

## Parish Field

Is located on Stone Pit Lane, which is between Fillingham Lane and Cot Garth Lane. It has been developed with the help of grant funding from WLDC Councillor Initiative Fund & the Community Fund.

There are 2 benches positioned on the path and 2x picnic benches have been purchased with grant funding from WLDC.



Please go and have a look, enjoy the walk around the pond, enjoy the nature, listen to the birds in the quiet tranquil surroundings or take a picnic (please take any litter home)

There is a Dog Waste Bin near the entrance - please use this and keep the area clean.

If you would like to volunteer -litter picking/weeding, anything to help maintain the Parish Field, please contact the clerk for more information.



## Willingham by Stow



## Summer Newsletter 2025

*produced by Willingham Parish Council*

Willingham Parish Council Final Accounts as at 31/03/25			
Summary of Income and Expenditure			
Income		Expenditure	
Precept	£14,000.00	General Admin	£7,264.58
Grass Cutting Agreement	£732.54	Grounds Maintenance	£6,718.00
VAT return	£2,294.55	S137	£155.00
Interest	£30.40	VAT	£1,726.33
Cemetery revenue	£975.00	Property Maintenance	£1,447.36
Parish Field Rent	£130.00	Grant Funding	£2,400.00
Grants	£875.00	Cemetery entrance	£2,880.00
		Parish Field development	£2,298.00
	<b>£19,037.49</b>		<b>£24,889.27</b>
Account Reconciliation			
Opening Balance 31/03/24			
Account 90765678			£13,552.36
Account 20183679			£2,047.62
			<b>£15,599.98</b>
Add receipts			£19,037.49
Deduct Payments			£24,889.27
Closing balance 31/03/25			<b>£9,748.20</b>
<b>Bank Accounts</b>	<b>Closing balance</b>	<b>31/03/2025</b>	
Account 90765678			£7,670.18
Account 20183679			£2,078.02
			<b>£9,748.20</b>
The balance corresponds with bank statement as at 31st March 2025			

## Willingham by Stow Parish Council

is the first tier of Local Government for the village in West Lindsey. The Parish Council comprises of 7 councillors who are elected every four years who work for the benefit of the community and all local residents.

The Annual Council Meeting was held on 8th May - Cllr David Bingham was elected as Chair and Cllr Michael Bates as Vice.

The Parish Council represents and serves the whole community and is responsible for the services it provides following consultation with the parishioners at the Annual Parish Meeting or parishioners are welcome to attend the monthly council meetings and speak in the Public Participation section. It establishes policies for action and decides how money will be raised and spent on behalf of the community. It is responsible for spending the money lawfully, without risk and achieving the best value.

The council maintains the public footpaths within the village on behalf of Lincolnshire County Council, grass cutting in St Helens churchyard, Willingham Cemetery, public seating within the parish, owns the land operated & maintained by the Playing Field Committee, 2 fields on Stone Pit Lane, 1 currently is put to tender for grazing and the other has been developed into a nature area for the community.

Grants last year were given to the Playing Field Committee for the grass cutting, Christmas Festival and St Helens Church for a new Christmas Crib.

## **THANK YOU**

**to all residents that help to keep our village tidy**

- by the cutting grass verges/footpaths & hedges
- regularly litter picking
- Maintaining the village planter on the corner of Grange Lane & the Memorial Garden at the Cemetery

**And to all the responsible dog owners who clean up after their pets**

## **Environment Agency Incident hotline**

To report any bad odours please ring  
free (24 hour service) 0800 80 70 60

## **District Councillor (Stow Ward) WLDC**

Cllr Lynda Mullally  
cllr.l.mullally@west-lindsey.gov.uk

## **County Councillor (Gainsborough Rural South) LCC**

Cllr Paul Wimhurst  
cllrp.wimhurst@lincolnshire.gov.uk

## **Parish Council Meetings**

Take place on the 2<sup>nd</sup> Thursday of each month (no meetings in January & August) at 7.30pm in the Committee Room of Willingham Village Hall. Each meeting has a 10-minute public forum, during which members of the public may make a short statement to the Council in relation to matters on the agenda or matters of concern or interest.

If members of the public have any matters that they wish to be discussed, they should submit them to the Clerk one week in advance of the meeting so that they can be added to the agenda.

