



WILLASTON

Residents' & Countryside Society

Minutes of the Committee Meeting

20 March 2023 at 7.15pm - Willaston Methodist Hall

Officers present: Brian Greenhalgh (Vice Chair), Sue Hunter (Secretary), Sarah Shannon (Treasurer), Ceri Jones (Social Media), Margaret Smyth (Footpaths), Mel Chapman (Planning), Hilary Booth (Publicity).

Committee Members present: Councillor Myles Hogg, Annette Troake, Sue Unsworth, Barry Vowles, Roy Spraggon, Jane Townsend, Fiona Mosley, Fiona Ennys, Susie Dixon, Andrew Walton, Sandra Kettiros, Ruth Hampshire, Sheila Smith, John Fisher.

Also in attendance: Michelle Swann (Willaston Resident).

Committee Meeting

1. Apologies for absence

Apologies received from Vicky Spraggon, Lyn Jackson-Eves, John Woodrow, Helen Mayles, Rob King, Madeline Hughes.

2. Declarations of Interest

No declarations of interest were expressed.

3. Minutes of Previous Meeting - 21 January 2023

No issues raised. Minutes were approved by Sue Unsworth & seconded by Hilary Booth.

4. Actions arising from the Minutes of meeting on 21 January 2023

4.0 Traffic

Myles informed us that he had met up with Harriet Cleaves; unfortunately some suggestions were not possible. Further actions have been agreed. Harriet to liaise with school.

Carry this forward.

Action: Myles Hogg

4.1 Slow Down sign

No Progress. **Carry this forward.**

Action: Myles Hogg

4.2 Hooton Road speed issue

Barry Vowles has received a reply from the head of the Highways Department - see below:

"Thank you for your email regarding the development of the old British Legion site at Hooton road, Willaston. At the planning stage all the issues you refer to were considered by planning and checked to ensure current guidelines were met. Once the site is completed and occupied, the local member can request a further speed limit survey of the location,



WILLASTON

Residents' & Countryside Society

once carried out that will give a true picture of the site impact to consider if any changes are required.”

Not exactly the hoped-for reply but at least the matter has not been completely dismissed. Barry will discuss with Myles.

Action: Barry

4.6 Correspondence / Social Media

Creation of Instagram account to replicate Facebook content has been completed. Facebook now linked with Instagram.

6.1.3 Coronation of King Charles

To be covered on today's agenda.

6.2 Wildflower sites in village

To be covered on today's agenda.

6.2.3 Commemorative trees

Have now been planted. It was hoped that Willaston Primary School would be involved in the production of two new plaques. However, Hilary Booth has contacted school to request their involvement in WR&CS as well as the plaques & unfortunately there has been no response. Annette Troake has also contacted school twice to request their involvement in WR&CS - again no response.

It is likely that Johnston Recreation Ground will cover the cost of plaques from their fund.

7. How does WR&CS adapt to what village residents may want for future?

To be covered on today's agenda.

11. Footpaths & Bridleways

11.1 Wall on footpath between Pollards & car park

Myles has reported this on five occasions to CWAC. He requested that WR&CS write now to the Chief Executive Officer to request action as this wall is a clear safety hazard.

Action: Sue Hunter

Jane Townsend commented that as the car park is owned by CWAC then the wall is their direct responsibility.

11.2 & 11.3 Footpath signs

To be covered on today's agenda by Margaret Smyth.

Jane Townsend informed us that Wirral Footpaths Group are in process of having Willaston's signs painted; this includes signs X 2 in Mill Lane.



WILLASTON

Residents' & Countryside Society

12.1 Willaston Football Club - defibrillator.

Actioned.

12.5 School reports.

To be covered today.

5.1 Environmental sub-group (Ceri, Fiona M., Sue U., Sandra K)

5.1.1 Discussion document presented by Ceri J. This included regular tidy-up sessions in Village, Flowers in Bloom, bench painting and more.

5.1.2 Fiona M. informed us that the village sign on Hadlow Rd. was difficult to clean due to lichen; this flags up a Health & Safety issue re. visibility as it is a busy road. Likely to need a risk assessment.

Ceri suggested the idea that perhaps we could clean the signs first.

5.1.3 Fiona M. also talked about the Wirral Wombles (residents' group who collect litter).

5.1.4 Sandra Kettiros enquired if there is any funding available for matters such as planting. This could involve upkeep of planters in village as not all are allocated to individual shops. This probably would require twice/yearly funding.

