

**SOUTH WILLINGHAM
ANNUAL PARISH MEETING**

Wednesday 17 May 2023 at 7 pm

Draft Minutes

Present

Cllr V Edmundson (Chair)

Cllr F Christie

Cllr M Edmundson

Cllr R Granger

Cllr K Marsh

Cllr J Pedersen

Shirley Asquith - Clerk

Apologies

Cllr R Fry (ELDC)

1. Report from Chair of South Willingham Parish Council

The Chair delivered her report. The text is below:

We have ended the year with six councillors in place, so only one current vacancy. I took over the Chairship in January following a short hiatus after Debbie Challenger stood down. I would like to take this opportunity to thank her for her contribution to the parish council over the years that she has been a member. The main issue that the parish council has been involved in this last year has been the proposed Heneage Estate bike track. Following the opinion poll taken in the village the parish council has been working to support the majority view that the bike track would not be welcome so close to the village. The parish council put forward this view at every opportunity and despite our best efforts the planning was approved. Councillors have resolved to monitor closely any developments with the site and will hold the developer to account should any conditions not be met. I am aware that this has been a divisive issue and hope that residents will be able to come together now that the outcome is known. The parish council is currently trying to find someone to repair the bus shelter, with little luck. It is owned by the parish so we have to foot the bill. It would be unfortunate if it has to be condemned through either lack of money or the inability to find a craftsman to do the work. Should anyone know someone who might be able to help, please let the parish council know. I hope that you have noticed that we have a new village bench, courtesy of HH Innovations – a contact of Cllr Christie. It was made in oak by a Spilsby company and we hope that it lasts a good long time. My thanks to Cllr Christie for arranging

this. We also received a grant of £160 to put towards it from our ELDC Ward Councillor, Richard Fry.

I would also like to thank Paul Elliott for his continued support on the finance front supporting Shirley Asquith, our clerk, as Responsible Financial Officer and Paul Ferguson as our internal auditor.

2. To agree the Minutes of the meeting held on 26 May 2022

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

One resident attended.

A resident has raised with the Chair outside of the meeting the issue of the verges along the Donington Road being mown during the flowering season again. The parish council agreed to write to Mr Heneage in support of the resident's concerns.

Action: Clerk to write in support.

A resident has raised with the Chair outside of the meeting the issue of car parking outside the bus stop leading to possible obstruction of their driveway access. This has come about owing to the difficulty of cars being parked opposite the T-junction. Councillors are of the view that the area outside the phone box is ideal for temporary parking but that it was not a designated permanent parking area and that this should be discouraged. It was thought that no one was using it as a permanent parking space.

The state of the pavements was discussed under the annual parish meeting agenda.

The deadline for the bid for jubilee funding from ELDC was missed.

4. Date of next meeting:

15 May 2024