Notices of meetings are posted on the Parish Council Notice Board outside the Village Hall and on our website:  
<https://willingham-by-stow.parish.lincolnshire.gov.uk>

## **Councillors:**

David Bingham (Chair)  
Michael Bates (vice)  
Tony Clifton  
Quincy Connell  
Chantelle Devine  
David Leak  
Amanda O'Dell

## **Clerk/RFO:**

Lisa Brooks-Sleight 07946854466  
13 The Close, Sturton by Stow, Lincoln, LN1 2AG  
[willingham.pc.clerk@gmail.com](mailto:willingham.pc.clerk@gmail.com)

### **Monthly Parish Magazine**

For the very modest price of £3.50 per year you can receive a copy of the monthly Parish Magazine which contains all sorts of information about events in the villages of Willingham, Stow, Coates and Torksey. If you are not a user or fan of Facebook and want to find out what's going on then the Parish Magazine may be just the thing for you.

We are happy to publish all family notices or reports of village events in the magazine at no charge. So you could use it to thank your neighbours for doing a good deed or to let people know of a special anniversary. We can print your poem, give news from your village or organisation or we can advertise your event.

If you would like a copy or would like to send an article please contact Ann Cragg, preferably by e mail – sthelens.wbs@gmail.com or by phone on 01427 787267

### **Village Facebook Page**

**Willingham by Stow Community** - for Village discussions, information and things of interest.

### **West Lindsey District Council—online self service site**

Use this site for information regarding bin collection/fly tipping/litter problems/council tax/planning/anti-social behaviour plus many more.



Use the QR code or link below:

<https://west-lindsey-self.achieveservice.com/>

### **Lincolnshire County Council—Fault reporting site**

For any Highways issues—streetlights/road signs/pot holes/manhole covers/trees/flooding etc



You can report these on the following site or use the QR code

<https://fixmystreet.lincolnshire.gov.uk>



## Dogs

Please always keep dogs on leads and under control and be aware of others by keeping your dog close by. Ensure it does not disturb wildlife, farm animals, horses, or other people by keeping it under effective control. Please observe the Countryside Code -ensure dogs do not stray off the path where you have a right of access.

## Fouling

Dog mess is unpleasant and there is no excuse for not cleaning up after your pet. Please pick-up after your dogs & place in the bins provided around the village or take home & dispose.

## Dangerous dogs

Lincolnshire Police are responsible for dealing with dangerous dogs. If you are concerned about a dog behaving dangerously, please report it by **telephone to 101**.

If someone loses or finds a dog, they should always contact the local authority by telephoning 01427 676676 or online

[www.lincsrescue.com](http://www.lincsrescue.com)

<https://west-lindsey.gov.uk/communities-safety/community-safety/stray-dogs>

Thank you

## Willingham Horticultural Society

This year's show (the 79<sup>th</sup>) will be held on 27<sup>th</sup> September. Schedules have been delivered to each house in the village and we are looking forward to seeing all the baking, gardening, art and photography work then. We are sure it will be another good show.

The 78<sup>th</sup> annual show was held in Sept 2024. We were pleased with the overall participation in the Show – despite the low entry in the veg and blooms classes indicating that climate change is having an effect on growing seasons.

As usual the school pupils, Beavers and Cubs gave us plenty of colourful work to admire and we are very grateful to their teachers and leaders.

The Show manages to break even financially, thanks to the good offices of the auctioneer and to the generosity of the visitors with the raffle.

## Willingham Parish Council Facebook page



### Willingham by Stow Parish Council

56 likes • 85 followers



## **The Bell Ringers**

Normal ringing has taken place on a regular basis throughout the year: practice night on Wednesdays and ringing for Service on Sunday mornings. We have been pleased to welcome ringers from a number of the surrounding villages at our practices and on Sundays and we, likewise, help out at their churches. We are, however, short of ringers from Willingham itself and need to find some new recruits. If you are interested please drop in at a Wednesday practice at 7.30pm to see what it's all about. We'd love to show you how much fun ringing is. We are also going to need a new set of ropes very soon, the current ones have lasted for about 20 years. They are expensive so we'll need to do some fund raising.

