

## **12 Correspondence:**

Correspondence had been received from ELDC regarding adoption of Moors Lane.

A reminder that consultation on the ELDC local plan closed on 25<sup>th</sup> January had been received.

A Lincolnshire Field Paths Association newsletter had been received.

The LALC news had been received.

An application pack to register for the Lincolnshire Best Kept Village Competition had been received. **Action: Chairman to place this item on the next agenda.**

The Chairman had received a phone call from Maureen Ferguson regarding the vandalism of the South Willingham signs. Cllr Spencer had looked into obtaining replacement letters but this was not possible. Cllr Harris said this was a highways matter. **Action: Chairman to email Highways and ask for the signs to be repaired, with a copy to Mrs Ferguson.**

**13 Items for next agenda:**

Best Kept Village Competition; streetlighting; risk management as a standing item.

**14 Date of Next Meeting: to be confirmed**

It had not been able to agree a convenient date. **Action: Chairman to liaise for available dates with Maureen Ferguson who holds the parish hall diary.**

Meeting closed at 9.00 pm.

Signed:

Chairman

Date: