

WILLINGHAM PARISH COUNCIL NEWSLETTER

Spring 2009

Clerk to the Parish Council:

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Councillors:

Dorothy Wain (Chairman)	788332	Sue Bingham	788306
Sandy Carter	787601	Simon Brader	787115
Simon Cannon	788151	Ralph Bates	788109
		Larry Pogson	787023

New Councillor

The parish council now has its full complement of seven councillors following the co-option of Larry Pogson. We are pleased to welcome him to the council.

Parish Council Website

The parish council has finally reached the twenty-first century and gone live on its very own website. Here you will be able to find a copy of this newsletter, copies of minutes of meetings, an agenda for the next meeting, contact details for the council, details of parish field rental, cemetery information and much more. You can reach the site either by going on to the village web site at www.willinghambystow.co.uk and following the link to the parish council site or you can go direct to the site at <http://parishes.lincolnshire.gov.uk/Willingham/index.asp>.

Lay-by near Surgery

The parish council has been successful in securing a three-way funding initiative between itself and both the County and District Councils to create a small lay-by near the surgery in an effort to improve parking in the area. It will accommodate 3-4 cars and hopefully be used by people calling in at the surgery for short periods, e.g. to collect prescriptions. Work on the lay-by will be carried out during the current financial year.

Many visitors to the surgery don't check to see if places are available in the car park. Some drivers park too close to the junction opposite the surgery, making it difficult for vehicles emerging from that road to do so safely. (Remember your Highway Code - do not park within 10 metres of a junction!) Please always try the car park first and respect the double yellow lines. Remember also that patrolling officers have the power to issue fixed penalty notices for illegal parking.

Surgery Patients Participation Group

This group is looking for additional volunteers. Its purpose is to provide a channel of communication between the surgery and its users and to allow users the opportunity to have a say in how the surgery is run and any proposed changes. The group meets every three months and its next meeting is Wednesday 3rd June at 8.00 pm. For further information contact Angela Wright on 788402.

Parish Plan 2005

It is now over 4 years since this plan was published. The production of the Plan was carried out by a group of volunteers who were interested in seeing what residents thought of their village and the facilities it provides, and where they would like it to go in the future. Based on the survey results an Action Plan was formulated. Some of these actions were designated as parish council responsibilities; others were down to members of the community to take further.

Those listed for the parish council and partner organisations to investigate further have now been evaluated. Many cannot be ticked off as completed, but require constant attention and are on-going or long-term aims. Some are listed below.

- Improve access to buses for those with disabilities – done.
- Improve pavements around the village – on-going.
- Reduce vandalism – on-going in partnership with police.
- Pavilion/changing room on playing field – achieved through Playing Field Committee.
- To make the parish a clean and visually appealing environment - planter provided on High Street/Grange Lane junction; litter picking carried out regularly.
- Improve drainage to prevent flooding – on-going.
- Improve village lighting – on-going.
- Promote and encourage tourism – village and parish council websites now set up.
- To discuss options for improving car parking – provision of lay-by outside surgery is imminent.
- To meet the need for affordable housing for local people – local survey carried out and results being evaluated.
- Ensure housing design is commensurate with original village – parish council makes appropriate comments on all planning applications.
- Stop housing infilling – now West Lindsey policy.

The Parish Clerk still holds a small number of Parish Plans. If anyone would like a copy, please contact her.

Willingham School Children's Trust

This trust is a charity created from funds obtained from the sale of Willingham Primary School building. The object of the charity is the general benefit of children and young people under the age of 18 in the parish of Willingham. It may also make donations to other groups and charities with similar objectives.

Any persons or groups wishing to apply to the trust for funds can contact the trust in one of the following ways: phone Simon Brader on 787115, e-mail s.brader@btinternet.com or apply to 7 The Paddocks, Willingham, Gainsborough DN21 5LP.

Willingham & District Relief in Sickness Charity

This local charity has existed for a considerable time and has items available for use by the residents of Willingham, Kexby, Upton, Heapham, Sturgate, Springthorpe and Corringham. Items include: 4 wheelchairs, 2 electric bath lifts, 2 commode chairs, 1 raised toilet seat, 1 shower/bath stool, 1 walking frame with shelves, 1 surgical cushion, 1 car seat swivel cushion. These items are with several trustees. Further details are available from Gordon Wain on 788332.

Reporting on-line

Anyone with access to the internet can report problems direct to the County Council via their on-line reporting system. Simply go to www.lincolnshire.gov.uk and you will see a Do It Online section on the right-hand side of their home page. Under their Highways Reporting section you can report pot holes and a variety of other defects. Problems can of course still be reported to the parish council for attention.