## **Anyone New to the Village?**

We have a Welcome to Willingham leaflet with all the information you will need to help you settle in -please contact the clerk with an address and the leaflet will be delivered.  
[willingham.pc.clerk@gmail.com](mailto:willingham.pc.clerk@gmail.com)

attractions.

Since 2012 we have travelled to Moyenneville and Postrelmov once every three years and they in turn have visited Willingham. Up to 50 visitors (25 from each country) come on each occasion and we enjoy days out, village functions and the hospitality of host families in each other's countries.

Fund raising helps us to meet the cost of hosting and to subsidise the cost of children's travel when taking youngsters abroad with us. This means your twinning experience is much less expensive than you would imagine. A fund raising TV Gameshow night was held in February and was successful in raising most of the money required to subsidise the four children who travelled with us this year.

We were hosted by Moyenneville, France in what was the 25th anniversary of our Twinning arrangement. We enjoyed a weekend of socialising, sport, visits and meals enjoyed with our host families. Next year we will be travelling to Postrelmov in the Czech Republic and hope that we will see some new faces amongst our party.

If you would like to join us on one of our trips or chat to us about our experiences please email our Secretary.

There is also more information on the village website - [www.willinghambystow.co.uk/twinning/](http://www.willinghambystow.co.uk/twinning/)

Barbara Bussey, [Barbara@bussey.co.uk](mailto:Barbara@bussey.co.uk)

## **WILLINGHAM BY STOW TWINNING ASSOCIATION**

Willingham by Stow has had a Twinning Association since 2000, but what are its objectives?

It aims to develop mutual understanding and awareness between people from different cultures. It helps develop values such as citizenship and tolerance and is a fun way to discover how other European people live and to make friends from different countries

*We are not an exclusive group – any resident of the village can be part of our trips – young and old.*

The first village to form a link with us was Moyenneville in France. The second community to become part of what is now a tri-partnership is the small town of Postrelmov in the Czech Republic. We now have good friends in both towns.

The idea of hosting a French or Czech family or staying in the home of someone you have never met can be daunting, but those who have taken part, have invariably enjoyed the experience and gained an understanding of what twinning is about. Language is rarely a problem.

In July 2010 the first three way visit was hosted in Moyenneville, France. All three countries mingled, talked, partied and enjoyed the experience of being together. An excellent programme of events and cultural opportunities was planned by our Moyenneville hosts. In July 2011 we visited Postrelmov along with our French friends. The Czech people were welcoming to all our families and were excellent hosts. The formal signing agreement took place over the weekend along with visits to local amenities and

## **Cllr Lynda Mullally WLDC**

Hi All,

It's been twelve months since I last contributed to the newsletter. It's been another busy year with events held in the village of Willingham, with the Church Festival, the Village Hall, The Half Moon Pub and Ashleigh Farm, who won the Glamping Award for 2025. The 80th VE Day celebrations were well organised and well attended bringing the Village together. I enjoy attending the Parish Council meetings and I would like to acknowledge the hard work they do on behalf of the community. I'm always made to feel so welcome. So, here's to the next twelve months and may Willingham thrive and prosper.

Thank you, Kind wishes

Lynda Mullally

## **Willingham by Stow Village website**

Use the QR code or link below  
[willinghambystow.co.uk](http://willinghambystow.co.uk)



### **Willingham Friendship Club**

The club has continued to meet on the 2<sup>nd</sup> and 4<sup>th</sup> Wednesdays of each month, from September until the end of November, and then January until the end of June. The club enables older members (though people of all ages are welcome) to enjoy friendship over a cup of tea and various activities from 2 – 4pm in the village hall, High St, Willingham by Stow.

A varied programme has been offered –This year we have had talks about Airline catering, the work of the Salvation Army and life in the Navy. We've had poetry reading, handbell ringing and quizzes. We really enjoyed an excellent Christmas lunch in the Half Moon and a tea party at one of our members' house.

Sadly, membership has gone down in the last six months. We are now averaging only about a dozen members at each session, so we would be very pleased to welcome more members.

First meeting will be on September 10<sup>th</sup>.

### **Willingham Parish Council Website**

Use the QR code or link below



ask that any support you can offer to continue to the cause. Every little bit helps.