5.1.5 Myles Hogg suggested that we need a list of where planters are & who looks after each of them.

5.1.6 Hilary Booth suggested that the neglected planter by the bus shelter be moved across the road to side of bench with sign still pointing to Hadlow Station. She is happy to do this.

Action: Hilary Booth

5.1.7 Sandra K. & Fiona M. confirmed that they are happy to do the planting.

5.1.8 Roy Spraggon suggested that all such work be completed before Coronation celebrations take place in May.

5.1.9 Fiona E. suggested that £200 be made available from WR&CS fund for this purpose. This was agreed by all present.

5.1.10 Sarah S. advised that the larger of our Village Greens is registered as common land.

5.1.11 Jane Townsend discussed the two large cherry trees at corner of Meadow Lane / Neston Road that have recently been cut down. Only one now remains in place. She asked who had done this & who had given permission for this to take place?

Action: Ceri Jones



WILLASTON

Residents' & Countryside Society

5.1.12 Myles noted that the “Great British Spring Clean” campaign runs from 17 March to 2 April 2023.

5.1.13 Sue U is still litter-picking around village. All helpers most welcome. Worst roads to do this are where there are no pavements, e.g. Damhead Lane & near Lydiate.

5.1.14 Barry V. commented that some things make you feel ashamed e.g. leaves etc. outside your property which could cause harm/injury.

5.1.15 Myles commented that Willaston used to win the “Best Kept Village “ award for many years. Perhaps the new slogan should be “Love where you live”.

Sub-Group to Action any ideas

6. Issues raised by members

6.1 Coronation of King Charles - May 2023

6.1.1 Sarah presented her paper re. Village events planned to date.

6.1.2 Volunteers requested to decorate the village with bunting. A group will meet at 10am on Monday 1st May on the Green.

Action: All

6.1.3 Ruth has been asked by several residents about planned events in Village. Wallcroft has enquired about road closure for a street party. Final submission date for applications is 24 March.

6.1.4 Fiona M. enquired if an email group had been set up for better communication.

6.1.5 Sheila informed us that there will be a Children’s Craft Day on Monday 8 May in the Methodist Hall. They will also be showing the film of the Willaston’s Jubilee events film in the Chapel after the service on Sunday 7 May.

6.2 Plastic Free Willaston initiative - presented by Fiona M.

6.2.1 This nationwide campaign aims to encourage communities & businesses to go “plastic free”. For a bronze award a business would pledge to remove 3 items of plastic from their business activities - there are also silver & gold classes. When a business decides to become involved, they can contact Helen Tandy who works for ‘Sustainable Cheshire’. Helen is happy to come to speak to any group if requested.

The Neston Earth group is promoting the campaign in Neston with promise of success; two businesses have signed up, to date, and achieved bronze awards.



WILLASTON

Residents' & Countryside Society

Fiona has already contacted some local businesses & is waiting to hear back. She is happy to report back each meeting.

Action: Fiona Mosley

Sarah suggested that some of our Organisations may also wish to become involved. A vote was held this evening as to whether the WR&CS supported the campaign for our village, which was unanimous.

6.3 Willaston Telephone Box on Village Green - presented by Sarah Shannon

6.3.1 Vicky Marsden owns the phone box. She bought it for £1 & planned to use it for fundraising activities for Wirral Cancer Centre. However, it looks as if this might not now happen.

Sarah confirmed that Vicky still wishes to retain ownership of this and share it with other village organisations. It is thought that it could be used as an information centre with leaflets etc available.

Sarah also informed us that the village café 'Peppers' already has a book swap.

Action: Sarah to contact Vicky Marsden

6.4 Post-box on Briardale Road

No further update.

6.5 Wildflower planting on Johnston Recreation Ground

6.5.1 Myles informed us that he had already let Council know of preferred sites in village. He was extremely surprised to hear of what's taken place near school. Myles will make enquires.

Action: Myles Hogg

7. How does WR&CS adapt for the future?

7.1.1 Brian G. commended Sarah's great idea to set up the new "Willaston in the Past" which is now available on Facebook.

