

GREATER WILLINGTON TOWN COUNCIL
Minutes of the Ordinary Meeting
12th September 2023

IN ATTENDANCE

Councillor Smith, Councillor Tinsley, Councillor McArdle, Councillor Jordan
Councillor Savage, Councillor Jackson, Councillor Henfrey, Councillor Elgie
Emma McCann (DTC)
Helen Cogdon (TC) (minutes)

1. ACCEPTANCE OF APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Councillor D Hales, Councillor C Hales, Councillor Berry

2. DECLARATION OF INTEREST

Members are invited to declare any personal and/or prejudicial interest in matters appearing on the agenda and the nature of their interest.
None received.

3. PUBLIC PARTICIPATION

Resident agenda items requested through the Clerk.

Mr A Logan spoke about the cultivation on his allotment plots at Springfield. Explained to him that this had been discussed with him prior to this meeting.

Allotment Presentation Awards were as follows;

<u>1st Prize</u>	Plots 47 & 48	Mrs D Hales
<u>Highly Commended</u>	Plot 22	Mrs J Richardson
	Plot 1	Mr T Sharp

Springfield

<u>1st Prize</u>	Plot 29	Mr N Cowan
<u>Highly Commended</u>	Plot 12	Mr S Barker
	Plot 7	Mr P Burnside
<u>Best New Plot</u>	Plot 21	Mr G Robson

Mr Burnside was presented his award by Deputy Town Mayor, Councillor Angela Smith. Well done to all allotment holders for the effort put into their gardens this year.

4. TO APPROVE THE MINUTES OF THE ORDINARY MEETING 11TH JULY 2023

The minutes of the Ordinary Meeting held on 11th July 2023 as written and circulated were agreed as a true record.

Concerns were expressed at the late receipt of documentation pertaining to this meeting.

Proposed Councillor Smith

Seconded Councillor Jackson

5. TO CONSIDER PLANNING APPLICATIONS AND UPDATE ON PLANNING DECISIONS

New Planning Applications

- DM/23/00966/FPA - Land North Of Croft Way, Low Willington Industrial Estate, Willington - Erection of a warehouse (Class B2/B8) with ancillary office space and orangery to be used as a showroom

For Information Only: Standard Consultation End Date - 17 May 2023

<https://publicaccess.durham.gov.uk/online-applications/simpleSearchResults.do?action=firstPage>

- DM/23/00995/FPA - St Aidens House, High Street, Willington - Change of use of existing building from St John's Ambulance centre to a mixed-use comprising office and first floor 3 bed residential flat, replacement of first floor raised platform with two storey rear extension and external staircase, and retention of windows and rooflights to the front and rear

For Information Only: Standard Consultation Expiry Date - 30 May 2023

Planning Permission refused.

<https://publicaccess.durham.gov.uk/online-applications/simpleSearchResults.do?action=firstPage>

- DM/23/01500/FPA - 46 Armstrong Drive, Willington - Proposed single storey side and rear extension

For Information Only: Standard Consultation End Date – 26 June 2023

<https://publicaccess.durham.gov.uk/online-applications/simpleSearchResults.do?action=firstPage>

- DM/23/01555/FPA - 45 High Street, Willington - Development of retail store with associated car parking and servicing on land adjacent to 45 High Street Willington DL15 0PF

For Information Only: Standard Consultation Expiry Date - 30 Jun 2023

<https://publicaccess.durham.gov.uk/online-applications/applicationDetails.do?activeTab=summary&keyVal=RVJ69GGDKGO00>

Previous Planning Application Decisions

- DM/21/04140/RM - Land Adjacent To (East) Ash Drive, Willington - Reserved matters application (appearance, landscaping, layout and scale) for the erection of 88 no. dwellings pursuant to outline planning permission DM/17/00244/OUT (up to 200 dwellings with all matters reserved except access)

Approved – 26 May 2023

- DM/22/03106/FPA - Plots 1-3 Oakenshaw Allotments, New Row, Oakenshaw - Erection of pigeon loft, raised lawn area with steps, roof over log shed and pergola (retrospective)

Approved – 05 June 2023

- DM/22/03708/NMA - Land Adjacent To (East) Ash Drive, Willington - Non-material amendment to condition 16 (archaeology) pursuant to DM/18/03443/OUT

Approved – 19 May 2023

- DM/23/00585/FPA - 3 Woodlands Close, Oakenshaw - Single storey side and rear extension

Approved – 26 April 2023

- DM/23/00437/FPA - 82A High Street, Willington - Change of use of first and second floor residential flat to hair and beauty salon (Sui Generis)

Approved – 4 May 2023

- DM/23/00674/PA - Land South East Of Whitworth Lane Brancepeth - Prior approval application for the erection of 1 No. agricultural building