The church choir continues to sing at our services and for special occasions. Currently we have a four part choir but new members would be very welcome. No audition is required and you do not need to read music to join. Choir practices are held every Tuesday 7.15 to 8.30pm. We also have a junior choir which has grown this year with now 9 children aged 2 to 10 years old enjoying singing and doing action songs. They meet on Wednesdays 5.30 to 6.15 in the Village Hall.

Again new members are always welcome.

Finally we would like to remind all Parishioners that they are welcome to come any time to our services and always will be warmly welcomed. Also remember that the church is open most days during British Summertime between 10.00am and 4.00pm should anybody feel they would like to visit for private prayer or even for a look at the photographs of blocked drains on the notice board. Access out of those times can be made on contacting one of the church wardens. Times of services and events can always be found in the parish magazine along with village news and notices. If you do not receive the magazine, which costs less than 30p a month delivered to your door and would like one just let us know.

Church Wardens

Barbara Bussey 01427 788425 and

Mary Hutchinson 01427 788619



## St Helens Church

St Helens Church stands proud in the centre of our village and has been for a very long time. The font still used for baptisms today is from Norman times. During the medieval periods changes were made to the church which you can see in the tower and west end of the building. The last main alterations were made by the Victorians who rebuilt the nave, the east end of the church and replaced the roof.

Sadly old buildings need constant repairs and maintenance to keep them in a safe and usable condition and are expensive to keep insured. This year we have updated some electrics, done a repair in the bell tower and very recently spent several thousand pounds in making the lightening conductors back to functioning well again. We might even save your property from a strike in the future. Some of the stone work is showing signs of deterioration which is being caused by Victorian drains, downpipes and gutters unable to now do their job. This project is the biggest repair job we have had to tackle in a very long time. Our fund raising has so far managed to pay for surveys, condition reports, specification listings and even for a faculty which had to come from Westminster to permit work to be allowed to drains within consecrated burial ground. However we need £50,000 to complete the work. We have applied from various sources for some grant funding to help with this but we need to raise some more ourselves.

We would like to thank those in the village who have been supportive to our fund raising events and would

## Lincolnshire Police—Gainsborough Rural South

Our ambition is to provide a neighbourhood policing service of which you, and we, can be proud. Prevention will be at the heart of our work, through well-informed collaborative problem-solving, building participation and strengthening the communities we serve. We will remain part of those communities, known and accessible to you, and policing in a way that both prevents harm and enhances your trust in us.

Our approach is shaped by five key themes: accessibility, prevention, relationships, vulnerability, relationships and partnerships. These will underpin all areas of our service and form the basis of our neighbourhood policing offer.

**EMERGENCY ring 999**

**NON-EMERGENCY ring 101**

**Crimestoppers -**

**<http://crimestoppers-uk.org/>  
or ring 0800555111**



**Michael Head**  
Inspector



**Jason Bennett**  
Sergeant



**Emma Wilson**  
Police Constable

### WANT TO KNOW MORE

Crime statistics for your neighbourhood are available at [www.lincs.police.uk](http://www.lincs.police.uk)



Find us on  
**Facebook**

Search: [GainsboroughPolice](#)

Follow us on Twitter

Search: [@GainsboroughPol](#)

**Nextdoor**

Nextdoor is a great way of getting the latest relevant information for your area.  
Join at: [www.nextdoor.co.uk](http://www.nextdoor.co.uk)

**Willingham & District Relief in**  
**Sickness Charity**  
***Charity Commission No:512180***

The charity covers the area of Willingham; Corringham;  
Heapham; Kexby; Springthorpe & Upton  
–to relieve & provide appropriate services of  
Support to those in need  
of benefit who reside in the area  
The Charity also offers a subsidized Chiropodist service  
for residents in the area

We have several wheelchairs, commodes, walking aides,  
toilet seats, bath seats, bedrest supports, over arm table  
and shower stools available for loan –  
including patients of Willingham Surgery

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**Please contact if you would like help or  
Support from this charity**

**For equipment loan  
Dorothy Wain 788332 or Stewart 788011**

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Lisa Brooks-Sleight (clerk) 07946854466  
Email: [willingham.sickness.charity@mail.com](mailto:willingham.sickness.charity@mail.com)

We would need a license to show films but would need to know this would be used before we paid out for one.