7.1.2 However, he questioned how we address issues raised recently regarding WR&CS and "Willaston in the Future". Options suggested included:

- (a) Re-issue a modified version of last questionnaire. Mel wondered if there was community disengagement as response rate was poor (only 150 replies). However, it was only circulated on social media last time due to pandemic restrictions.



WILLASTON

Residents' & Countryside Society

Fiona M. suggested that at the beginning of any questionnaire a paragraph should be included clearly stating what WR&CS can & cannot do.

Brian suggested that we could also ask the direct question to villagers if we should have a Parish Council & accept its implications?

(b) Myles informed us that Burton has just updated their Residents Society & one of the initial actions they took was to circulate a questionnaire - response rate was 22%. Several new people have now joined the Society.

(c) Hilary B. suggested that we somehow need to make it known that for WR&CS to proactively move forward, "we need your help".

(d) Ceri commented that there's now a very negative perception of WR&CS. Myles commented that the pivotal points recently related almost entirely to planning matters.

(e) Sarah suggested that we use the last Consultation document to demonstrate & promote what's been done & achieved. Yes, there are matters that haven't been completed but let's be honest & explain why this is the case, e.g. funding requirements, outside of remit of WR&CS etc.

(f) Myles suggested that we need to encourage residents to utilise the 15 min. slot at start of each meeting to make comments & air their views.

(g) Brian feels that we need to encourage & create opportunities for regular feedback from villagers as there appears to be criticism that it's only possible at our annual AGM.

He suggested that perhaps social media could be more proactively used to ask residents if they have any queries or comments. This may be beneficial to anyone who feels that they do not wish to attend in person; these comments can then be brought to next meeting.

He queried if our Resident Reps could have 'surgeries' to inform people of our activities. Sarah commented that when Res. Reps are currently elected this is not specified. Perhaps this can be included for those in the future.

(h) In light of the recent comment on social media that no one from WR&CS have visited Willaston Community Farm, Myles informed us that he has already planned to visit tomorrow (21 March). Members of the Committee will also arrange a visit.

Action: Mel Chapman & Ceri Jones

8. Planning Matters

8.1 Sue H. informed the group that there has been no communication at all from Chris Swanick. Other Committee members have also not been contacted. Therefore we assume



WILLASTON

Residents' & Countryside Society

that he no longer wishes to undertake the role of Planning Officer. A formal letter will now be drafted by the Secretary.

Action: Sue Hunter

8.2 Mel is willing to continue in this role. She is working with another village resident who is providing essential background research & information which enables Mel to continue to provide our Planning Reports.

8.3 Margaret S. enquired about agricultural buildings on Dunstan Lane. Barry V. commented that in the past, these were never addressed in planning matters as few were ever converted. Mel agreed that now we should add an 'Agricultural' section to the Planning Report as these can lead on to further development at a later date.

Action: Mel Chapman

8.4 Myles confirmed that the Hooton Rd Crematorium application was refused by CWAC despite being agreed to the Planning Officer. He feels it is likely to be appealed.

8.5 Myles informed us that the Sale by Auction of 16 plots opposite Benty Heath Lane has gone ahead.

8.6 Myles informed us that a comprehensive report has been submitted to the Appeal re. the property 'Kerry'.

8.7 Brian suggested that we add an 'Enforcement' section to our Planning Report.

Action: Mel Chapman

8.8 Sarah commented that there now appears to be a pathway from Damhead Lane leading to the new housing development.

9. Correspondence / Social Media

Document tabled with nothing else to report.

10. Financial Matters

Report was presented by Sarah to meeting.

10.1 Sarah has received no further communication by either Drax or Scottish Power. waits response. To progress this, it appears that the only option is to write to CEO/Directors of Drax.

Action: Sarah Shannon & Sue Hunter



WILLASTON

Residents' & Countryside Society

10.2 Sarah also raised the idea of getting local media involved, e.g. Wirral Globe, to write a news article.

Action: Sarah Shannon & Sue Hunter

10.3 As Rep. for Toddler's Group, Annette T. has contacted Sarah re. the possibility of WR&CS covering the cost of £84 for the annual insurance. This is because there are insufficient funds available to cover cost. Sarah proposed agreement of this payment & this was seconded by Ceri.

Action: Sarah Shannon

Sarah also suggested that Annette should also apply to Myles for any possible funding for new toys etc.

