

**SOUTH WILLINGHAM PARISH COUNCIL**  
**MEETING**  
**WEDNESDAY 25 JANUARY 2023**

**Present:**

Cllr F Christie

Cllr M Edmundson

Cllr V Edmundson (elected Chair)

Cllr R Granger

Clerk - S Asquith

**Residents' Forum:**

There was no attendance from residents.

**1. Apologies for absence:**

Cllr Pedersen – work reasons

Cllr R Fry (ELDC)

**2. Vacancies:**

Cllr V Edmundson was proposed as Chair by Cllr Christie and seconded by Cllr Granger. Therefore Cllr V Edmundson has been voted in as Chair. She took over the running of the meeting.

The Clerk informed the meeting that Cllr Scott had decided to resign. The meeting wished to thank him for his input to date.

Councillors are actively seeking new members.

**3. Declarations of interest:**

None.

**4. To agree the minutes of the parish council meeting held on 16 November 2023**

These were agreed as a true record and signed off by Cllr Christie who was acting Chair at the time.

**5. Matters arising from the minutes of the parish council meeting of 16 Nov 2023**

The meeting asked the Clerk to contact Paul Ferguson to discuss maintenance of the village website for the coming year. **Action: Clerk**

Discussion about the new dedicated email server ascertained that people were having trouble receiving messages as the platform seemed unsupported on some equipment. It was **resolved** that Cllr Christie would explore a different option. **Action: Cllr Christie**

There was discussion about the situation with the church funds with regard to the Lacey legacy and whether there was money still available as there was concern that this might be absorbed into general church funds and not used directly for St Martin's. Assurances had been given from the clerk to the Barkwith Churches group that this would not be the case but

she had been unable to provide a figure for any remaining legacy. Although of interest to the Parish Council the meeting **resolved** to take this item off the agenda as it was outside of the Parish Council remit.

#### **6. Financial matters: presentation of financial report and bank statement:**

The finance report had been circulated prior to the meeting and was cross-referenced with the bank statement. The report was approved.

The Clerk reported that the Money Manager account, which had had 0.4p in it for the past five years, is now closed.

The Clerk had approached Paul Elliott regarding continuing in the role of responsible financial officer for the Parish Council and he has kindly agreed. In order to express their thanks the meeting **resolved** to purchase a gift of wine valued at £20. **Action: Clerk to organise.**

#### **7. Model policies - decision on list to adopt:**

The Clerk had circulated a model Code of Conduct which the meeting **resolved** to adopt. The Clerk circulated a Parish Council risk management document that was approved. The Clerk is to contact the RFO for copies of any risk assessments previously written. **Action: Clerk**

#### **8. Roles & responsibilities:**

Owing to the limited attendance this item will be on the agenda for the next meeting.

#### **9. Bus shelter and bench repair:**

The Clerk had been contacted by the ELDC Matrix Transport assistant prompting the parish council to repair the bus shelter following their 2021 inspection. The name of an approved builder had been obtained and the Clerk had contacted them and was still awaiting their visit to the site. The meeting **resolved** that, owing to the difficulty of engaging any sort of craftsman at the moment, they will waive the requirement for three tenders and, as long as the quote is not extortionate, they will accept one tender.

The village bench has been removed. A new oak bench has been donated by local company HH Innovations and it will be made by a Spilsby company. It should be in place by March. The grant from Cllr Richard Fry of £160 will be put towards delivery, installation and carving of the name South Willingham into the bench back. The meeting thanked Cllr Christie for arranging the donation.

#### **10. Heneage Estate bike track update:**

Articles had been seen in the Grimsby Telegraph and on Lincolnshire Live promoting the bike track and advertising for backers. There is a website taking an opposition stance listed below the Wolds Bike Park site on Google. The group of individuals in the village who stand as South Willingham Against the Bike Park continue to monitor developments and it has been noted that hedge cutting and tree felling have been active on the proposed site. It seems that the funding is not yet in place.

The meeting **resolved** that this topic will be a standing item on the agenda.

#### **11. Risk management (standing item):**

Councillors noted the poor state of the pavements, both their surface and the debris that covers them, is a risk to pedestrians. The Clerk was asked to bring this up again with Cllr Bradwell. **Action: Clerk**

## **12. Planning matters:**

Oakfield, Barkwith Road, has applied to remove trees from the front and back of their garden. No objections were made but it was commented that a number of trees are being lost in the village.

The meeting commented on the noise coming from the new generation of septic tanks in the village.

## **13. Parish Council initiatives:**

It was noted that one of the planters had been hit by the hedge cutting tractor.

## **14. Correspondence:**

The Clerk had received a request for an opinion on the 2023-4 budget proposal. The meeting proposed a preference for Option B: 2% adult social care precept + 1.99% general precept = 3.99%. **Action: Clerk to submit by the deadline.**

## **15. Dates of meetings 2023:**

15 March

17 May

19 Jul

20 Sep

15 Nov

## **16. Items for next agenda:**

Roles and responsibilities.

## **17. Date of next meeting:**

Wednesday 15 March 2023, 7 pm

The meeting closed at 8.10 pm.

Signed:

Date:

Chair: