

WILLOUGHBY PARISH COUNCIL
ANNUAL REPORT 2009/2010

Your Council has pleasure in presenting its report for the year 2009/2010. The Council held 7 meetings during the year and it is from the minutes of these meetings that this report has been compiled.

The Parish Council meetings were well attended by the Councillors with County Councillor R Hazelton attending 5 meetings. Although the Police were unable to be present at all the meetings it was encouraging that they continue to attend whenever shift patterns permit. Presentations were made to the Council by The Rural Housing Association on Affordable Housing and The Village Agents on their role in the community, it was however disappointing that villagers attended only one meeting as under the Code of Conduct introduced by your Council in 2007/2008 they are able to raise and discuss with the Council a variety of village issues. The dates of the Parish Council Meetings are well advertised on both the Parish Notice Board and in the Willoughby Monthly.

Year 2009/2010 will perhaps be best remembered as one in which your Council aided by many of our villagers reinstated the Village Fete combining the event with the Willoughby Challenge 6 - a - side Football competition and renaming it "The Willoughby Weekend" it was a tremendous success which was enjoyed by every one who attended with games, races, side shows, fancy dress, pig roast and an evening disco, it is planned to run the Weekend again in 2010 on June 26th & 27th.

The village also entered the Best Kept Village Competition after a lapse of several years being placed Second Best Village in Warwickshire for Environment Projects and Second Best Village in Warwickshire for Communication again special thanks to all of the villagers who helped in these projects to enable us to achieve the success we did. The village has again entered the competition for 2010.

ROADS, VERGES, FOOTPATHS & STREET LIGHTING

Pye Court The Highways Department had met with County Councillor G.D. Collett and the Parish Council to agree for resurfacing of Pye Court with chippings

Shrubbery Footpath The Shrubbery footpath was cleared of foliage on both sides but the Highways Department refused to undertake any remedial repairs to the footpath itself

Verge Mowing Again a tremendous effort by the Contractor in keeping the verges of the village mown the cutting was extended to include the verge from No44 Main Street through to Magdalen Road. The Council had received a grant of 639 pounds towards the verge cutting from Rugby Borough Council

Lower Street The Owner of No 1 Lower Street has cut back the hedge fronting Lower Street but the Council still believe it needs to be severely cut back to its original position so as to prevent a hazard to pedestrians

A45 Footpath This was designated as the proposed Cycle Path from Dunchurch through to the Northamptonshire border but due to financial constrictions this must now be in doubt

Drains on A45 Warwickshire County Council have cleaned the drains on the A45 from

Longdowne Lane down to the Northamptonshire border in an attempt to solve the flooding problems at Longdowne Lane and under the Old Railway Bridge unfortunately there still appears to be a problem at Longdowne Lane. They have also cleaned the drains in Willoughby village

Heavy Vehicles Warwickshire County Council have advised that all the heavy vehicles as reported to them by surveillance by villagers and the Parish Council were found to be on delivery of loads to local farms ,business etc

Brooks Close / Lower Street Councillors have on three occasions had to rod the overflow drain from the pond which feeds into the drains in Lower Street, requests have been made to the highways department to pressure clean the outlet and examine with a camera

30mph Signs WCC have agreed to move the Village boundaries out at a cost of 180 pounds however there have been 2 objections raised by villagers to this during the consultation period. As a result the objectors have been met by the Parish Council and WCC but after consultation the objections have not been dropped hence the decision to move the boundaries awaits a decision by the Area Committee.

A45 Signs The highways Department cut back the overhanging vegetation which was causing a restriction to view for the traffic calming flashing sign on the A45

Woolscott Lane Grandborough and Willoughby Parish Councils have jointly requested the Highways Department to repair the cracks in Woolscott Lane from the Sewage works through to the Grandborough turn

Moor Lane The Highways Department have been requested to attend to the unacceptable state of the edges along Moor Lane particularly at the bend opposite to the entrance to Fox Covert

Street Light Red House Council had received a complaint about the brightness of the Street Lamp outside Red House but agreed that no action would be taken

Parking outside old Bakery A request had been made as to the possibility of providing a permanent parking place for a villager in this Lay-bye however after consultation with Rugby Borough Council it was established that this could only be achieved by dedicating a bay for the disabled at this point.

Moor Lane A quotation of 40000 pounds has been quoted for the laying of Kerb stones in Moor Lane up to the present village boundary

Longdowne Lane / A45 Requests for street Lighting and improvements to this junction have been rejected by Warwickshire county Council due to higher priorities for accident black spots

ENVIRONMENTAL MATTERS

Dog Fouling Complaints of dog fouling continue to be raised with numerous incidents around the village and Churchyard. Despite publication in the Willoughby Monthly and on the Parish Notice Board as to the course of action to be taken via the Dog Warden there has been a reluctance of villagers to report these incidents to enable prosecution of the offending Dog Owners

Brook Pollution The Parish Council have raised with the Environmental Agency the issue of froth in the brook from a point behind the Village Hall up to the Box Bridge, the

Environmental Agency have narrowed the cause down to 5 possible sites and are continuing to monitor the problem

Village Spring Clean The annual litter pick took place on 11th April however it was extremely disappointing that despite the announcements in the Willoughby Monthly only 4 villagers turned up on the day however special thanks to them for taking part (12 bags of rubbish collected from around the Village) and to Mrs N Sutton for continuing to litter pick around the village during the year.

Village Pond The pond has now been dredged and the silt deposited on land owned by Mr O Marlow behind pond. Thanks were recorded to the adjacent land owner for allowing access to this field via their land.

Seats in memory of Mrs C Marlow have been sited at the edges of the pond and an island built in the middle of the pond for the Moorhens to nest.

The Willoughby Society have generously agreed to donate 650 pounds towards the cost of an educational display board at the pond which will detail the plants, wildlife and trees etc, Mr B Ogle has kindly agreed to help design this display board

Thanks must be given once again to Willoughby Educational Foundation for a grant of 1800 pounds towards the improvements already undertaken as this has enabled the Parish Council to consider additional features and work at the pond using up the remainder of the RBC grant.

PLAYING FIELD AND OTHER OPEN SPACES

Refurbishment of Equipment New equipment and Shelter now installed however a post inspection by ROSPA had identified several low risk safety issues with the equipment as a result the payment for the equipment was upheld until the parish council were satisfied that they had been adequately addressed.

A working party of volunteers is proposed to repaint / renovate the existing equipment to finally bring this up to the standard of the new equipment

Special thanks is given to The Willoughby Educational Foundation for a most generous grant of 4842.60 pounds towards the refurbishment of the Playing Field Equipment which like the Pond grant enables the Parish Council to consider additional equipment or features.

It is worth noting that on both the Playing Field Equipment and Village Pond projects the Councillors have made substantial savings by researching and using alternative sources of supply to those in the original grant applications without any reduction in quality or requirements.

PLANNING

Land to the north of A45 Willoughby Permission granted for use of land for Bird of prey conservation and rehabilitation centre, sitings of aviaries and timber structures and erection of 4 timber buildings and associated works, Parish Council had raised no objections

Olde Farm Woolscott Lane Permission granted for the discharge of conditions contained in the original Planning Permission, original Planning Permission R09/0347/PLN No objections had been raised by the Parish Council

Abattoir Planning permission has been refused on this development although an appeal is expected, the Parish Council had objected to this application

Siting of Storage container Moor Lane Planning permission refused, the Parish Council had objected to this application

Top Field (Willoughby House) The Parish Council are aware of a covenant against building on the Top Field

5A Magdalen Road Planning permission granted for the erection of a rear conservatory, the Parish Council had raised no objections

Rear of Café on the A45 The Parish Council have raised with the Planning Department possible commercial activity at the rear of the Café, however no activity was observed when visited by the Enforcement Officer. Parish Council continue to monitor situation.

Willoughby Fields Farm London Road Planning Department confirm that temporary Planning permission was granted on 31:07: 07 for a Static Caravan on this site however no permission has been given for it to become permanent.

Old Pastures Moor Lane Planning Department confirmed that Planning Permission was granted on 17:12: 04 for the erection of a triple garage at this address

Plot 8D Land at Willoughby Sawbridge Road Planning permission granted for the creation of a pond, The Parish Council had raised no objections

The Stables Manor Farm Barns Planning permission granted for a single storey front and rear extensions, The Parish Council had raised no objections

Spring Cottage Lower Street Planning permission granted for the erection of a single storey rear extension, no objections had been raised by the Parish Council

Kintail Moor Lane planning permission granted for a single storey rear extension and a rear conservatory, the Parish Council had raised no objections

Rose Inn Planning permission granted for the discharge of Condition 4 Timber Removal / Archaeology Pursuant to List Building Consent R08/0762/LBC for the re-roof (Thatch) and installation of replacement windows and a door following fire damage dated 20/04/2008 at the Rose Inn

Vehicular Gates Land off Moor Lane Planning permission refused on this retrospective application, the Parish Council had raised objections to this application

Erection of a Barn (re -submission) in Sawbridge Road planning permission refused the Parish Council had raised objections to this application

The Parish Council have requested from Rugby Borough Council that they continue to receive hard copies of relevant Planning Applications as RBC had expressed the wish to forward everything by E-Mail.

OTHER MATTERS

Bus Tokens Parish Council were advised in May 2009 that Bus Tokens had been replaced with the Mini - Bus scheme. The Mini - Bus would operate in Willoughby on Fridays and villagers were asked to contact RBC to register in order to use the scheme. The service does not effect the issuing of Bus Passes

Approved Contractors The Parish Council have introduced a list of Approved Contractors who will be invited to quote for any projects which are undertaken by the Council

Village Leader An application for a grant from the Village Leader project for the provision of a Car Park at the Village Hall has been turned down however the Council have been invited to make an revised application which explains in more detail the project and its benefits to the community

Scarecrow Sunday Arrangements are well advanced for a Scarecrow Sunday this Sunday 25th April starting at 2pm, over 30 scarecrows are in the process of construction and a number of table top sales will be seen around the village. Thanks to all the organisers of the event and to the villagers who will be taking part. Proceeds from the event will be given to Church funds

Affordable Housing A site in Brooks Close has been proposed by the Rural Community Council as suitable for building the Affordable housing which the Housing Survey indicated as required when it was carried out in the village. A draft layout is under discussion between the Rural Community Council and Rugby Borough Council Planning Department with feedback awaited

Bus Shelter A complaint was received from a villager regarding the lack of protection from the elements at the Bus Shelter on the A45 regrettably the Parish Council feel that little can be done to improve this with the shelters design

Bus Service A new hourly bus service (72) has been introduced running from Daventry to Newton via Dunchurch and Rugby

Dunchurch (Foundation) Infant School The Parish Council supports the proposed increase in admission numbers and the consultation paper circulated regarding changes to this school

Memorial Garden The Parish Council were unsuccessful in obtaining a grant towards this project

Pumping Station Gate Repairs have been carried out to the left hand side gate at the entrance to the Pumping Station

Fire Station Closures A letter of objection has been sent to the consultation body on proposed cuts in local outlying Fire Stations raising the issue of response times to villages and rural areas

Quality Council Your Parish Council have agreed in principal in obtaining listing as a Quality Council this will involve training for the Clerk and the preparation of a Parish Plan.