Our committee is currently looking for a booking clerk and a secretary to help for a period with our management requirements. If you could spare a bit of time for your community and want to know more contact us on the email [wbsvhbooking@gmail.com](mailto:wbsvhbooking@gmail.com) or by text/phone to Barbara on 07949112630 or Eddie on 07798560237.

**Willingham Band**

Willingham Band has been busy recently, playing a range of concerts, and we expect to have some more engagements through the summer.

In September, we begin preparations for the Christmas season – and for that, we would like some more musicians to join the band. Perhaps you are getting on well with your wind (or percussion) instrument at school, and would like to broaden your experience, or you may be more experienced, and need to dust your instrument down.

Please contact us through our Facebook page, or email [talbot.clark@btinternet.com](mailto:talbot.clark@btinternet.com) Or just turn up

## Willingham Village Hall

The Village Hall remains the central community base for villagers use. It is managed by a committee of volunteer trustees who maintain the building and provide a venue for hire at very competitive rates.

The committee also promote and provide events for all villagers to enjoy, most recently contributing to the VE -80 celebrations.

There are a wide range of organisations and groups who provide activities for all ages who use the hall on a regular basis for sport, social and cultural purposes.

We have regular coffee mornings and lunches.

It is also available for hire for private functions.

To book the hall email - [wbsvhbooking@gmail.com](mailto:wbsvhbooking@gmail.com).

We do fund raising to help support the halls maintenance and to keep hire charges as low as possible. Do support these events if you can when you see them advertised.

The AGM of the hall will be on Wednesday 5th November 2025 at 7.00pm. Come along and tell us what facilities or activities you would like to see in the village.

Meantime we would particularly like your thoughts and ideas about using the new full size screen and projector. This will help us to be a competitive venue as an asset to hirers and organisations for display and teaching purposes but could be used for much more.

To show films for instance, entertaining children in the holidays for example. How much would you use this?



West Lindsey District Council

## Environmental Pollution Control

### GARDEN BONFIRES – HOW NOT TO ANNOY YOUR NEIGHBOURS

Garden bonfires, if burned in an uncontrolled manner, may give off smoke which will annoy and be a nuisance to nearby neighbours. Smoke problems from garden bonfires can be minimised by following these simple guidance notes:

1. Compost as much garden rubbish as possible and keep any burning to a minimum.
2. Hedge clippings and other woody cuttings which are unsuitable for composting should be thoroughly dried before being burnt. A quick, hot fire will produce a minimum of smoke.
3. Do not light a bonfire if the wind is going to cause the smoke or smuts to be a nuisance to anyone.
4. Avoid lighting a fire within an hour of sunset or leaving it alight later than one hour after sunset when weather conditions often cause smoke to hang in the air.
5. Do not leave the bonfire unattended as burning conditions may change quickly with the possibility of either heavy smoke emissions or risk to the safety of nearby structures.
6. Never allow a bonfire to smoulder – extinguish it with soil or water before leaving it.
7. For safety's sake, never add household rubbish to a garden bonfire, particularly items such as aerosol cans or plastics, as explosions or acrid, chemical smoke may result.
8. Be aware of the law concerning smoke nuisance.

The Environmental Protection Act 1990 gives a local authority the power to serve an Abatement Notice where it is satisfied that a nuisance has occurred, or is likely to occur or recur, which effectively prohibits further nuisance. If such an Abatement Notice is then contravened, it can result in a fine not exceeding level 5 on the standard scale (currently £5000).

9. As an alternative to garden bonfires, there is the WLDC Garden Waste Collection Service. Or you may choose to take your garden rubbish to your local house waste recycling centre (tip).

Your co-operation in avoiding nuisance from smoke and ash will, I am sure, be appreciated by all your neighbours.

WEST LINDSEY DISTRICT COUNCIL - PROTECTING THE ENVIRONMENT

### **Yesterdays Youngsters**

A Christmas Meal was enjoyed by Willingham's Yesterdays Youngsters (over 65's) in January, held in Willingham Village Hall with the help from a donation received from The Willingham & District Relief in Sickness Charity, towards the cost of the celebrations.

Carol Webster has organised this annual meal for many years and is looking for someone to take over the organisation of this annual event.

If you can help with this group, please contact Carol Webster 01427 788788 or Dorothy Wain 01427 788332 for more information.