Action: Annette Troake

10.4 WR&CS will advertise the Toddler Group again on Facebook.

Action: Ceri Jones

10.5 Sarah informed the meeting that she wishes to give notice of her resignation as Treasurer, resign from the Committee & relinquish her responsibility for the WR&CS Facebook platform. She will continue to be the Rep. for the 'Meadow' & for the newly established 'Willaston in the Past'. Members expressed their understanding & appreciation of all Sarah's dedicated work with WR&CS over many years.

11. Footpaths & Bridleways

11.1 Margaret informed us that as yet she has not been informed of the date for delivery of the new kissing gate leading from Recreation Ground onto FP 29.

11.2 Barry V. expressed concern that sadly the Wirral Way is becoming more damaged & degraded. Fiona E. pointed out that the Council have limited funds for such upkeep. Fiona M. informed us that in the past horse riders used to pay a fee for using it.

Barry also informed us that this year is the 50th anniversary of the opening of the Wirral Way. Myles will try to find out what celebrations are due to be held.

Action: Myles Hogg

11.3 Myles informed us that Stuart Milne Builders has provided c. £300,000 CIL funds, part of which is to make improvements to the Wirral Way, from Hooton Station to Heath Lane. It also includes a disabled entrance at Hooton Station.

12. Organisation Reports - report tabled.

Nothing new to add.



WILLASTON

Residents' & Countryside Society

13. Councillor's Report

Myles informed us of the following:

13.1 Two successful prosecutions for Fly Tipping had taken place; each were given a fine of £400.

Fiona E. had a very rapid response from Council following her report to them of fly-tipping in Mill Lane.

13.2 He has applied for the installation of double yellow lines at the junction of Hooton Road & Overdale Road.

13.3 The double yellow lines on Hadlow Road will be extended to just past the Green.

13.4 From 4th May 2023, everyone will need photo ID to vote. Fiona E. commented that this seemed very geared to older people rather than younger people.

13.5 The current 22 bus service contract with Mersey Travel ends on 3 September 2023. A new contract will go out for consideration.

Sue U. commented that there is no bus service from Willaston to Bromborough Retail Park, where more people would have the opportunity to shop if transport was available. Myles will enquire.

Action: Myles Hogg

13.6 Our CWAC borough has been named as 3rd worst in England for the state of its roads.

13.7 The CWAC Council Tax leaflet shows that there is over £500,000 available for support funding for people in financial difficulties.

13.8 Road alterations at Hooton Road/A41 junction will be funded by Stuart Milne Builders; a left filter lane is to be installed. Preliminary work has already commenced.

Sarah commented that Highways England have already promised to re-do all new signage when roadworks completed.

13.9 Myles has received a request from Willaston Choir to enquire if he can do anything to improve the sound system in hall. It has been identified that storage may be a potential issue.

Action: Myles Hogg

13.10 Fiona M. commented that the pavement along Birkenhead Road (to Neston Rd.) is now covered with a deep layer of rotted leaves, making it slippery and impassable for more than one person. Myles will make enquires.

Action: Myles Hogg



WILLASTON

Residents' & Countryside Society

13.11 Sarah has been approached re. parked car on Green. Myles advised that if the car registration is passed to Council, they can investigate.

13.12 Fiona E. informed us that three very large floodlights illuminate the Recreation Ground every night from 4 - 10pm. No one seems to know why!!

14. Any Other Business

14.1 Jane T. wanted to propose that, re. both removed Cherry trees (as discussed earlier), as WR&CS had planted the original trees, that we now replace them.

14.2 Jane also suggested that as we are WR & Countryside S., we should invite Cheshire Wildlife Society to our next AGM to discuss our wonderful Meadow & how we can preserve it & its wildlife.

Action: Jane Townsend

The meeting concluded at 9.50pm.

Date of next Committee Meeting: Monday 15 May 2023



WILLASTON

Residents' & Countryside Society

APPENDIX

Organisation Reports - March 2023

Christ Church

No report received.

Friends of Hadlow Road Station Community Group *(submitted by Hilary Booth)*

Maintenance

The excellent painting of the waiting room and vestibule has now been completed by decorator Steven Lunt. Our thanks also go to Myles Hogg for a donation from his Councillor's budget towards this decorating.

The Cafe kitchen was steam cleaned in January, together with the tables and chairs. Thanks go to the kitchen staff, and also for the help given by Simon le Barber.

