

WILLINGHAM PARISH COUNCIL NEWSLETTER

Autumn 2011

Clerk to the Parish Council:

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Councillors:

Dorothy Wain (Chairman))	788332	Jackie Didcock	787143
Sandy Carter	787601	David Edwards	787099
Simon Cannon	788151	Philip Bates	788273
Graham Coster	787907		

Parish Council elections

At the parish council elections earlier this year, there were insufficient candidates to fill the available seats. The vacant seats were subsequently filled through co-option and there is now a full complement of 7 councillors. Their contact details are above.

Queen Elizabeth's Diamond Jubilee 2012

It can't have escaped your notice that next year marks 60 years of Queen Elizabeth II having been on the throne. The Government has granted an extra day's Bank Holiday and there will be an official Jubilee weekend over the 2nd – 5th June when the whole country will be celebrating this event in a huge variety of ways.

The parish council wants to find out if the people of Willingham would like to mark the occasion in some special way. It is inviting people from all village organisations and any interested individuals to come to a meeting in the Committee Room of the Village Hall on Tuesday 4th October at 7.30 pm when this can be discussed and a full exchange of ideas can take place. If there is sufficient interest, the parish council hopes they can then hand over to an organising committee who would take up the reins and move things forward.

"Smiley Sid" - The Speed Indication Device (SID) which the parish council has purchased along with Saxilby, Sturton and Burton parish councils has been out and about in the village on several occasions. It's hoped this will make motorists more aware of what speed they are actually driving at and deter them from speeding through the village. If you're one of the people who found themselves driving at more than 30 mph, perhaps you've moderated your driving habits as a result – not only in our own village but when driving through other 30 mph areas.

Affordable housing land in Willingham by Stow

In order to take this project further Community Lincs is working in partnership with West Lindsey District Council and the Parish Council to find land for the potential development of affordable housing and is asking local landowners with land in the parish to come forward with suitable land for possible development. This follows a Rural Housing Needs Survey which identified a need within the local community.

All sites identified will then be considered by Community Lincs, West Lindsey District Council and the Parish Council for their suitability for affordable housing development. Small sites, ideally for between five to ten properties, will be of particular interest, but larger

sites will also be considered. The land may also be already allocated or have planning permission for housing.

Land that is outside, but close/adjacent to, the parish development boundary, may be suitable as an ‘exception site’ for 100% affordable housing. This would meet the local housing need.

John Mather, a Rural Housing Enabler at Community Lincs, said:

“The lack of affordable homes in Willingham is cause for concern. In the current situation many local people, particularly the young, are finding they cannot afford to remain living there. Our survey highlighted several people or families who have already had to move out of the village due to the lack of affordable housing. It’s vital that these young people and families are able to remain living in rural communities, to ensure that they remain economically and socially viable in the long term. I encourage landowners to contact me if they are interested in using their land for affordable housing, which will in turn help many local people in need”.

If you have any questions or have land that you think would be suitable and would like to register your interest, please contact:

John Mather, Rural Housing Enabler, Community Lincs,
The Old Mart, Church Lane, Sleaford, Lincs, NG34 7DF
Tel: 01529 302466
Email: rhe@communitylincs.com

Lincolnshire Alert (LincsAlert) is a community messaging system run by Lincolnshire Police. The system acts a tool for the police to give information to registered members on crime reduction and community safety issues. Members can also provide information to the police. To get further details or register go to www.lincolnshirealert.co.uk. You can unsubscribe at any time or choose to personalise your messages. Benefits of the system include:

- Website available 24 hours a day.
- Totally confidential, secure service, your data is never shared without your consent
- Subscribe to receive alerts by email, phone, or text.
- Join an on-line virtual Neighbourhood and Home Watch scheme and swap ideas with other members
- Report information to your Neighbourhood Policing Teams
- Receive feedback and updates about your reports.
- Completely free to receive service
- Unsubscribe at anytime

Best Kept Garden – congratulations to Peggy Smith of ‘Pathways’ on Gainsborough Road for winning this year’s competition. Hers was judged the best garden when viewed from the road. Well done!

It’s time to check your oil tank

It’s the time of year again when many households will be getting their domestic oil deliveries for the winter. The Environment Agency urges homeowners to check their oil tanks now as domestic heating oil can cause major problems if it leaks into the environment. It can pollute rivers, harm wildlife and contaminate the ground. It’s not just the cost of losing the oil that

can be expensive, clean up costs can be large and are not always covered by household insurance policies.

If you own an oil tank, follow the Environment Agency's advice:

- Regularly look for corrosion damage and signs of leaks on the tank and pipe work. If you notice a problem, get it fixed straight away.
- Place your oil tank as far away from drains, streams and ponds as possible.
- Secondary containment (such as a bund) will prevent oil from escaping into the environment in the event of a leak developing. This is a legal requirement for domestic tanks which store in excess of 3,500 litres.
- Arrange for your boiler and tank to be serviced at least once a year by an Oil Firing Technical Association (OFTEC) technician.
- Monitor your oil usage levels. If it suddenly changes, this could indicate a leak.
- Supervise your oil deliveries. Don't allow your tank to be overfilled and don't buy more oil than you can safely store.
- Check that your home insurance covers clean up costs on both your own property and neighbouring land or boreholes.

Further information can be obtained by visiting the Environment Agency's website at www.environment-agency.gov.uk/osr. To report an oil spill or leak, contact the Environment Agency's emergency hotline on 0800 807060.