### **FOXY LADIES**

Foxy ladies has now become well established as a ladies social group within the village. We enjoy having the company of each other, share skills and friendship. We have planned outings, interesting and informative speakers visit us There are no age barriers and no strict formalities just having some fun. Meetings take place on the third Monday of the month in the Village Hall. You would be very welcome to join us.

For further details call  
Barbara on 788425 or Ann on 787267.

### **COMMUNITY CAFÉ**

Join us for a warm welcome where you can enjoy a comforting cup of tea and chat with others in a relaxed and friendly setting for free.

September 1, 15 and 29

October 13 and 27

Sturton by Stow Village Hall, High Street, LN1 2AX

NHS Lincolnshire - Clip - Acis group

For more information call 01427 677377

### **Memorial Garden at the Cemetery (Marton Rd)**

A place to sit, look at the plants, listen to the birds and remember loved ones.

Memorial Plaques can be purchased to be placed around the garden for a fixing fee —please contact the clerk for more information.



Discover the enchanting world of **Ashleigh Farm Caravan and Glamping**, where your ideal getaway awaits! Nestled in the heart of Willingham-by-Stow, our award-winning rural retreat offers a perfect blend of tranquillity and charm. Picture yourself unwinding on one of our 7 touring pitches or embracing the unique experience of our 2 quirky Witch Hut camping pods, each accommodating up to 4 people, or the two stunning Stargazer bell tents, each being perfect for up to 3 guests. Imagine enjoying our homemade bread and cakes, alongside our renowned Ashleigh Farm afternoon teas, all made fresh and available for you to order. Just a stone's throw away, The Half Moon Inn provides a friendly atmosphere for a delightful meal or drink, making us your ideal base for a relaxing escape or a gathering with family and friends.

At Ashleigh Farm, we take pride in being more than just a glamping site; we are a family-run bakery for people stay onsite as well as people living in the local area. We are committed to crafting delicious, freshly baked bread and cakes just for you. Whether you prefer to call, email, or message us, placing your order is simple and easy. We also offer a price list upon request, ensuring that your experience is tailored to your needs. You could also join us for our exquisite homemade afternoon teas, available to book on Wednesdays and Saturdays from April to October. And here's a little bonus: enjoy a 20% discount on repeat visits! Enhance your visit by relaxing in our beautiful outdoor rattan dining area, complete with a gazebo and overlooking our serene pond and waterfall—ideal for any occasion or a catch-up with friends.

Want to unleash your inner baker? Don't miss our intimate bread-making lessons for groups of 2 to 4 people—giving you a hands-on, delightful experience. Why not treat yourself or your loved ones to a memorable experience at Ashleigh Farm Caravan and Glamping? Make your booking today and start creating unforgettable memories!

Contact us at [contact@ashleighfarm.co.uk](mailto:contact@ashleighfarm.co.uk) or 07578 336037  
[www.ashleighfarm.co.uk](http://www.ashleighfarm.co.uk)



## Lincolnshire Fire and Rescue

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Following a number of incidents where our fire crews were delayed getting to the people that needed immediate help as a result of inconsiderate parking, we are asking that all Lincolnshire drivers please be mindful where you park and leave enough space for an emergency appliance to get through.







## POST OFFICE - MOBILE BRANCH

### Tuesday:

09.00am - 10.30am in Stow in or near the rear car park of the Cross Keys

10.45am - 12.15pm in Sturton-by-Stow at or near the Village Hall

12.45pm - 1.45pm in Torksey in the outer car park of the Elms

### Thursday:

11.30am - 12.30pm in Torksey in the outer car park of the Elms

1.00pm - 2.45pm in Sturton-by-Stow at or near the Village Hall

3.00pm - 4.45pm in Stow in or near the rear car park of the Cross Keys

## West Lindsey District Council

Have a look at the WLDC Facebook page for all the official information in the area—local news, travel and events.

Also, sign up for email updates from WLDC for the latest information straight to your inbox on events all over the West Lindsey district including the Trinity Arts Centre, Leisure Centres and Markets.

[www.west-lindsey.gov.uk](http://www.west-lindsey.gov.uk)



New Planter on Grange Lane to commemorate  
King Charles III Coronation on 6th May 2023