We have obtained a quote for the painting of the ticket office, which hopefully MAY be completed by late spring. Unfortunately, we have a problem with water penetrating in from the outside wall, which will be resolved by CWAC. Decorating cannot start until this problem has been resolved. All items in the ticket office will be removed and documented.

The platform edge will still have to wait until we get a consecutive Monday and Tuesday in spring to allow it to dry, and when we can also close the platform to the public.

We have requested a quote from CWAC to replace the four crossing gates, which are in a very poor condition. Probably this repair will be funded by Friends of Hadlow Station.

Thanks go to Sue U. for litter picking.

Gardening

The gardening days started again in February. From now on the workday will alternate each month between Tuesdays and Wednesdays. Another Cornus tree has been funded and will be planted when it is available.

The next gardening dates are: Wednesday 1st March & Tuesday 4th April 10am - 12 noon.

Pop-Up-Cafe

The menu has been revised, with a slight change in some of the prices. Some of our pop-up-cafe mornings for 2023 will have entertainment on the platform.

The Kings Coronation event will take place on Sunday 7th May, and I will keep you informed when we have all the details. The next dates for the Pop-up-cafe mornings are:
Sunday 12th March, Sunday 26th March, Sunday 16th April, Sunday 30th April 10am - 1pm.

We look forward to seeing you all enjoying yourself again. Hopefully in the sunshine and not with your umbrella !!

Hilary Booth. Tel. 327 8325



WILLASTON

Residents' & Countryside Society

Friends of Willaston Meadow *(submitted by Sarah Shannon)*

It is lovely to see signs of Spring in the meadow. There has been a good display of snowdrops, which are spreading every year and also native daffodils and primroses have come out. The frogs and great crested newts will be returning to the pond and birds will start nesting shortly.

At our volunteer session in March, we cleared some of the plants around Jackson's Pond so that a good view over the pond is now possible. This will allow the marsh marigolds and purple loosestrife to be more visible and spread. We always welcome volunteers at our working group sessions, normally on the first Sunday of the month. We're a friendly group that share a love of the Meadow. Please get in contact if you would like to join us.

For more information, please see our webpage on the Residents' Society website, our Facebook page /friendswillastonmeadow or ring Sarah Shannon on 0151 327 5318.

Hadlow Green Singers *(submitted by Helen Mayles)*

The Easter concert on 31st March includes the beautiful Faure's Requiem. Tickets are available from Willaston Spar.

Choir practices are on Thursdays at 7.30pm in the Memorial Hall. New members are welcome. Next term begins on Thursday 20th April.

Horticultural Society *(submitted by Pam Irving)*

Our next meeting is on Tuesday 18th April when we will be having a talk on The Gardens of Kent and West Sussex by Judy Popley. Judy is a very good speaker and it will be interesting to see the difference between North and South gardens. I look forward to seeing you.

The Society meets on the third Tuesday of each month in the Memorial Hall, at 7.30pm; details are shown on the Village Notice board, and if you are interested in joining us, come along or contact the Membership Secretary, Val Brizell, on 07786 982845. Membership is only £6.00 per year and you can get 10% discount at Burleydam Garden Centre on all gardening products on production of your Membership card.

Johnston Recreation Ground *(submitted by Sue Unsworth)*

The last meeting was held on 15th February. I was unable to attend.

Allotments

Council still awaiting quotes for supply of water. Coming soon!



WILLASTON

Residents' & Countryside Society

Play area

More notices on order re: No dogs allowed in playground. Large gate to be inspected and repaired.

Tennis Club

Members have kindly trimmed back a lot of brambles and branches adjacent to the netting AND the path.

Football

A professional survey of the pitch was done by the F.A. and has been graded "POOR". The Council will help with a grant. There is still a shortage of storage space. Mention was made of the amount of football played at weekends. On Saturdays (on 3 pitches) in the morning 9am till 11am. The Ladies team play on Sundays 9am till 11am. There are to be further discussions on this at the next meeting. The defibrillator is attached to the field side of the pavilion. This needs to be advertised in some way.