**WILLOUGHBY PARISH COUNCIL
SUMMARY RECEIPTS**

£ **RECEIPTS & PAYMENT ACCOUNT FOR THE YEAR ENDING 31:03:10**

PREVIOUS YEAR

338.82	VAT Refund		3627.61
10500.00	Precepts		11000.00
9.90	COIF Dividend		7.84
447.34	Willoughby Charity		450.00
0.00	Gain on Investments		13.93
6.00	History of Willoughby Sale		12.00
0.00	Willoughby Educational Foundation		7052.60
10000.00	Lottery Grant		0.00
4230.00	Warwickshire County Council Grant		0.00
639.00	Rugby Borough Council Mowing Grant		662.00
0.00	Rugby Borough Council Rural Dev.Fund		5728.00
0.00	Rugby Borough Council Capital SP Fund		11955.00
0.00	Donations		190.00
0.00	Best Kept Village Award		150.00
<u>26171.06</u>			<u>40848.98</u>

PAYMENTS

200.00	S137 Payments		200.00
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RUNNING COSTS

	2724.00	Playing Field & Open Spaces	2575.00	
3608.25	884.25	Street Lighting	<u>942.23</u>	3517.23

GRANTS

	450.00	Village Hall	450.00	
	1000.00	Churchyard Mtn	1000.00	
1600.00	<u>150.00</u>	Parish Clock Mtn	<u>150.00</u>	1600.00

GENERAL ADMINISTRATION

	179.00	Subscriptions	168.00	
	371.45	Insurance	648.49	
	1487.38	Salaries	1501.92	
	868.98	Other	1110.31	
	1351.89	VAT Payments	4275.00	
	439.00	Legal Expenses	0.00	
	120.00	Audit Fees	285.00	
	455.29	Over 60's Lunch	512.00	
	4230.00	Bus Shelter	0.00	
	150.00	Church Illumination	150.00	
	5900.00	Tree Felling (Pond)	0.00	
	1860.00	Fencing (Pond)	0.00	
17467.59	54.60	Loss on Investment	0.00	
	0.00	Playing Field Gate (New)	410.00	
	0.00	C Marlow (Seat)	1364.96	
	0.00	Playing Field Shelter	2800.00	
	0.00	WCC Highways	180.00	
	0.00	Pond Dredging	7863.53	
	0.00	Playing Field Equipment	<u>12942.00</u>	
				<u>34211.21</u>
22875.84			£	39528.44

RECEIPTS AND PAYMENTS SUMMARY

	£
Balance brought forward 01:04:09	4265.40
Add Total Receipts	40848.98
Less Total Payments	(39528.44)
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	5585.94

These cumulative funds are represented by:

Current Account	5395.65
Add Investment	171.67
Add Cash in Hand	18.62
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	5585.94

S137 PAYMENTS

<u>PAYEE</u>	<u>NATURE OF PAYMENT</u>	£
Citizens Advice Bureau	Support of Administration Costs	100.00
Warwickshire & Northamptonshire Air Ambulance	Support of Administration Costs	<u>100.00</u>
		200.00

WILLOUGHBY PARISH COUNCIL
FIXED ASSETS AS AT 31:03:10

ASSETS PURCHASED IN YEAR

Memorial Seat (C Marlow)	1201.70
Playing Field New Shelter	3220.00
Colorado Goal	3087.00
Vertigo Climbing Unit	3478.00
Safety Surfacing Mats (Roundabout)	1170.00

ASSETS DISPOSED OF IN YEAR

Playing Field Shelter (Old One)	1.00
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ASSETS ACQUIRED IN YEAR - NONE

AT 31:03:10 THE FOLLOWING ASSETS WERE HELD

Value at replacement value unless given nominal value:

Bus Shelters (2)	7470.25
Street Lamps (Free standing) (14)	7461.93
Street Lamp (Attachments) (12)	2145.77
Seats (4)	2001.70
Main Street Car Park (Nominal Value)	1.00
Haywards Lodge (Nominal Value)	1.00
Village Pond (Nominal Value)	1.00
<u>PLAYING FIELD EQUIPMENT</u>	
Green Climbing Frame (Nominal Value)	1.00
Colorado Goal	3087.00
Vertigo Climbing Unit	3478.00
Shelter	3220.00
Slide and Spring Animals	8587.60
Climbing Frame and Swings	10085.03
Roundabout & Safe Surfacing	3454.27
Litter Bins	266.74
Goal Posts	270.00
Playing Field (Nominal Value)	1.00
	<u>£51533.29</u>