Refused – 10 May 2023

Previous Planning Applications Waiting Decisions

- DM/19/02002/OUT – Site of Former Kensington Hall Hotel, Kensington Terrace, Willington – Housing development of 9 no. dwellings (Outline – All Matters Reserved Other Than Access) (Amended 21/04/2021)
- DRC/22/00261 - Land Adjacent To (East) Ash Drive, Willington - Discharge of Conditions 5 (Construction Management Plan and Method Statement), 6 - (coal mining legacy), 8 (off-site highways), 10 (Arboricultural Impact Assessment), 14 (contaminated land) and 16 (archaeology) pursuant to planning permission DM/18/03443/OUT (erection of up to 200 dwellings).
- DM/22/03678/VOC - 52 Armstrong Drive, Willington - Variation of Condition 2 (Plans) in relation to planning permission DM/21/01808/FPA for resize first floor side window, reduce number of first floor rear windows, additional ground floor side windows and alterations to bi-fold door
- DM/23/00295/DRC - Land To The North Of Hawthorn Drive And West Of Hill Meadows, Willington - Discharge of condition 10 (Ball Stop Fencing) pursuant to permission DM/20/01960/VOC
- DM/23/00443/FPA - Oak House, 21A Acorn Drive, Oakenshaw - Conversion of outbuilding to home office

6. TO RECEIVE THE ALLOTMENT REPORT

Emma McCann reported;

Concerns had been raised by Springfield Allotment Association with regards to the boundary fence at the front of the site and the gate on the south side. As we are responsible for the boundary fence, I will obtain quotes in order to apply for funding to have this work carried out.

This was agreed.

7. TO APPROVE THE PARISH PLAN

The updated version of this plan for 2023-2024 was circulated prior to the meeting for information.

8. TO APPROVE THE BANK RECONCILIATION (JULY & AUGUST)

The Clerk said;

The Council entered into July 2023 with a starting balance of £101,400.31.

There was expenditure of £16,228.49 and credits of £3,344.00, leaving an end balance of £88,515.82.

The Council entered into August with a starting balance of £88,515.82.

There was expenditure of £15,265.78 and credits of £620.78, leaving an end balance of £73,870.82.

Proposed Councillor Henfrey

Seconded Councillor Elgie

9. TO RECEIVE THE BUDGET REPORT AND APPROVE FINANCIAL DECISIONS

The Clerk said:

At the 31st August 2023 the overall budget 2023-2024 was confirmed to be £128,943.00.

Current spend to date is £51,027.74 leaving a resource on budget of £77,915.26

Proposed Councillor Smith

Seconded Councillor Jackson

10. TO RECEIVE THE TOWN COUNCILLORS MONTHLY REPORT

Councillor Jordan asked Emma McCann if she could chase up on the offices CCTV training. Emma McCann explained this had been difficult as both parties had other commitments at times suggested but would arrange a new appointment for this.

Councillor McArdle apologised for not going to PACT Meeting. She also requested some help with the Sunnybrow planters. Councillor Savage offered to help.

Councillor Henfrey said he had been approached about the betting shop being closed and now there are none in Willington.

Councillor Jackson asked what was happening about the Spar getting a defibrillator as previously discussed. Emma McCann confirmed that she had forwarded information and costings on to the Spar as they had agreed they would fund the whole process.

11. TO RECEIVE THE COUNTY COUNCILLORS MONTHLY REPORT

County Councillor Gunn said:

DCC full council meeting will take place on 20th September 2023.

We have been informed that 3 schools in County Durham are affected by Reinforced autoclaved aerated concrete (RAAC) none of which are in Willington and Hunwick Division

Neighbourhood Budgets from County Councillors Olwyn Gunn and Fraser Tinsley include; Heritage Trail, Autumnus Mabon Feast, Charity Shop 4 U, Oakenshaw Play Area, GWTC Coach Hire, Willington Football Club, Foundation Trust Rosedale Healthy Food, Open Door Church events and defibrillator, Foster Packs, North Dene Woods, Birds Mouth Fencing, Commemoration Brochure, GWTC Christmas Pantomime.

12. TO CONSIDER COMMUNITY FUND APPLICATIONS

No new applications received.

Emma McCann confirmed;

Willington WMC FC, Charity Shop 4 U and St Stephens Church had all received their community fund awards. Appreciation was received from all organisations. Willington Spiritualist Church and Willington & District Angling Club had not submitted the additional information that was requested.

13. TO CONSIDER CIVIC FUND APPLICATIONS

None received.

14. DATE AND TIME OF NEXT MEETING

14th November 2023 at 6.00pm.