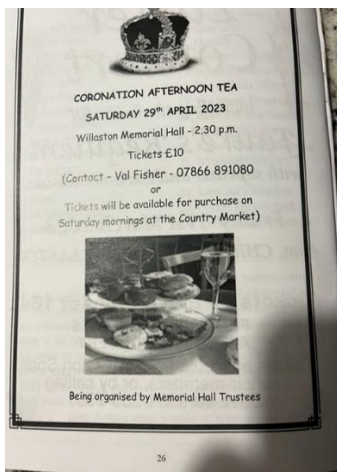
Other

A new seat is still to be fitted onto the Recreation Ground. Funds are available to replace the "kissing gate". The old notice board at the entrance to the "Rec" has now been placed at the Jacksons Pond entrance to the Meadow. A new notice board is on order for the entrance to The Recreation Ground. The Meadow volunteers have been working hard opening up the "School Wood" and putting a Bug Hotel and wider pathway through. New seating by Dead Man's Pond is planned.

The two commemoration trees are now in situ. There will be plaques placed by each one. Thank you to Andy James from the Council for planting them this month. We hope to have a ceremony before Easter! Funds for these trees come from JRG. Advisory Committee. We are hoping that the school pupils may suggest the wording for the plaques!

Memorial Hall *(submitted by Rob King)*

We only have one thing to report and that relates to the "Coronation Tea" we are holding as per the attached.





WILLASTON

Residents' & Countryside Society

Scouting

No report received.

Willaston CE Primary School

No report received.

Willaston Football Club *(submitted by John Fisher)*

Nothing new to report this time as there has been little change.

Willastonhey W.I. *(submitted by Susie Dixon)*

Carols on the Green was a great success, we were able to donate £350 to St. Johns Hospice. We held our AGM in November followed by refreshments and Christmas Tree Beetle Drive. Knit and Natter projects this year are Seafarers Beany hats, ventilator hats and baby clothes for the neonatal unit at Arrowse Park Hospital.

Our darts team are taking part in the Federation Darts competition this year.

Our rambling and walking netball groups continue to be well supported.

Annual dinner was at The Woodcote in January.

A visit was made to The Lady Lever art gallery for the exhibition entitled The Boodle Story.

The January talk was given by the editor of Cheshire Life.

The Annual Bridge Drive on 22nd February was great success.

Mersey Ferries is the subject of our next talk on 28th February.

Willaston Methodist Chapel *(submitted by Sheila Smith)*

We are now in the season leading up to Easter, so Chapel is hosting the weekly Lent course, led by Gwynfor Evans. This is every Monday at 2p.m. in the Schoolroom until Easter and is open to all. On Easter Sunday morning our celebrations begin with the Easter breakfast, starting at 9am, which precedes our 10-45am. worship. If you would like to join us for either /both you will be warmly welcomed.

For those who may be interested in attending any of the regular activities on our premises, they are listed below:

Mondays 9am - 11am -- Adult Craft Group

Tuesdays (alternate weeks) -- Knit & Natter

Wednesday 10am - 11am -- Over 50's Dancing Keep fit

Thursdays 9a.m - 11-30am -- Mum & Toddler Group

Other groups meet intermittently. Check with Carol (0151 327 3593) for contact details or bookings.

The Chapel is currently planning to join in the village in celebrating the King's Coronation with a Children's Craft Day on Monday 8th May, for all. We will also be celebrating our Chapel anniversary that weekend and have the Chapel open on the Sunday and Monday, showing LAST year's unseen video of the village Jubilee celebrations! We hope it will remind you all of the amazing efforts that the village made then.



WILLASTON

Residents' & Countryside Society

Willaston and South Wirral Rotary Club *(Submitted by Stephen Mosley)*

Willaston and South Wirral Rotary has had a quiet month after the big push that inevitably comes at the end of every year. The final tally for donations over this Christmas is just over £1900 which is remarkable in the current climate and a credit to the people of Willaston and the surrounding area. Despite this success the club has already taken the opportunity to review last year's Christmas events and are putting plans in place to improve this year's event in December.

Community activities continue to be a significant part of the club's outlook with visits to Maggies and Autism Together, the club's nominated charities for this year, also planned to help understand better the difference the money raised will make.

Willaston and South Wirral Rotary Club once again hosted the District 1180 final of Rotary Young Musician of the Year with club members Scirard and Caroline Lancelyn Green organising the event. Held at Poulton Hall on Saturday 18th February, the entries were significantly down on previous years, yet the standard remained astonishingly high.

