

**SOUTH WILLINGHAM
ANNUAL PARISH MEETING**

Thursday 26 May 2022 at 7 pm

Draft Minutes

Present

Cllr D Challenger (Chair)

Cllr F Christie

Cllr Marcus Edmundson

Cllr R Granger

Cllr R Fry (ELDC)

Apologies

Cllr J Pedersen

1. Report from Chair of South Willingham Parish Council

Cllr Challenger delivered her report, a copy of which is attached.

2. To agree the Minutes of the meeting held on 26 May 2021

The minutes of the previous meeting were agreed as an accurate record and were signed by the Chair.

3. OPEN FORUM – an opportunity for residents to raise any issues of concern about the village

There was limited attendance from residents.

One resident raised her concern over the verges along the Donington Road being mown wider than a 1m strip thus not leaving the recommended wildlife habitat. She had approached the tractor driver to ask him not to persist but he had continued. She believed that the mowing was being done by the Heneage Estate and had written to Christopher Heneage about it. She said that it was the wrong time of year in relation to the wide variety of plants contained in the verge feeding animals and birds and providing cover and for the setting of seeds. It was also suggested that the mowing was taking place as an adjunct to the planning application from Christopher Heneage for a mountain bike track whose proposed site is off the Donington Road. The parish council agreed to write to Mr Heneage in support of the resident's concerns. **Action: Clerk to write in support.**

Another resident raised the issue of potholes. This was a longstanding problem and despite many attempts to have the holes filled little had been done. The meeting discussed the 'Fix my Street' website and Cllr Fry encouraged as many residents as possible to log a complaint. The parish council had already done so. Any damage to car tyres can be photographed and sent to Highways. The Chair said she would post

the link on the parish council facebook page and urge residents to complain. **Action: Chair**

The state of the pavements was raised with one older resident having nearly had a fall as a result of the holes in the tarmac surface along Station Road. The Clerk said that Cllr Bradwell had proposed a meeting when she was feeling better and suggested raising the issue of the potholes and pavement surface with her then. The meeting was informed that the parish council was in the process of putting together a working group to clear and weed the pavements. **Action: Clerk to arrange to meet Cllr Bradwell.**

The Chair of the parish hall committee asked whether the parish council would consider funding a jubilee memento designed and made by a village resident. This is a bamboo board one inch thick, of large placemat size with the jubilee logo and a list of the residents who attended the jubilee BBQ. They would cost about £6 to make. It was felt that the starting point should be the amount of interest in the village in purchasing them and then consider funding them. The Clerk had passed on details of jubilee funding from ELDC for suitable projects so it was agreed that the parish council would apply for a grant to make the mementos. The deadline for applications is 31 July. **Action: Clerk to arrange bid.**

Cllr Challenger thanked everyone for attending the meeting.

Date of next meeting: To be arranged for May 2023

ANNUAL PARISH MEETING

31 MAY 2022

CHAIR'S REPORT

I would like to express my thanks to Shirley for the vast amount of work she does to ensure that the parish council runs smoothly and thank the present councillors for their hard work and commitment. I would like to express thanks to the councillors who have left this year: Paul Elliott, Paul Ferguson and Maureen Ferguson and welcome the new councillors: Josie Pederson, Fergus Christie and Ron Granger.

This year we have kept the precept the same and have continued to support local causes which benefit the parish, such as: LIVES, the parish hall, churchyard maintenance and the church clock.

In September, a residents' forum was held with Christopher Heneage on the proposed bike track within the parish boundary. The main concerns were increased traffic around the village, access to the site and the environmental impact, such as litter, noise, and the scarring of the countryside. A straw poll showed the majority of attendees were in opposition, although there was some support. Following the residents' forum, the parish council decided to hold a residents' vote. When the outcome showed most residents were opposed to the cycle park, the parish council confirmed it would represent the majority view. Councillor Fry also confirmed that he would support the stance of the village towards the development.

The South Willingham website (www.southwillingham.org) has been recently updated with an area for the parish council and parish council access with each councillor now having a dedicated parish council email address. We have also created a Facebook page for South Willingham Parish Council to reach out further into the community. Although this will contain the same things as the website, the website will remain the official Parish Council point of contact.

We have purchased and installed a bike rack which has been set up next to the bus shelter. The rotting branch has now been removed and the solar light will be installed shortly. Planters continue to be watered and maintained by P. Ferguson

Highways have been contacted about clearing footpaths and repairing potholes, but we are still waiting for this to happen.

The parish council standing orders have been updated. The chair and clerk attended a course on 27th April. Fortunately, we are on the correct path and are doing what is necessary.

Once again, I would like to thank all concerned with the work of the Parish Council for the time and effort they have put into serving the parish.

Deborah Challenger.

Chair of South Willingham Parish Council

23.5.22