The audience, which included District Governor Paul Dutton, were treated to a programme that ranged from the works of Einaudi to Andrew Lloyd Webber and Vivaldi with each contestant performing two or three pieces. The entrants were Nathaniel Reed, Bethan Guiver and Selena Bobeica; all of whom played and sang with an assured ability that belied their youth.

For the coronation, it has been proposed that we run a competition for residents for the best decorated frontage (house and/or garden), offering a cash prize. Further information on this will be provided in due course.

Willaston Surgery Patient Participation Group *(submitted by John Woodrow)*

I am aware that there have been delays in prescriptions being issued by the Surgery, caused in part by the absences of the Doctors. I would encourage all patients who rely on a supply of vital medication to follow the following guidelines:

1. Try to order your medication online. If you have not previously set this up with the surgery I suggest you call in to arrange this.
2. Book your prescription before 11.30 am
3. Due to supply chain delays always make sure you have a backup supply at home to at least last for a fortnight.
4. Always order a repeat prescription when you are down to a week's supply of the packet of medication you are using at that time.
5. If you are going away order your prescription at least 10 days before leaving, allowing for the fact the surgery is closed at the weekend.

If you follow these guidelines, you should not get into a situation where you are worried that you will run out of your medication.



WILLASTON

Residents' & Countryside Society

If you do get to the situation where you are very concerned that you will run out of medication which is vital to maintaining your health you can obtain an emergency supply by contacting 111 either online or by phone.

I would stress, however, that it is patients' responsibility to manage their supply of medication so as to try to ensure they are not in danger of running out.

I am aware that there is a national issue with accessing patients' medical records online. This is being dealt with, but I cannot give you a date when this matter will be fully resolved although I do know that some patients have some limited access. Please do not contact the surgery over this matter as resolving it is out of their hands.

As ever, if a patient has a matter they would like me to take up on their behalf with the surgery or they wish to make me aware of then please do not hesitate to contact me on 0151 327 3260 or at johnwoodrow@btinternet.com.

John Woodrow, Chairman, Patient Participation Group.

Willaston Tennis Club *(submitted by Andrew Walton)*

Court Re-surfacing

We are expecting the newly resurfaced courts to be painted as soon as the temperatures get above 10-12 degrees and there is a spell of drive weather, hopefully late April 2023.

Membership

The club had a significant drop in families re-joining the club post-Covid so we will be making a concerted effort to advertise the benefits and contact lapsed members this year to get the numbers back up to at least pre-Covid levels.

Doubles Winter League

The Doubles Winter League (playing every Sunday between 9:00 - 11:00) began in October and anyone wishing to play please email Willastontennisclub@gmail.com. It's a friendly group and any pairings will reflect ability levels to ensure a competitive and enjoyable game. The games will continue until end of May when new summer tournaments will be started.

Walking Tennis

We now have a small and growing group who have started this form of tennis. As the name suggests running is not allowed and the slower ball may bounce twice before being hit. This is proving popular with those of limited mobility and is a great social game - again please email Willastontennisclub@gmail.com with your interest. All are welcome generally playing on Tuesday mornings but also Thursdays if a demand.



WILLASTON

Residents' & Countryside Society

Free Coaching

Now the club has secured funds for the resurfacing we will be offering 6 free group (Junior, Ladies, Men) coaching sessions in Spring when the days get longer on one evening mid-week. Details to follow.

Coaching

Our LTA affiliated coach has been running junior coaching sessions during winter and these will continue into Spring and Summer on Saturday afternoons any anyone interested for future sessions please see the following link [Ace Tennis Academy / Ace Tennis Academy Chester \(lta.org.uk\)](https://www.ace-tennis.com/) and contact Berin Ames directly.

AGM

The AGM this year will be held on 18th April 2023 - venue to be confirmed depending on numbers attending. If you wish to attend please drop an email to Willastontennisclub@gmail.com or phone Andrew (number below)

Andrew Walton, WTC Chairman, 07961 680 683

Willaston Toddler Group *(submitted by Annette Troake)*

The Toddler Group annual insurance is due at the beginning of April (last year's insurance was £84 for 2.5 hours/week). We currently just about cover the cost of hall rental and refreshments. There is no spare money for replacement equipment/toys etc.

We have advertised for new parents, carers and grandparents to join us and will continue to do so.

Several of us have donated to the expected bill but we would appreciate any possible financial support from WR&CS. Many thanks.

Willaston Village Festival Society

No report received.